



1.4 Extensive production in Australia: How and where

Dr Stuart Barber

srbarber@unimelb.edu.au



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Definition of extensive livestock

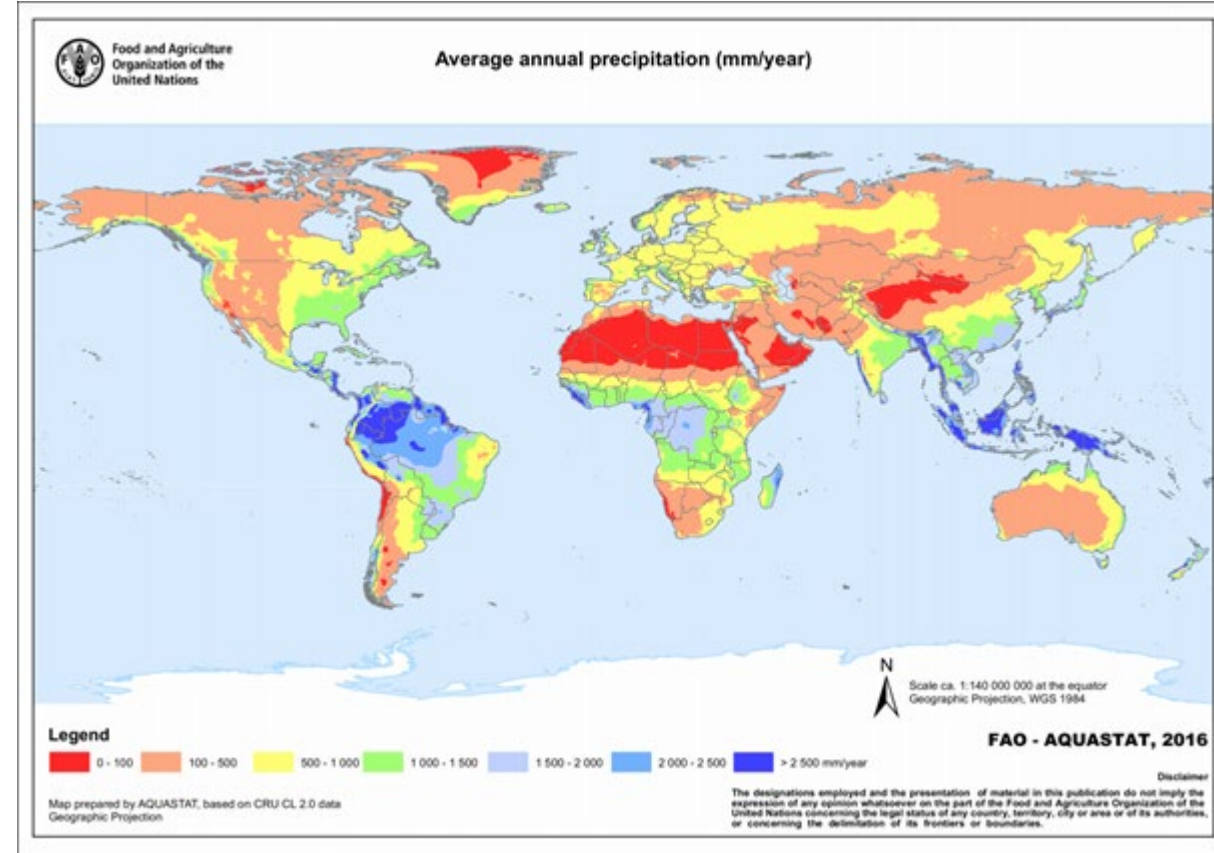


for the majority of the year the animals are grazing paddocks for their own feed and managers are not bringing the feed to them (although at times they may need supplementary feed or be kept in a containment lot for feeding, during periods of drought or low rainfall)

Some key elements determine how much pasture will grow in a given time period and how quickly it can grow. These elements determine where different classes of stock may be managed and how many of them can be grazed in an area – the stocking density.

