

2026 Wheat Condition Report

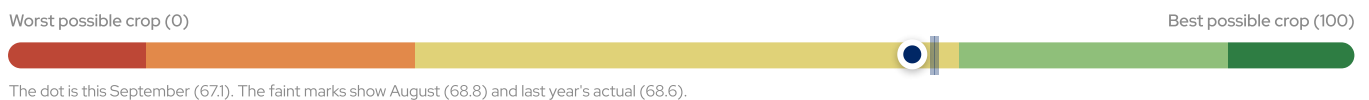
How Australia's wheat crop is tracking, region by region. September 2026.

67.1 / 100

National **Condition Index**, September 2026

▼ -1.8 index points since August

▼ -1.5 index points vs last year (actual)

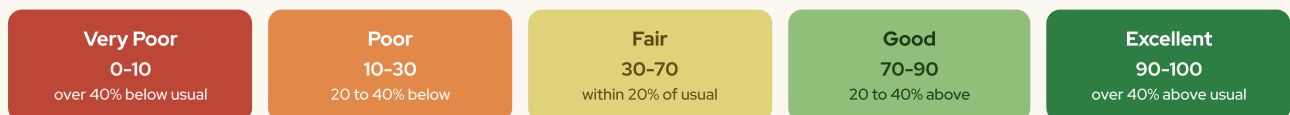


Australia's wheat crop declined slightly in September. The national Condition Index is 67.1 out of 100, down from 68.8 in August and a touch below last year's actual of 68.6. Most of the crop, 59%, is rated Fair, while the share rated Good or Excellent is 35%. South Australia and Victoria hold the strongest crops, while Queensland is the weakest of the five states.



HOW TO READ THIS REPORT

Octopusbot's AI forecasts the yield in every wheat-growing region, then compares it with what that region usually grows. Each region gets one of five ratings, each mapping to a band of the 0 to 100 Condition Index:

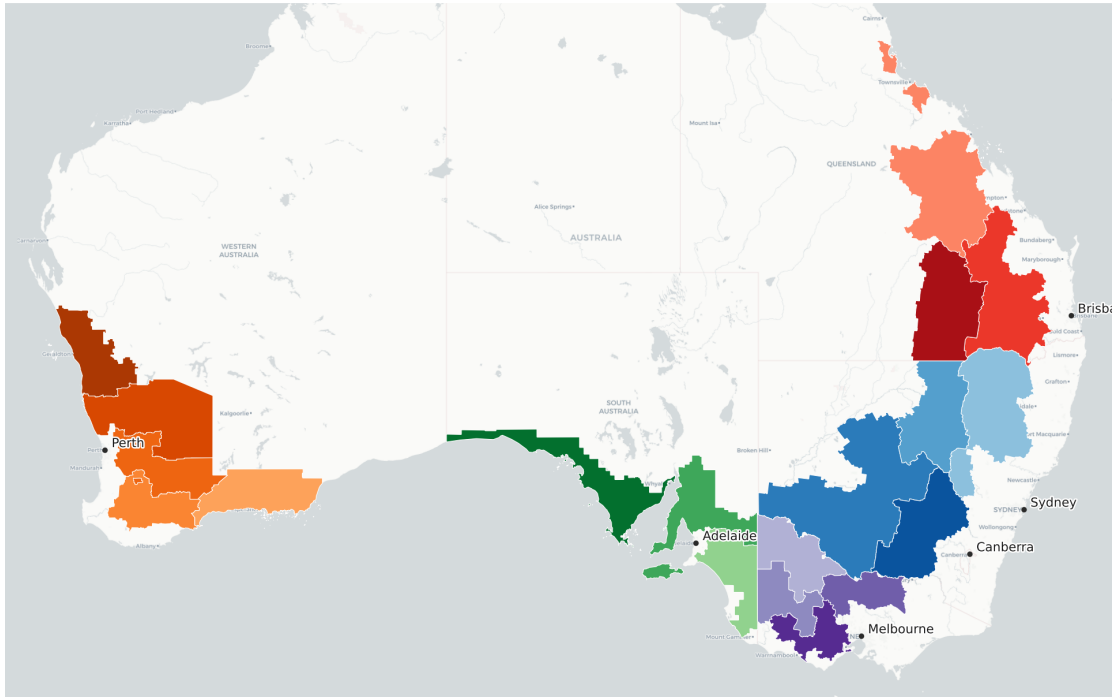


COMMODITY Wheat	COVERAGE 5 States, 19 Regions	AS AT September 2026
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Condition by region

