NSW ARBOVIRUS SURVEILLANCE & MOSQUITO MONITORING PROGRAM 2016-2017 Weekly Update

Date: 30/Jan/2017

SUMMARY

- **Climate**: over the last week, there was light rainfall across most of the state. For December, rainfall was average for most of the state with parts of the coast and northern inland being drier than normal, and parts of the west being wetter than average. Maximum and minimum temperatures for December were 2-3 degrees above average.
- **Three Month Forecast**: for February to April 2017, rainfall predictions for NSW are for below average precipitation, with central areas of the state having a higher probability of being drier than average. Maximum and minimum temperatures are expected to be above normal across the state. According to the BOM as of 17/Jan/17, the El Niño-Southern Oscillation remains neutral.
- **Tidal**: the next series of high tides that may result in larval hatching are set to occur over 8-13/Feb/2017.
- **MVEV models**: the data relevant to both the Forbes' and Nichols' hypotheses have been updated to the end of December 2016 and both theories remain inconsistent with past MVEV outbreaks.
- **Mosquito Numbers Inland**: mosquito collections were slightly lower this week. Griffith collections continue to be 'very high', while Leeton and Albury yielded 'high' mosquito numbers. Elsewhere, collections were mostly 'low'.
- **Mosquito Numbers Coast**: most locations produced `low' mosquito numbers, although Ballina and Tweed produced `high' collections.
- **Mosquito Numbers Sydney**: the sites where *Aedes vigilax* dominate notably the Georges River sites and Homebush, continue with the 'high' mosquito collections. At other locations, collections were 'low'.
- **Arboviral Isolates**: new isolates included 1KOKV from Albury, and 2SINV from Griffith.
- Chicken Sentinel Seroconversions: there were no new seroconversions.
- **Human Notifications**: there were 108 new Ross River virus notifications for the week 15-21/Jan/2017.

Comment: the notifications of Ross River virus for 2016-2017 are continuing to rise; the 108 over the last week is almost double the monthly average. For December 2016 to January 2017 there were 399 Ross River virus notifications. The average for the same period since 1998 is less than one third of this amount (115) and the previous record for the same period was 295 from 2006/07.

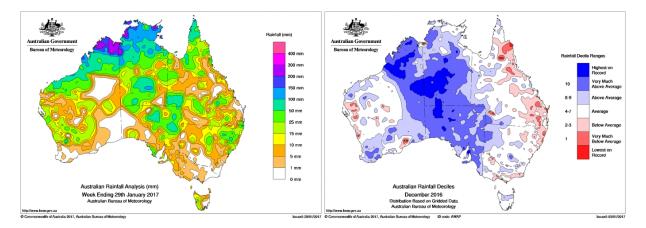




ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Rainfall

Rainfall across Australia for the week ending 29/Jan/2017 is depicted on the left and monthly rainfall deciles for December 2016 are on the right. Over the last week, there was light rainfall across most of the state. Precipitation during December (right graph below) was average for most of the state with parts of the coast and northern inland being drier than normal, and parts of the west being wetter than average. Maximum and minimum temperatures for December were 2-3 degrees above average.



Three Month Rainfall & Temperature Forecast

For February to April 2017, rainfall predictions for NSW are for below average precipitation, with central areas of the state having a higher probability of being drier than average. Maximum and minimum temperatures are expected to be above normal across the state. The following pages contain graphics of the seasonal outlook:

<u>www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/rainfall/median</u> (Rainfall outlook). <u>www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/temperature/summary</u> (Max & min temperature outlook).

According to the BOM as of 17/Jan/17 the El Niño-Southern Oscillation remains neutral (a La Niña event is typically associated with wetter than average conditions and an El Niño with drier conditions).

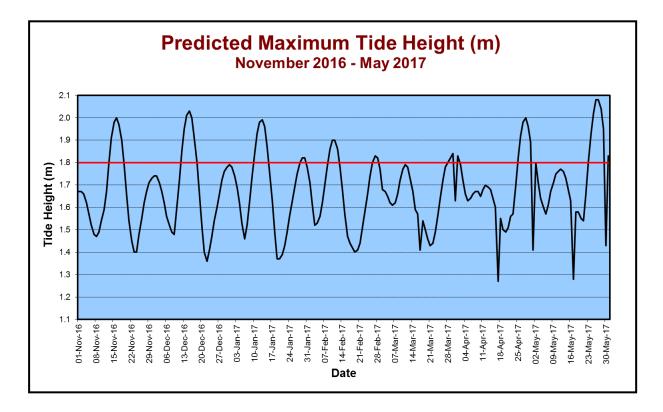
For more information: www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso/ and, http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/iod/





Tidal

Tidal information is relevant for the prediction of the activity of the salt marsh mosquito, *Aedes vigilax*. Typically for NSW, tides of over 1.8m can induce hatching of *Aedes vigilax* larvae and the graph below of predicted tide heights can provide some indication of when this is likely to occur.