Rainfall

- Relatively low rainfall over much of Australia



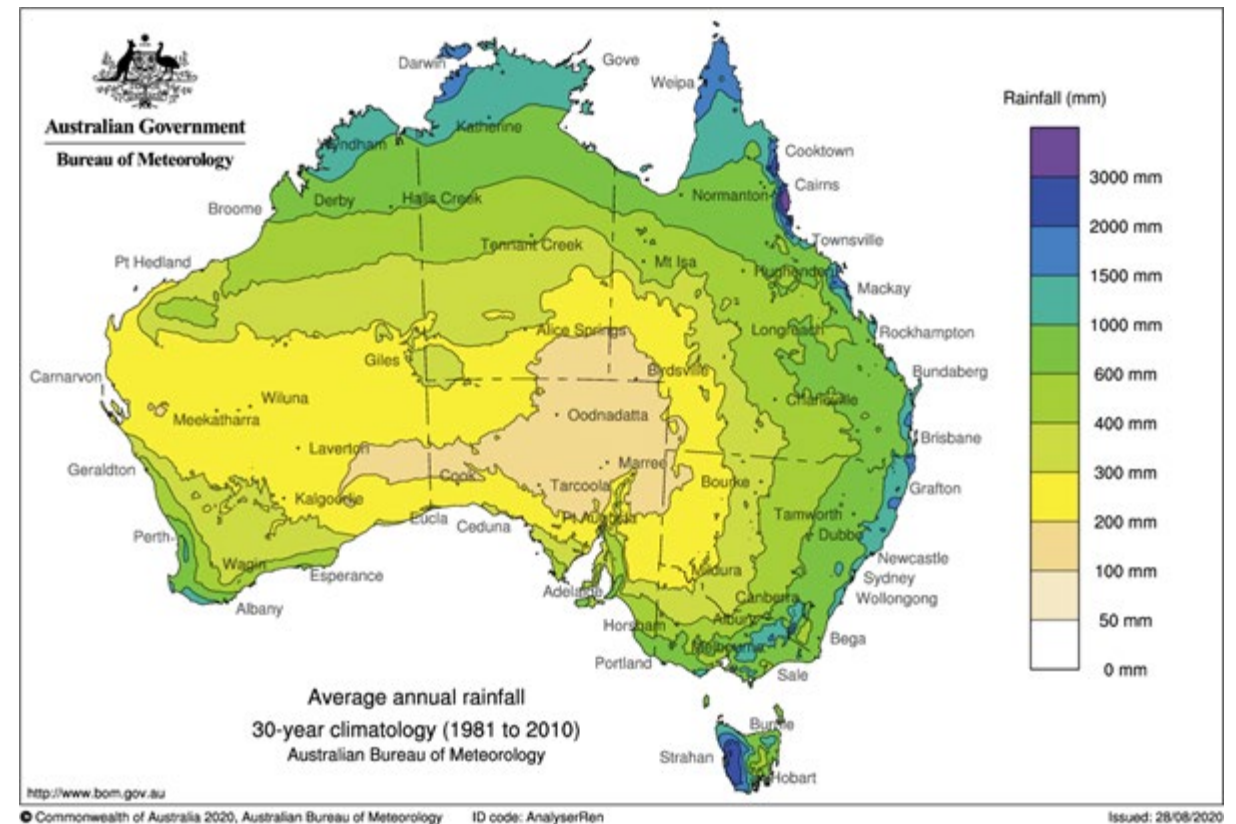
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A closer look at Australian rainfall

