



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF TIMOR LESTE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

Seeds of Life - PO Box 221, Dili Timor-Leste



Seeds of Life
Fini ba Moris

‘Improved food security through increased productivity of major food crops’.

El Niño Crop Monitoring

16/10/2015 – 31/10/2015

This survey was conducted after the holiday period of All Saints, All Souls day which is very important throughout Timor-Leste. This meant many people were out in the districts visiting family but it was difficult to engage MAF in conducting the work.

There has been no rain across Timor-Leste over the past 2 weeks apart from a little rain in Venilale on one day. There were some reports of cloud build up behind Dili in Laulara but with no rain. A traditional gauge for the start of the wet season is that rains begin over this holiday period (in some areas). Historical rainfall data indicates that the wet season begins in the first week of November for Lautem, Aileu and Same.

Many areas report extremely hot weather and very dry. One anecdotal account is given that in Cribas an aldeia chief's horse died due to lack of feed. This is one possible outcome during El Nino however that area of Manatuto usually does not receive rains until late December or early January. There are reports of farmers burning their land down from Ainaro and through Covalima. Farmers on the Los Palos plateau are competing for the government tractors. There is only one operational tractor in Aileu which is making it difficult to prepare land. Rice is growing in some areas along the Seical river, east of Baucau and in Aileu along the river. The assumption is that rice is still growing in some places along the south coast although this was not confirmed. Rice is still being reported as being harvested in Oecussi.

El Nino is quite strong now across the Pacific with warmer seas to the east and the Southern Oscillation Index at around -20. The Nino 3.4 is well into the El Niño region. The Indian Ocean Dipole is also strongly positive at +1.08 (supporting less rain in this region) but expected to break down in November.

We appreciated feedback from MAF staff, ALGIS, CRS, World Vision, CARE, FAO and members of ANAPROFIKO (National Association of Commercial Seed

Regards.

Samuel Bacon

Cropping Systems Advisor

samuel.bacon@seedsoflifetimor.org

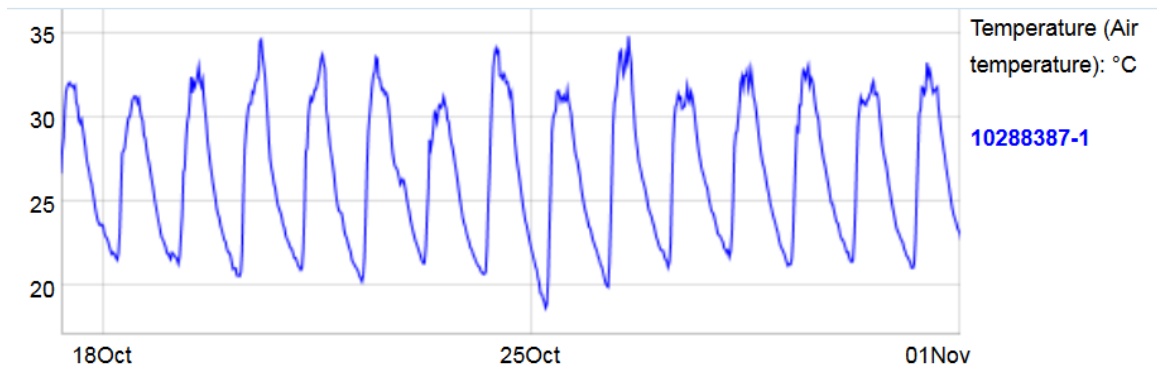
- ✓ Warn farmers to wait for rain.
- ✓ Help to fix water systems.
- ✓ Prepare good fences.
- ✓ Plant drought tolerant varieties.