The next series of high tides that may lead to *Aedes vigilax* larval hatching are over due to occur over 8-13/Feb/2017.

Note that actual tide heights can vary by 0.3m (or more in unusual circumstances) due to variations in atmospheric pressure, rainfall, wind and other climatic phenomena. Thus predicted tide height should be used as a gauge only for potential *Aedes vigilax* activity. The larvae of the saltmarsh mosquito relies on a inundation/drying cycle for the mudflats in which it lives; continual wet weather prevents the drying cycles thereby reducing larval production.





MVEV Climatic Models

Three predictive environmental based models for MVEV activity have been developed; the Forbes (which relies on rainfall in the river catchment basins of Eastern Australia), Nichols (based on the Southern Oscillation), and the Bennett theory (based on the Indian Ocean Dipole). The latter theory is poorly developed (and unreliable), and is not considered below. Note that all the predictive models have been developed on a limited data set and do not always forecast activity. There can also be unusual environmental conditions that may lead to the introduction of the virus to southeastern Australia, such as the movement of low pressure cells from the north to the south of the country during 2008 and 2011. Vertical transmission of the virus (from adult to the egg in *Aedes* species) can result in restricted activity following localised heavy precipitation (as per 2003 at Menindee).

i. Forbes' Hypothesis

Rainfall was not above Decile 7 in all of the river catchment basins in eastern Australia for the last quarter of 2015 or the majority of the catchments for the first quarter of 2016 (Table 1). For the Oct-Dec 2016 period, rainfall was not above Decile 7 in all of the catchment basins.

Table 1. Rainfall indices for the main catchment basins of eastern Australia as per Forbes' hypothesis, relevant to the 2016-2017 season. Note that a value of 1 equals Decile 7 rainfall.

Catchment Basin	Oct-Dec 2015	Jan-Mar 2016	Oct-Dec 2016	Jan-Mar 2017
Darling River	0.72	0.67	0.58	
Lachlan/Murrumbidgee/ Murray Rivers	0.70	1.14	0.92	
Northern Rivers	1.35	0.57	0.98	
North Lake Eyre system	1.35	0.63	1.09	

ii. Nichol's Hypothesis

Table 2. The seasonal atmospheric pressures (in mm) according to Nichol's hypothesis, relevant to the 2016-2017 season.

	Autumn 2016	Winter 2016	Spring 2016
2015 Value	1010.30	1012.57	1010.07
Pre past MVEV seasons	<1009.74	<1012.99	<1009.99

Only the Winter period pertaining to the Nichol's hypothesis is in line with past MVEV active years.





Table 3. ARBOVIRAL ISOLATES

LOCATION - Site	Date Trapped	Mosquito Species	Virus
ALBURY – Kremur St	23/Jan/17	*	Kokobera
GRIFFITH – Hanwood	22/Jan/17	*	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	22/Jan/17	*	Sindbis
LEETON – Farm 347	17/Jan/17	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
LEETON – Farm 347	17/Jan/17	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
ALBURY – Waterworks Rd	16/Jan/17	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
ALBURY – Waterworks Rd	16/Jan/17	*	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Hanwood	16/Jan/17	*	Barmah Forest
GRIFFITH – Hanwood	16/Jan/17	Culex annulirostris	Barmah Forest
GRIFFITH – Hanwood	10/Jan/17	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Hanwood	10/Jan/17	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Hanwood	10/Jan/17	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Hanwood	10/Jan/17	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Hanwood	10/Jan/17	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	10/Jan/17	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	10/Jan/17	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	10/Jan/17	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
LEETON – Almond Rd	9/Jan/17	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
LEETON – Almond Rd	9/Jan/17	*	Ross River
LEETON – Farm 347	9/Jan/17	*	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	3/Jan/17	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GEORGES RIVER – Alfords Point	29/Dec/16	Aedes alboannulatus	Ross River
GEORGES RIVER – Alfords Point	29/Dec/16	*	Ross River
ALBURY – Kremur St	19/Dec/16	*	Ross River
ALBURY – Kremur St	19/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Barren Box	19/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Barren Box	19/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Barren Box	19/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Barren Box	19/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	19/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	19/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	19/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	19/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	19/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
LEETON – Farm 347	13/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
LEETON – Farm 347	13/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
LEETON – Farm 347	13/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
LEETON – Farm 347	13/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Barren Box	12/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Barren Box	12/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Barren Box	12/Dec/16	*	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Barren Box	12/Dec/16	Anopheles annulipes	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Barren Box	12/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis



GRIFFITH – Barren Box	12/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Barren Box	12/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	12/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	12/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	12/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GEORGES RIVER – Illawong	8/Dec/16	*	Ross River
LEETON – Farm 347	7/Dec/16	*	Ross River
LEETON – Farm 347	7/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
MURRAY – Moama	6/Dec/16	*	Ross River
ALBURY – Kremur St	5/Dec/16	*	Ross River
ALBURY – Kremur St	5/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
ALBURY – Kremur St	5/Dec/16	Aedes bancroftianus	Ross River
FORBES – STP	5/Dec/16	*	Ross River
FORBES – STP	5/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
FORBES – STP	5/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
FORBES – STP	5/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
FORBES – STP	5/Dec/16	Culex australicus	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Barren Box	5/Dec/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	5/Dec/16	Culex australicus	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	5/Dec/16	Culex australicus	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Hanwood	31/Nov/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Hanwood	31/Nov/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Hanwood	31/Nov/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Hanwood	31/Nov/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	31/Nov/16	Anopheles annulipes	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	31/Nov/16	Anopheles annulipes	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	31/Nov/16	*	Ross River
FORBES – STP	29/Nov/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
FORBES – STP	29/Nov/16	Culex australicus	Ross River
FORBES – Toms Lagoon	29/Nov/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
LEETON – Farm 347	29/Nov/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Barren Box	21/Nov/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Barren Box	21/Nov/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Barren Box	21/Nov/16	Anopheles annulipes	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Barren Box	21/Nov/16	Culex annulirostris	Sindbis
GRIFFITH – Hanwood	21/Nov/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Hanwood	21/Nov/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Hanwood	21/Nov/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Barren Box	21/Nov/16	*	Ross River
LEETON – Farm 347	16/Nov/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
LEETON – Farm 347	16/Nov/16	Anopheles annulipes	Ross River
LEETON – Farm 347	16/Nov/16	*	Ross River
FORBES – Toms Lagoon	15/Nov/16	Culex annulirostris	Ross River
FORBES – STP	15/Nov/16	Culex annulirostris	Barmah Forest
FORBES – STP	15/Nov/16	*	Barmah Forest
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	14/Nov/16	Aedes sagax	Barmah Forest
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	14/Nov/16	*	Barmah Forest
MURRAY – Moama	8/Nov/16	*	Ross River
MURRAY – Moama	8/Nov/16	Aedes sagax	Ross River
FORBES – Toms Lagoon	7/Nov/16	Aedes sagax	Sindbis



GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	1/Nov/16	Aedes theobaldi	Ross River
GRIFFITH – Lake Wyangan	1/Nov/16	Anopheles annulipes	Ross River

*Detection via Honey-Baited Cards, the mosquito species cannot be determined. <u>http://medent.usyd.edu.au/arbovirus/results/virusisolates.htm</u>

The Victorian Arbovirus Surveillance Program has also had a further series of Ross River virus detections at sites along the Murray, including four from Mildura and one from Kerang. These were detected during mid-December (information courtesy Stacey Rowe, DHHS, Victoria).