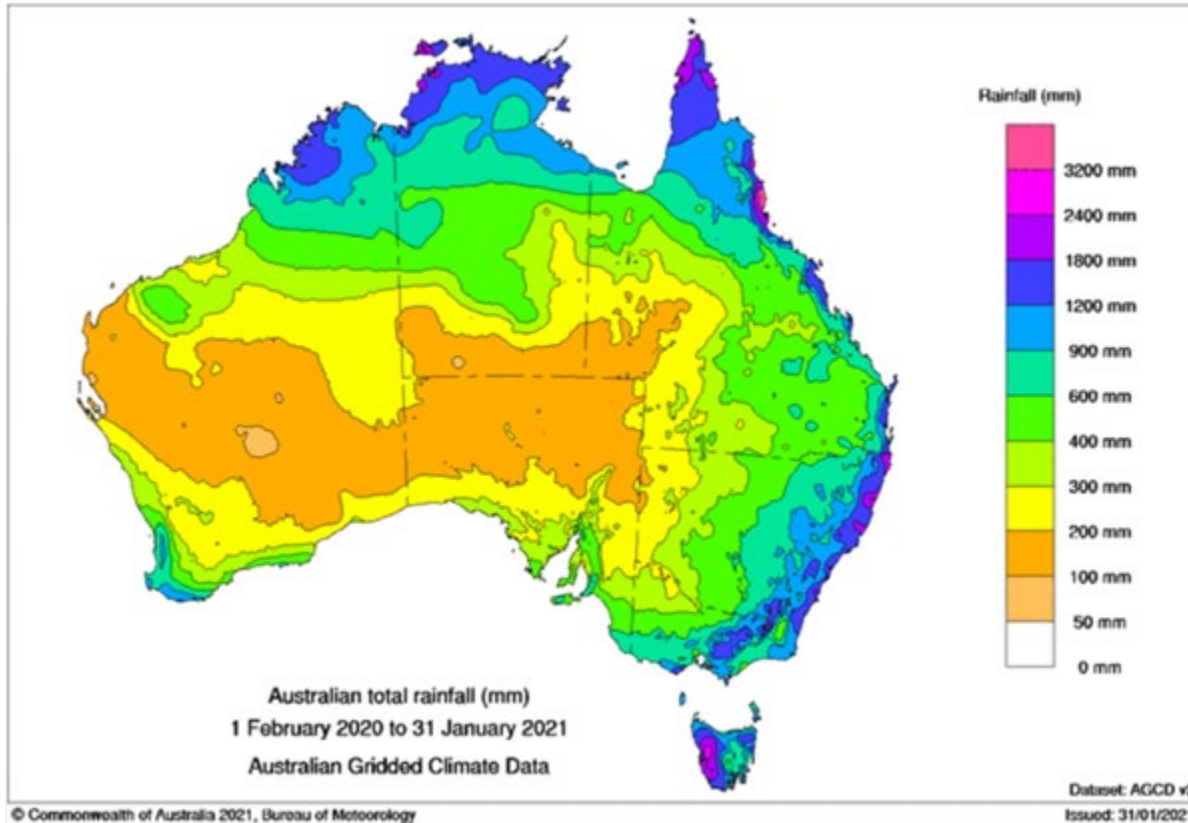


- Generally higher rainfall closer to coast
- Also Great Dividing Range
- Northern areas
- But average can be misleading
- Variations in pattern
- Inconsistent (drought/flood)