The growing regions, colour coded. Condition Index and areas for each are listed below



REGION	INDEX	GRDC REGIONS
NEW SOUTH WALES		
NSW Slopes	63	Central and South East NSW
NSW Central	76	Central and South West NSW
NSW Northwest Plains	46	North West NSW
NSW Northern Slopes	46	North East NSW
QUEENSLAND		
QLD South West	45	South West QLD
QLD Darling Downs	30	Darling Downs and South East QLD
QLD Central	28	Central QLD
SOUTH AUSTRALIA		
SA Western	97	Eyre Peninsula
SA Central	88	Mid North, Yorke Peninsula and Riverland SA
SA Eastern	73	Murray Mallee, Coorong and South East SA
VICTORIA		
VIC South West	65	South West VIC
VIC Slopes	80	North East and North Central VIC
VIC Wimmera	83	Wimmera VIC
VIC Mallee	93	North and South VIC Mallee
WESTERN AUSTRALIA		
WA Geraldton	63	Geraldton
WA Kwinana North	64	Kwinana North
WA Kwinana South	48	Kwinana South
WA Albany	48	Albany
WA Esperance	62	Esperance

Condition Index Weaker Stronger

Condition by region

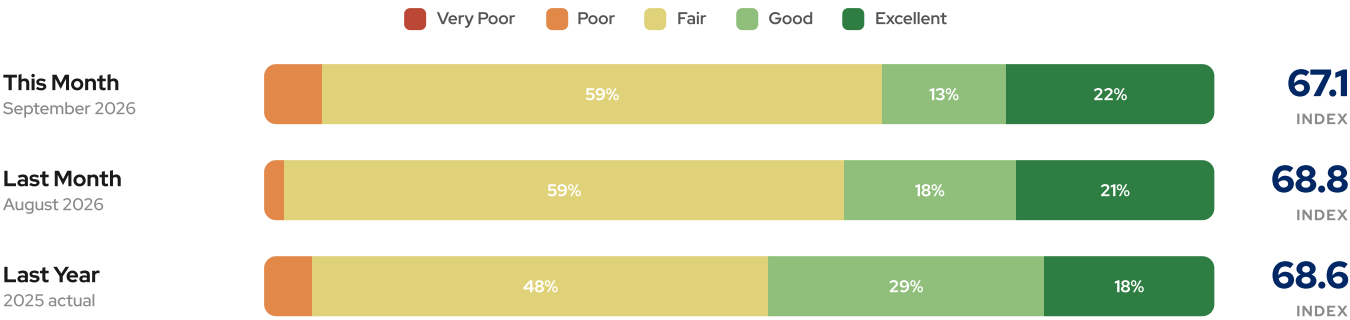
Each state broken into its growing regions, rated red (poor) to green (excellent)

REGION	VERY POOR	POOR	FAIR	GOOD	EXCELLENT	CONDITION INDEX	
New South Wales	0%	11%	56%	23%	10%	60.9	
NSW Slopes	0%	0%	84%	16%	0%	63.2	
NSW Central	0%	0%	28%	46%	26%	75.9	
NSW Northwest Plains	0%	15%	70%	14%	1%	46.0	
NSW Northern Slopes	0%	44%	41%	7%	8%	46.3	
Queensland	1%	45%	54%	0%	0%	32.0	
QLD South West	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	45.3	
QLD Darling Downs	2%	46%	52%	0%	0%	29.5	
QLD Central	0%	76%	24%	0%	0%	27.9	
South Australia	0%	0%	13%	14%	73%	90.5	
SA Western	0%	0%	0%	13%	87%	97.2	
SA Central	0%	0%	20%	8%	72%	87.9	
SA Eastern	0%	0%	41%	39%	20%	72.9	
Victoria	0%	0%	14%	34%	52%	87.0	
VIC South West	0%	0%	73%	27%	0%	64.6	
VIC Slopes	0%	0%	42%	17%	41%	79.6	
VIC Wimmera	0%	0%	15%	37%	48%	83.2	
VIC Mallee	0%	0%	0%	38%	62%	92.9	
Western Australia	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	59.2	
WA Geraldton	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	62.9	
WA Kwinana North	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	63.7	
WA Kwinana South	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	47.5	
WA Albany	1%	0%	99%	0%	0%	48.3	
WA Esperance	0%	0%	100%	0%	0%	61.7	