Table 4. Arboviral Detections* 2016-2017, Summary Table

	Date			Vi	rus	
LOCATION	Trapped	BFV	RRV	SINV	KOKV	Total
ALBURY	23/Jan/17				1	1
ALBURY	16/Jan/17		2			2
ALBURY	19/Dec/16		2			2
ALBURY	5/Dec/16		3			3
FORBES	5/Dec/16		5			5
FORBES	29/Nov/16		3			3
FORBES	15/Nov/16	2	1			3
FORBES	7/Nov/16			1		1
GEORGES RIVER	29/Dec/16		2			2
GEORGES RIVER	8/Dec/16		1			1
GRIFFITH	22/Jan/17			2		2
GRIFFITH	16/Jan/17	2				2
GRIFFITH	10/Jan/17		1	7		8
GRIFFITH	3/Jan/17			1		1
GRIFFITH	19/Dec/16			9		9
GRIFFITH	12/Dec/16		3	7		10
GRIFFITH	5/Dec/16		2	1		3
GRIFFITH	31/Nov/16		4	3		7
GRIFFITH	21/Nov/16		7	1		8
GRIFFITH	14/Nov/16	2				2
GRIFFITH	1/Nov/16		2			2
LEETON	17/Jan/17			2		2
LEETON	9/Jan/17		2	1		3
LEETON	13/Dec/16		2	2		4
LEETON	7/Dec/16		1	1		2
LEETON	29/Nov/16		1			1
LEETON	16/Nov/16		3			3
MURRAY	6/Dec/16		1			1
MURRAY	8/Nov/16		2			2
	TOTAL	6	50	39	1	95

*This is a summary of the detections via FTA card and cell culture, in some cases both systems will be detecting the same virus.



HUMAN NOTIFICATIONS

Weekly notifications of human mosquito-borne diseases infections are available from the NSW Ministry of Health, Communicable Disease Weekly Report and summarised in the Table below*: www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/reports/Pages/CDWR.aspx

Week Ending	RRV	BFV	DENV [†]	Malaria [†]	CHIKV [†]	ZIKV [†]	Total
3-Jul-16	3	0	1	1	0	0	5
10-Jul-16	2	0	5	2	0	0	9
17-Jul-16	4	1	6	0	0	0	11
24-Jul-16	3	3	9	2	0	0	17
31-Jul-16	2	0	6	4	0	0	12
7-Aug-16	2	0	6	3	0	0	11
14-Aug-16	1	0	5	1	0	0	7
21-Aug-16	4	0	1	1	1	0	7
28-Aug-16	2	0	4	0	1	0	7
4-Sep-16	3	0	4	0	0	0	7
11-Sep-16	1	0	3	2	0	0	6
18-Sep-16	3	0	3	1	0	1	8
25-Sep-16	9	0	4	1	0	1	15
2-Oct-16	2	0	0	0	0	1	3
9-Oct-16	3	0	5	2	0	0	10
16-Oct-16	2	0	8	4	1	0	15
23-Oct-16	3	0	9	0	1	0	13
30-Oct-16	6	0	5	0	1	0	12
6-Nov-16	4	0	4	2	2	0	12
13-Nov-16	2	0	9	0	1	0	12
20-Nov-16	6	0	10	0	1	0	17
27-Nov-16	8	0	4	2	1	0	15
4-Dec-16	13	0	6	2	1	0	22
11-Dec-16	18	0	8	3	0	0	29
18-Dec-16	21	0	2	0	2	0	25
25-Dec-16	31	0	0	2	0	0	33
1-Jan-17	8	0	3	1	0	0	12
7-Jan-17	35	0	2	2	1	0	40
14-Jan-17	82	1	7	1	1	0	83
21-Jan-17	108	0	6	3	0	0	117
Total	391	5	145	42	15	3	601

Table 5. Notifications of Mosquito-Borne Disease in NSW, 2016-2017*

[†]All of these viruses are acquired overseas, although some DENV cases may be from North Queensland. *The data in this table is updated once available from the NSW Ministry of Health.





Comment: the notifications of Ross River virus for 2016-2017 are continuing to rise; the 108 over the last week is almost double the monthly average. The December 2016 and January 2017 notifications are the highest since 2013 (Table 6). The total for this period was 399 notifications and this is several times higher than for most recent years during a comparable period; e.g. 2015-2016 (96), 2014-2015 (207), and 2013-2014 (63). Barmah Forest virus notifications continue to be very low despite some arboviral detections. This decline appears to be artificial and due to the withdrawal of the commercial test that was over diagnosing patients.

Table 6. Ross River virus infection notifications in NSW residents, by month of disease onset. January 2013 to January 2017*.

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2013	38	46	34	57	101	49	36	23	27	36	30	30	507
2014	33	35	45	72	86	57	38	50	46	67	59	90	678
2015	117	306	431	264	102	50	54	61	53	61	70	54	1623
2016	42	60	78	79	51	16	11	10	18	17	35	189	606
2017	210												210

*up to 30/Jan/2017. Table from: http://www0.health.nsw.gov.au/data/diseases/rossriver.asp

It should also be noted that notifications are for NSW residents and that infection may have been acquired elsewhere.