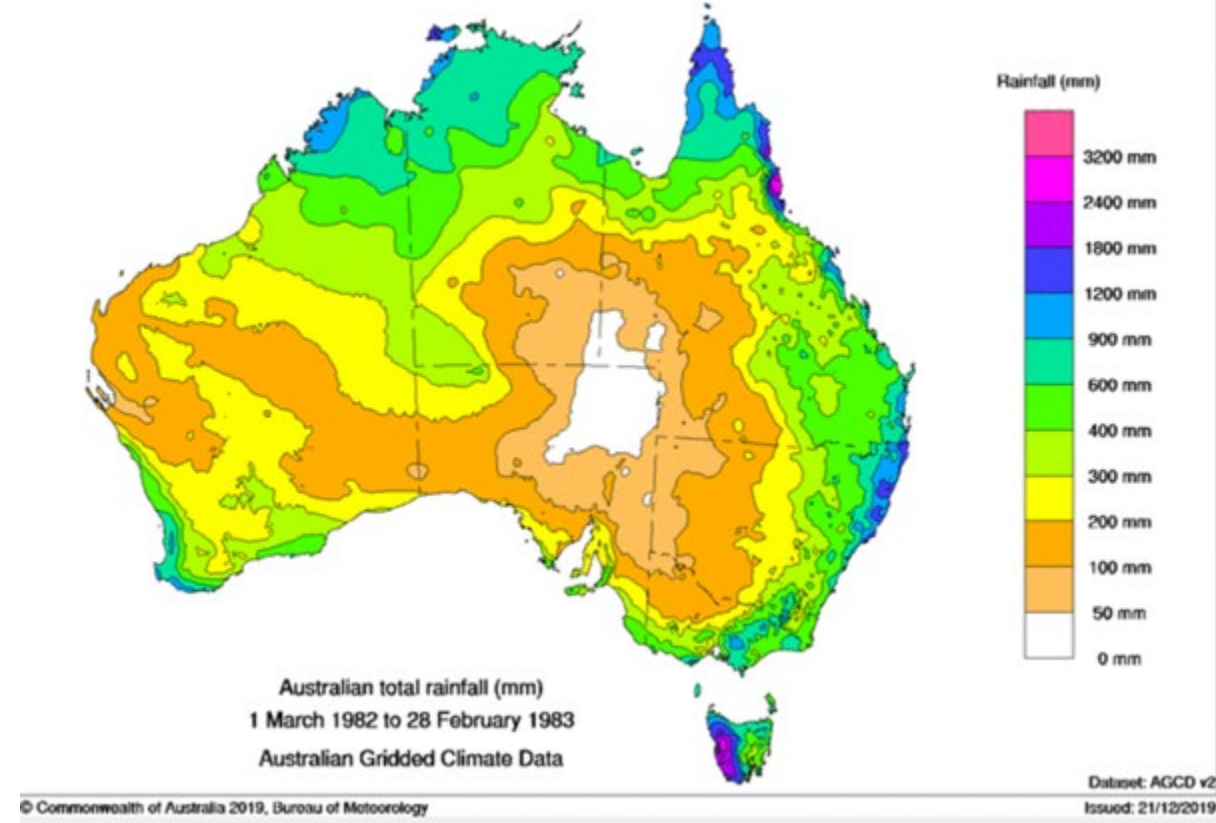


http://www.bom.gov.au/jsp/ncc/climate_averages/rainfall/index.jsp

High versus low rainfall years



<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/maps/rainfall/?variable=rainfall&map=totals&period=12month®ion=nat&year=2021&month=01&day=31>

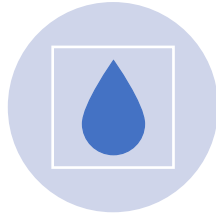


<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/maps/rainfall/?variable=rainfall&map=totals&period=12month®ion=nat&year=1983&month=02&day=28>

Irrigation



MURRAY DARLING BASIN
(AND OTHER AREAS)



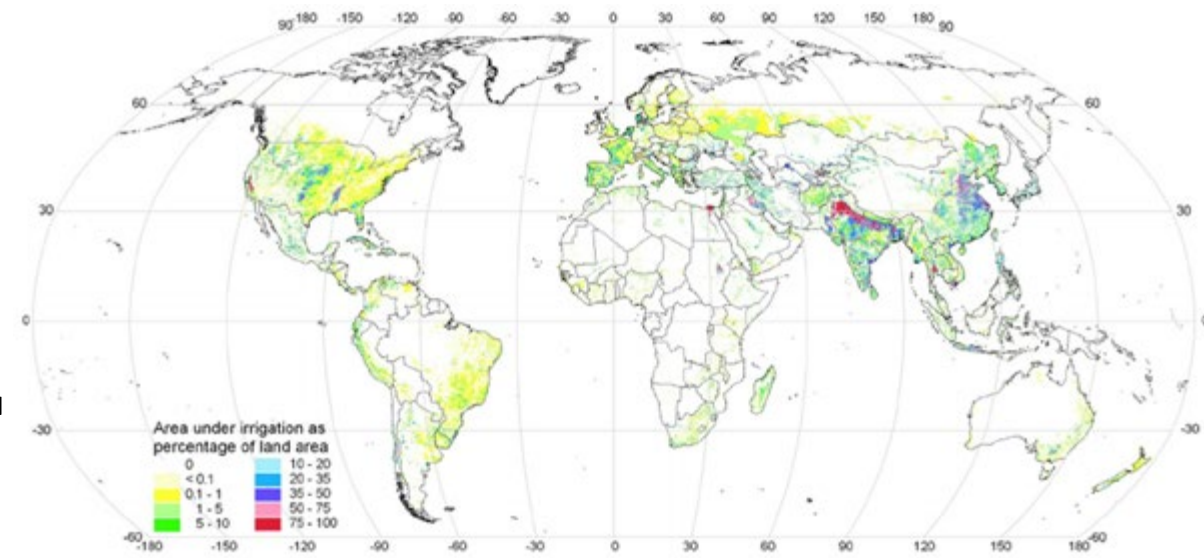
RIVERS, CHANNELS
MOVING WATER FROM
LAKE BASED STORAGE