Shaded rows show the whole-state result; the regions beneath show how it breaks down, weighted by planted area. Region names carry their state for clarity. The Condition Index rescales each area's forecast yield to a figure from 0 to 100, based on how it compares with that area's usual yield, taken as its ten-year average. An average year scores 50, and each 1 percent above or below moves the score by 1 point, so a forecast 20 percent below scores 30 and one 20 percent above scores 70. The bands run Very Poor 0 to 10, Poor 10 to 30, Fair 30 to 70, Good 70 to 90 and Excellent 90 to 100. Each state and region figure is the planted-area weighted average of the areas within it.

How the crop changed

This month compared with last month and last year



South Australia tops the wheat states with a Condition Index of 90.5 and 73% of its crop rated Excellent.

The national Condition Index fell 1.8 points to 67.1 in September, down from 68.8 in August. The share of crop rated Poor rose to 6%, while Good or Excellent eased to 35%.

South Australia

South Australia's Condition Index is 90.5, the highest in the nation. Most of its crop, 73%, is rated Excellent.

Victoria

Victoria's Condition Index is 87.0. Excellent is the dominant rating at 52%, with a further 34% rated Good.

New South Wales

New South Wales has a Condition Index of 60.9. Most of its crop, 56%, is rated Fair, with 23% rated Good and 10% rated Excellent.

Western Australia

Western Australia's Condition Index is 59.2. The entire wheat crop is rated Fair.

Queensland

Queensland's Condition Index is 32.0, the lowest of the five states. Fair is the largest category at 54%, followed by Poor at 45%.

Methodology

The data and AI models behind the forecast

Octopusbot runs thousands of interconnected proprietary AI models that continuously simulate global grain and oilseed markets. For this report, the yield models estimate the wheat crop in every Australian growing region each month, by combining detailed historical yield records for each region with extensive historical weather patterns.

The models analyse more than **200 localised weather variables**, including rainfall, soil moisture, temperature and wind speeds, alongside satellite imagery, and can forecast yields **seven months ahead of the market**. Production estimates combine these regional yield forecasts with AI planted-area estimates, which weigh commodity prices, farmer profitability and seasonal weather.

Ratings are produced at local statistical level and rolled up to growing regions, states and the nation using estimated planted area as the weight, so larger growing areas count for more in each combined figure. The whole pipeline is automated end to end and refreshes every month as new weather and satellite data arrive. Because it is built entirely on data, the platform is independent and free of bias, and each model produces a range of likely outcomes rather than a single number.



Crop forecasting by Octopusbot, prepared for Elders.

FORECAST ACCURACY

97.4%	forecast accuracy, 2024/25 season
95%	accuracy seven months ahead
5,000+	interconnected AI models
200+	localised weather variables

HOW THE ESTIMATE IS BUILT

1 · Regional yield history + weather	inputs
2 · AI yield forecast per region	yield
3 · AI planted-area estimate	area
4 · Yield × area	production
5 · Forecast vs usual yield	rating
6 · Roll-up weighted by planted area	totals

About the ratings: each region's forecast yield is compared with its usual result. Excellent is more than 40% above usual, Good 20 to 40% above, Fair within 20%, Poor 20 to 40% below, Very Poor more than 40% below. The five ratings map onto the Condition Index, a single figure from 0 to 100: Very Poor 0 to 10, Poor 10 to 30, Fair 30 to 70, Good 70 to 90 and Excellent 90 to 100, with a forecast in line with usual sitting near 50.