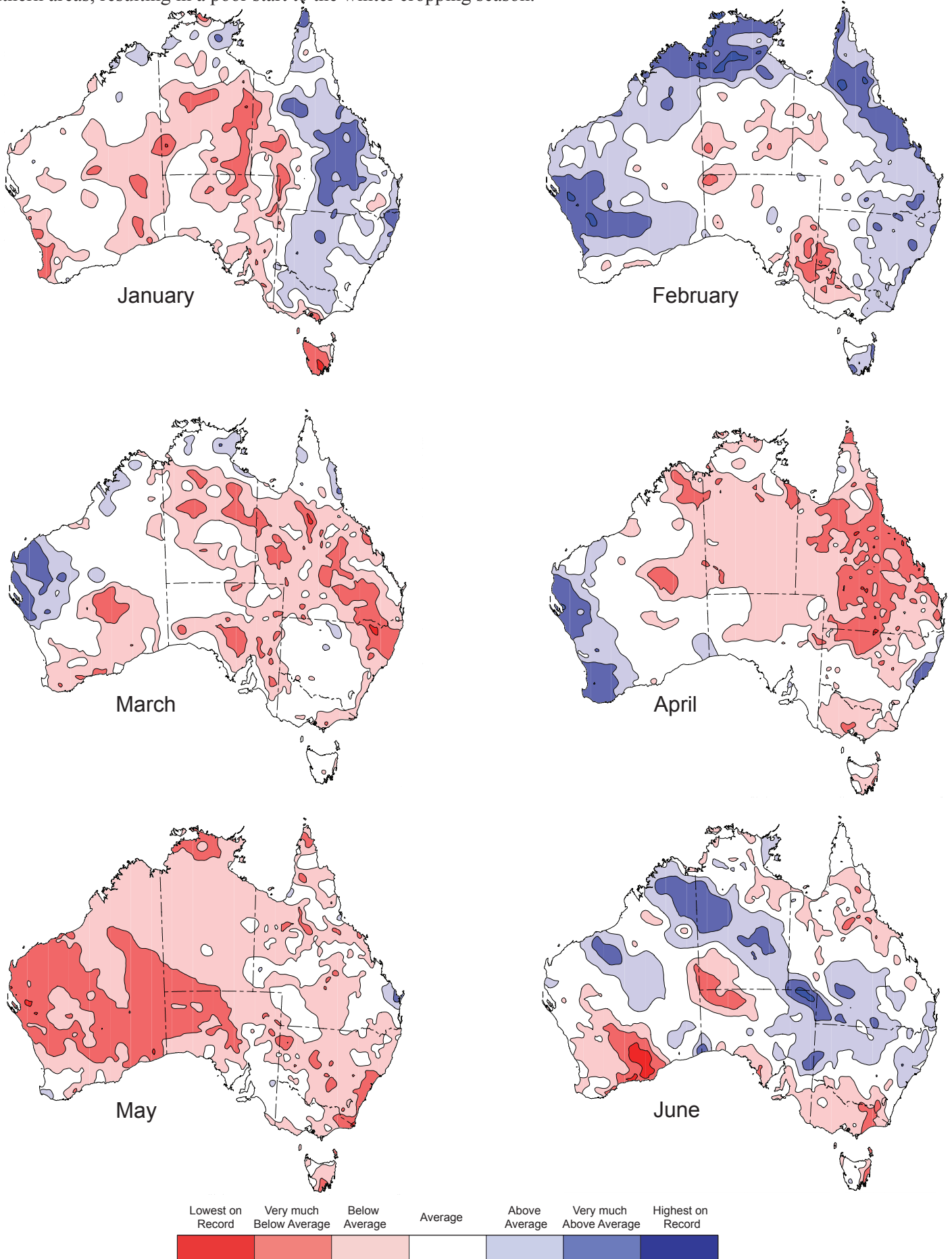


# 4. Monthly distribution of rainfall deciles - January to December 2008

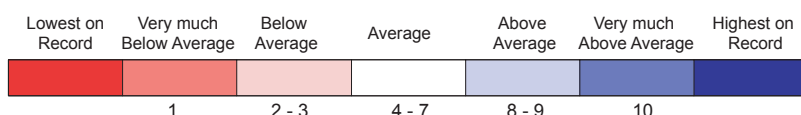
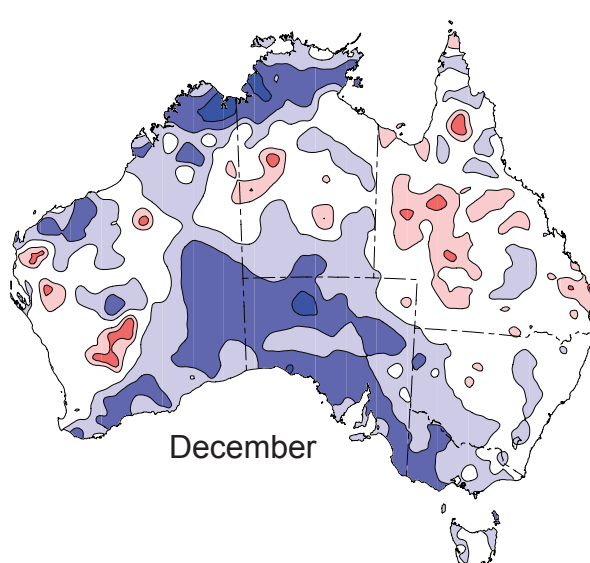
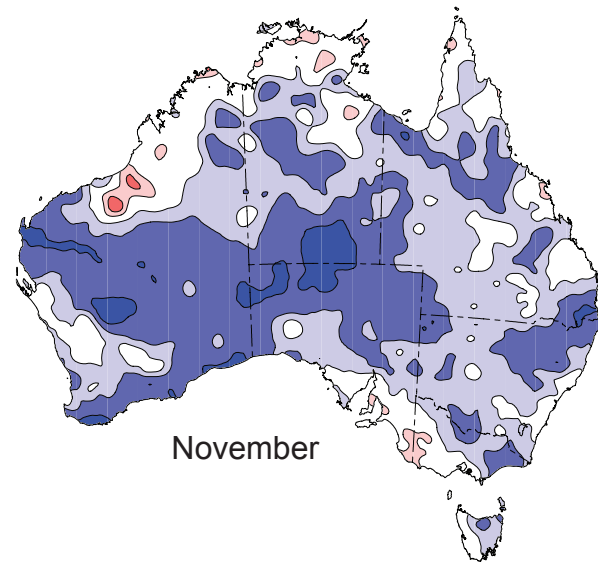
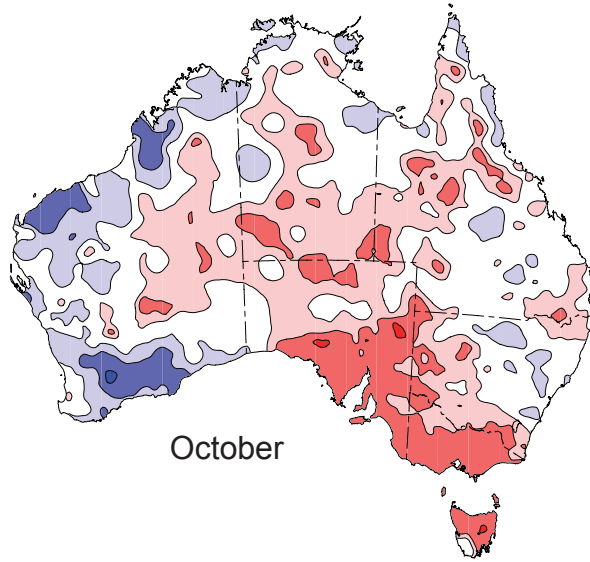
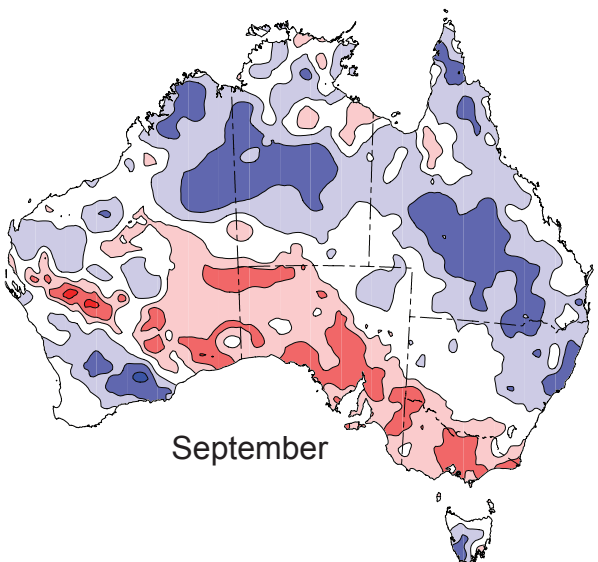
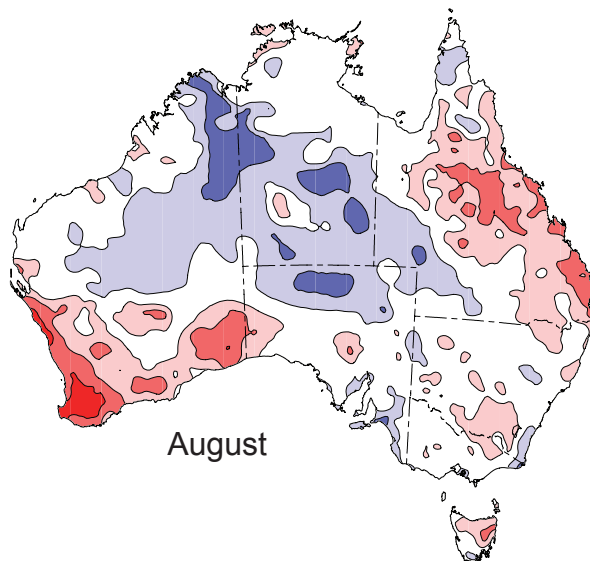
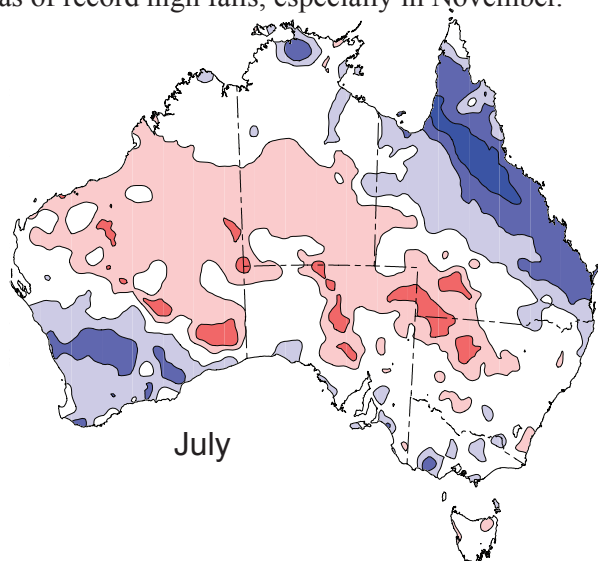
Under the influence of La Niña, eastern and central Queensland received falls in deciles 8-10 in both January and February, with a few spots of record high falls in the latter. Similarly high falls, including some records, occurred in the northern NT, over much of WA and across the eastern half of NSW in February. Autumn (March to May) was characterised by widespread below average falls, including patches of record low totals. The dry conditions persisted into June across southern areas, resulting in a poor start to the winter cropping season.



**Monthly distribution of Rainfall deciles**

(Based on a 109-year climatology of gridded fields from 1900-2008)

However, from June onwards large parts of tropical Australia received above average falls in nearly every month, with the exception of October which was particularly dry further south in SA, western NSW, Victoria and Tasmania. This followed a dry September in SA and Victoria, so both grain crops and runoff into the Murray-Darling Basin were badly affected. A re-intensification of a La Niña pattern (or nearly so) from November resulted in widespread above average rainfall, with areas of record high falls, especially in November.



### Monthly distribution of Rainfall deciles

(Based on a 109-year climatology of gridded fields from 1900-2008)