CAN SIGNIFICANTLY
INCREASE PASTURE/CROP
PRODUCTION IN A REGION
(E.G. GOULBURN VALLEY IN
VICTORIA)



IMPORTANT AS INCREASES
INPUTS NEEDED >
INCREASED RURAL
PROVIDERS TO SUPPLY
THESE LOCALLY

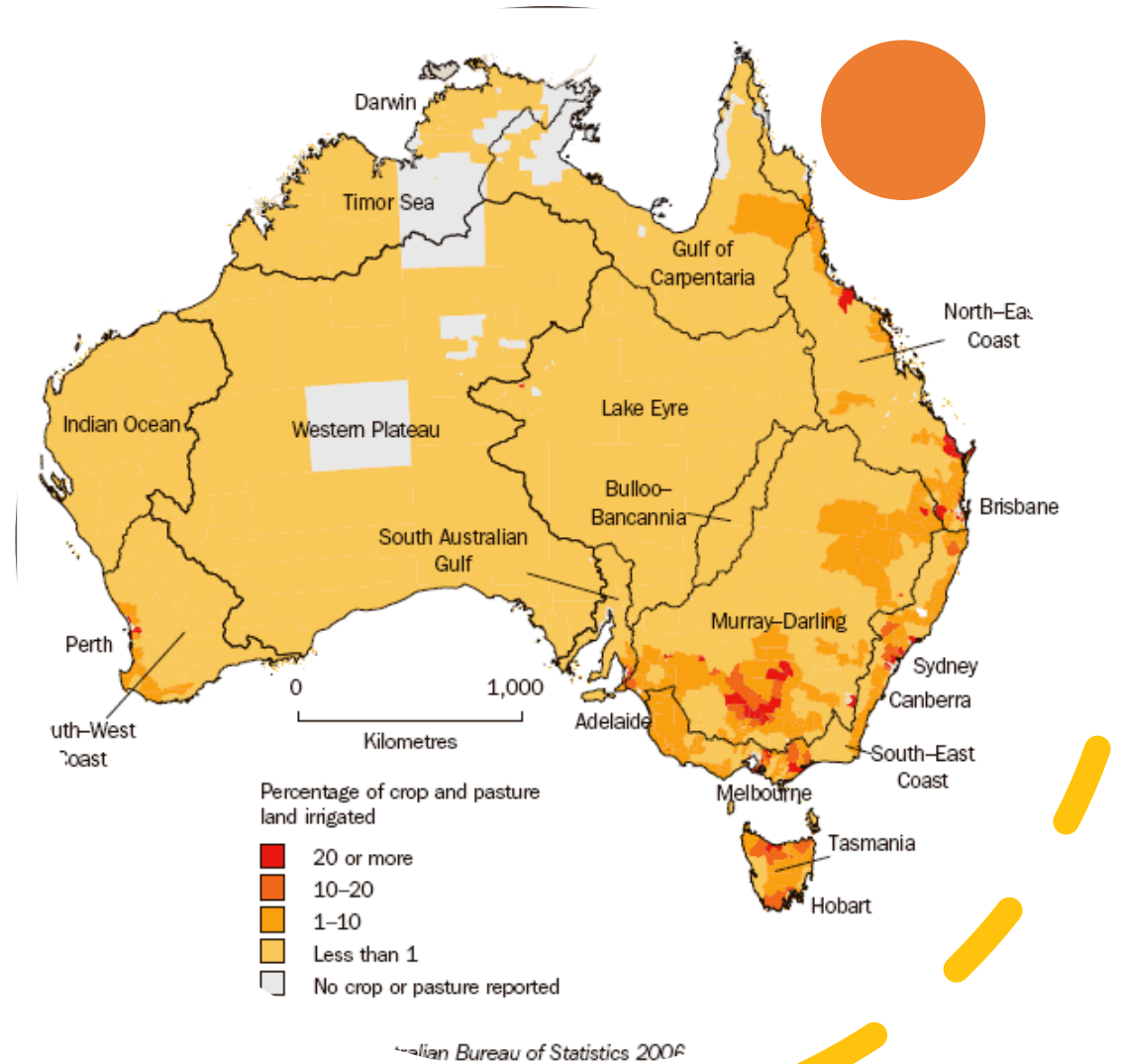


Irrigation

- Some underground water supply