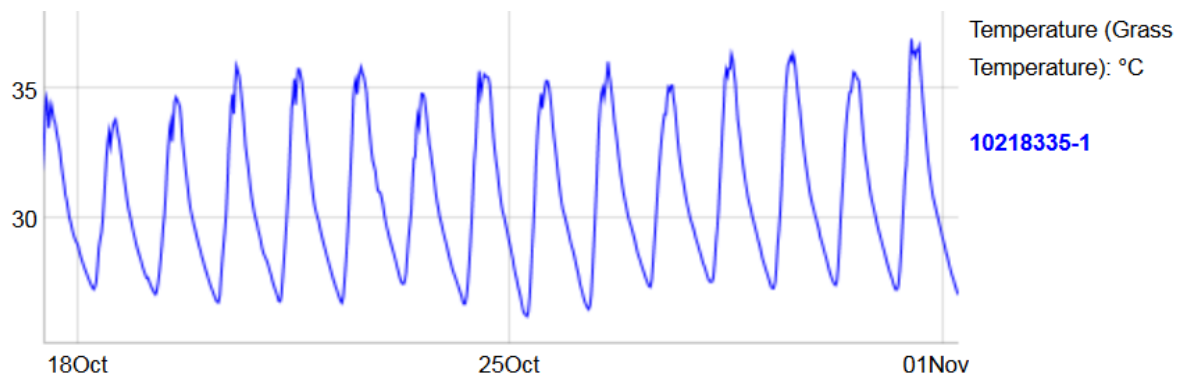
Recent weather

There has been no rain to report. Many farmers are reporting very hot weather.

Viqueque:

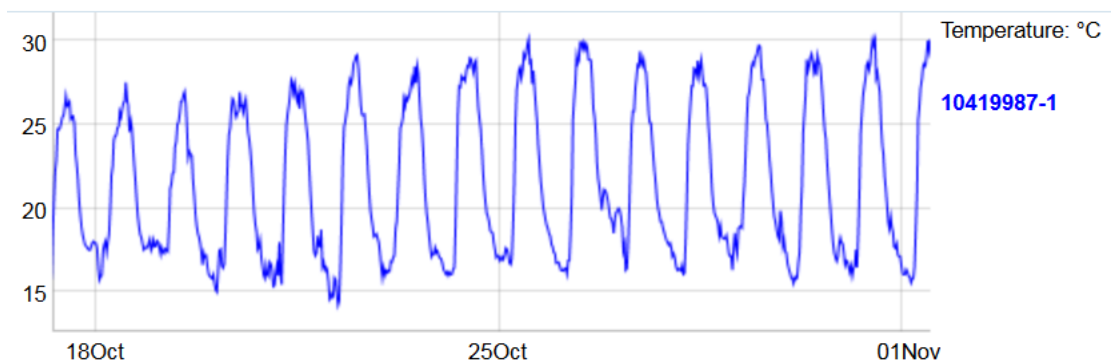


Air temperatures in Viqueque vila are varying from 20oC up to 35oC by 2pm in the afternoon.



Grass temperature at the soil surface is steadily rising to nearly 37oC by midday of 31 of October and falling down to 27oC by early morning.

Laklubar:



Air temperature in the mountain location of Laklubar is varying from 14°C up to 30°C.

More live weather data at: <http://seedsoflifetimor.org/climatechange/climate-data/>

Udan

Outobru 16/10/15 - 31/10/15



Informasaun Mapa



Dadus iha geral deit liu husi husu agrikultor sira iha posto administrativo.
Se karik sala ruma favor ida kontatu ba samuel.bacon@seedsoflifetimor.org.



Seeds of Life
Finis ba Moris

Produsaun: S. Bacon
Data: 3/11/2015
Projeksaun: WGS84
Lokasaun: S -8.8o, E 125.8o
Skala: 1:1250000

Informasaun Dadus

Kona ba Udan:

