



Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

ASCII Grid Descriptive Information

The data are provided in Arc/Info™ ASCII (plain text) format with appropriate header. The data are space delimited and the resolution of the data may vary from 0.025 x 0.025 degrees (about 2.5 km) to 2.5 x 2.5 degrees (about 250 km).

Header format

The ASCII (plain text) file has a data format as follows:

ncols	the number of columns in the data
nrows	the number of rows in the data
xllcorner	the longitude of the western boundary of the data
yllcorner	the latitude of the southern boundary of the data
cellsize	the resolution or grid-point spacing of the data in degrees
NODATA_value	can be effectively ignored for this data
row 1	
row 2	
.	
.	
.	
row <i>n</i>	

Please note, some of the header files may specify a grid centre rather grid corner, whereby:

xllcenter	the longitude of the centre of the western-most grid cells
yllcenter	the latitude of the centre of the southern-most grid cells

The data are in row-major order - written row by row (west to east) starting at the **northern-most** row (row 1). This means that the first data value of row 1 is the **northwestern-most** grid point, and the last value of row 1 is the **northeastern-most** grid point. The ASCII files can also include additional textual information appended to the bottom of the file (after the last row of data).

More information about the gridded data, including the associated metadata files, is available at:

<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/climatology/gridded-data-info/gridded-info.shtml>

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