- License/regulation

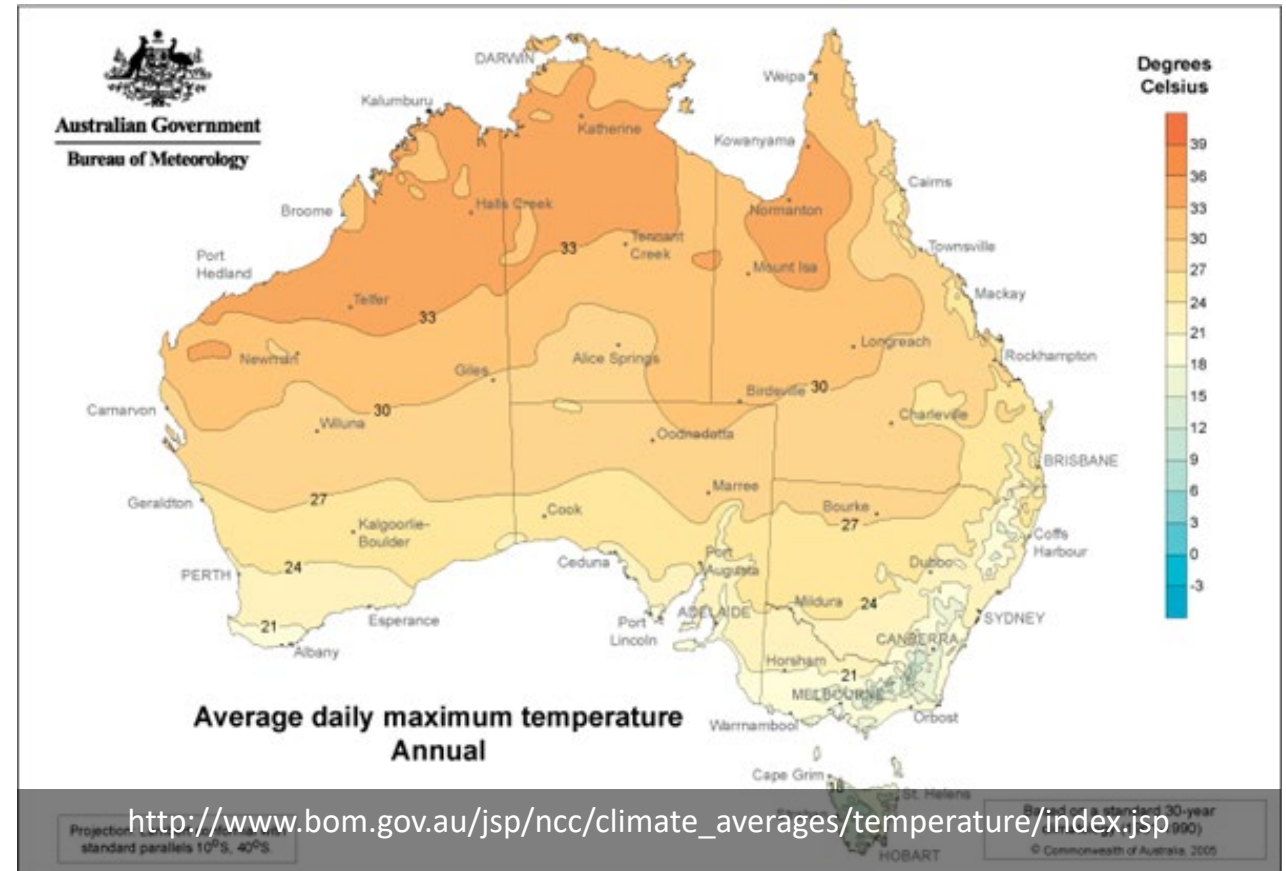


<https://abs.gov.au/2Fausstats%2Fabs%40.nsf%2F2f762f95845417aeca25706c00834efa%2Fc125801e8e8254deca2573d200106637%2FBody%2F27.2CE2!OpenElement%26FieldElemFormat%3Dgif&f=1&nofb=1>Links to an external site.