For more data on Ross River virus notifications in NSW see: http://www0.health.nsw.gov.au/data/diseases/rossriver.asp

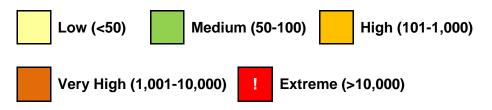
For more data on Barmah Forest virus notifications in NSW see: http://www0.health.nsw.gov.au/data/diseases/barmahforest.asp



MOSQUITO RESULTS

All the full mosquito results can be obtained from: <u>http://medent.usyd.edu.au/arbovirus/results/results.htm#site</u>

Mosquito abundances are best described in relative terms, and in keeping with the terminology from previous NSWASP Annual Reports, mosquito numbers are depicted on the tables below as:



Each location represents the average for all trapping sites at that location.





Inland

Location	Magguita	Oct	-16				Nov	,			Dee	5			Jai	n-17				Feb)			Mar	,		
Location	Mosquito	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	5	12	19	26
Albury	Cx. annul																										
<u>Albury</u>	Total Mosq.																										
Bourke	Cx. annul																										
DOULKE	Total Mosq.																										
				-		2											-							-	-		
Forbes	Cx. annul																										
<u>FUIDES</u>	Total Mosq.																										
Griffith	Cx. annul																										
omman	Total Mosq.																										
Leeton	Cx. annul																										
Lecton	Total Mosq.																										
				-	-	-							-			-	-	-							-		
Mathoura	Cx. annul																										
Matrioura	Total Mosq.																										
				_	-	-							-			-	-	-					-		_		
Menindee	Cx. annul																										
	Total Mosq.																										
		-	T														-		-	-	-	-				-	
Wagga	Cx. annul																										
Tayya	Total Mosq.																										



Coastal

Location	Magguita	Nov	,			De	C			Jai	า-17				Feb				Ма	ır			Apr				
Location	Mosquito	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30
Ballina	Ae. vigilax																										
	Total Mosq.																										
Coffs	Ae. vigilax																										
<u>Harbour</u>	Total Mosq.																										
Gosford	Ae. vigilax																										
Gostoru	Total Mosq.																										
Lake	Ae. vigilax																										
<u>Lake</u> Macquarie	Total Mosq.																										
Port	Ae. vigilax																										
Macquarie	Total Mosq.																										
Tweed	Ae. vigilax																										
Tweed	Total Mosq.																										
Muona	Ae. vigilax																										
<u>Wyong</u>	Total Mosq.																										





Sydney

Location	Magguita	Nov	7			De	С			Jar	า-17				Feb				Ма	ar			Apr	•			
Location	Mosquito	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30
Banks-	Ae. vigilax																										
	Total Mosq.																										
															-												
Blacktown	Ae. vigilax																										
	Total Mosq.																										
	1	1														1	r			1	r						
	Ae. vigilax																										
<u>River</u>	Total Mosq.																										
	<i></i>	1	1	1	1					1						1	1			1							
	Ae. vigilax																									┢───┦	┝───
<u>bury</u>	Total Mosq.																							-			L
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Sydney	Ae. vigilax																										
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	Ae. vigilax																										1
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Sentinel Chicken Seroconversions

http://medent.usyd.edu.au/arbovirus/results/chicken_results_all_sites.htm

	Oct	-16				No	v			Dec	;			Jan	-17				Feb)			Mai	r		
Location	2	9	16	23	30	8	13	20	27	4	11	18	22	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	5	12	19	26
Bourke																										
Deniliquin						15N	15N	13N		13N	13N	13N	13N	12N	10N	10N										
Forbes				15N		15N	15N																			
<u>Griffith</u>			15N	13N	14N		14N	14N	14N																	
<u>Hay</u>			15N		15N	15N	15N	15N	15N	15N																
Leeton			15N		15N	14N	15N	15N		15N	15N															
Macquarie Marshes								15N	15N		15N			15N	15N	1KUNV, 13N										
<u>Menindee</u>					15N	15N	15N	14N	14N	15N	13N	13N	13N	13N		13N										
<u>Moama</u>								15N	15N			15N														
Moree										15N	15N	15N	12N	15N	15N											
Wee Waa							15N	13N	15N	15N	15N		15N	15N		14N										

N= Negative for MVEV & KUNV

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