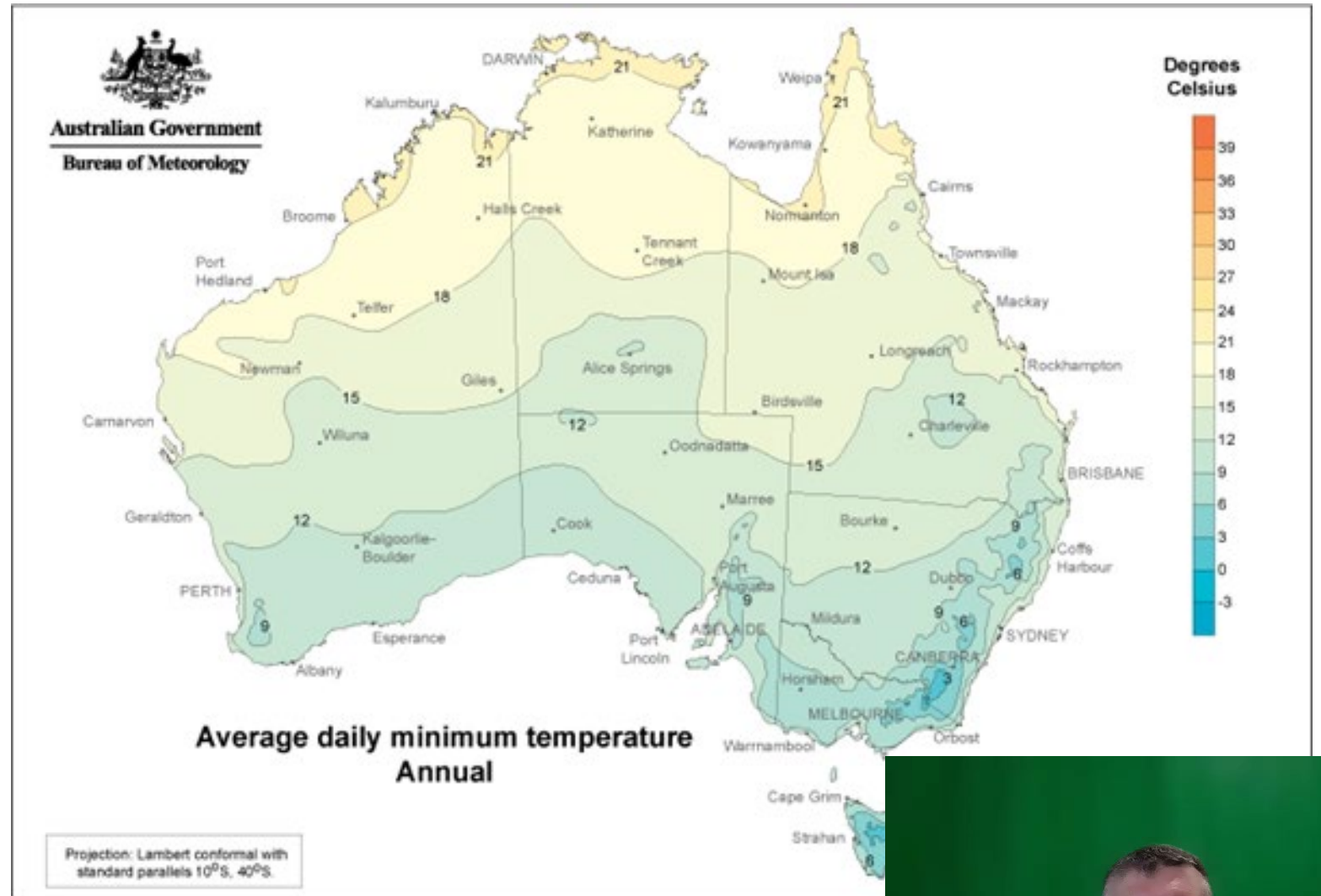


Temperature

- Important in pasture growth
- Evaporation/evapotranspiration
 - Less water for plant growth
- Low temperature
 - <10c reduced growth
 - <6 c mostly stopped
- In Australia as go further N the temperature generally increases



Average daily minimum temperature



http://www.bom.gov.au/jsp/ncc/climate_average/index.jsp?maptype=3&period=an#maps