Udan lae iha - iha loron ida mos lae iha durante semana rua

Udan uitoan - udan ne'ebé la sufsente ba to'os

Udan naton - udan diak ba ita nia to'os

Udan boot - udan liu buat ne'ebé ita preseiza

Udan boot demais - udan estraga to'os ka fatin

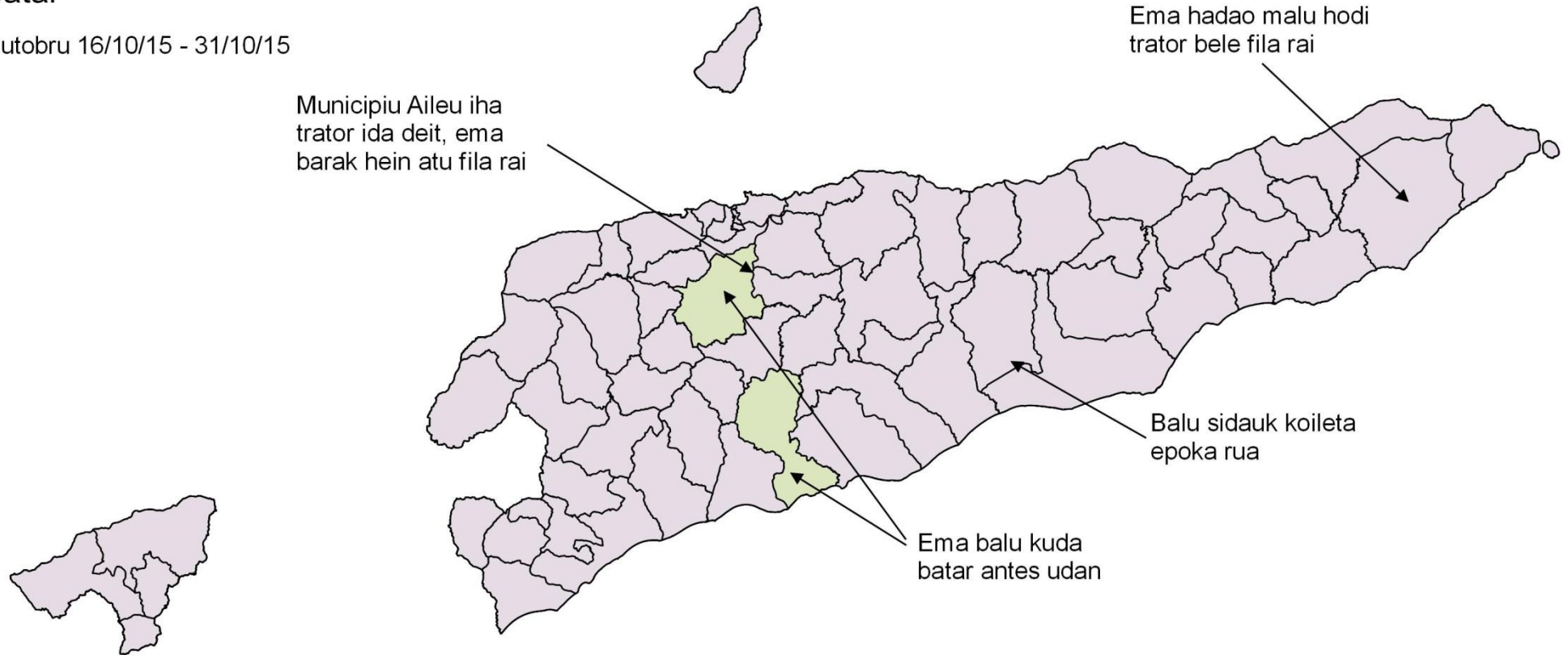
Legenda

Udan (Rain)

- udan lae iha (no rain)
- udan uitoan (low rain)

Batar

Outobru 16/10/15 - 31/10/15



Informasaun Mapa



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Seeds of Life
Fini ba Moris

Produsaun: S. Bacon
Data: 4/11/2015
Projeksaun: WGS84
Lokasaun: S -8.8o, E 125.8o
Skala: 1:1250000

Informasaun Dadus

Kona ba Batar:

La kuda - sidauk kuda batar
Moris diak - batar lao diak no buras
Namlaik - batar komesa sae aat tanba udan menus
Balu mate - mate iha fatin balu deit
Barak mate - batar barak mate iha Posto Admin

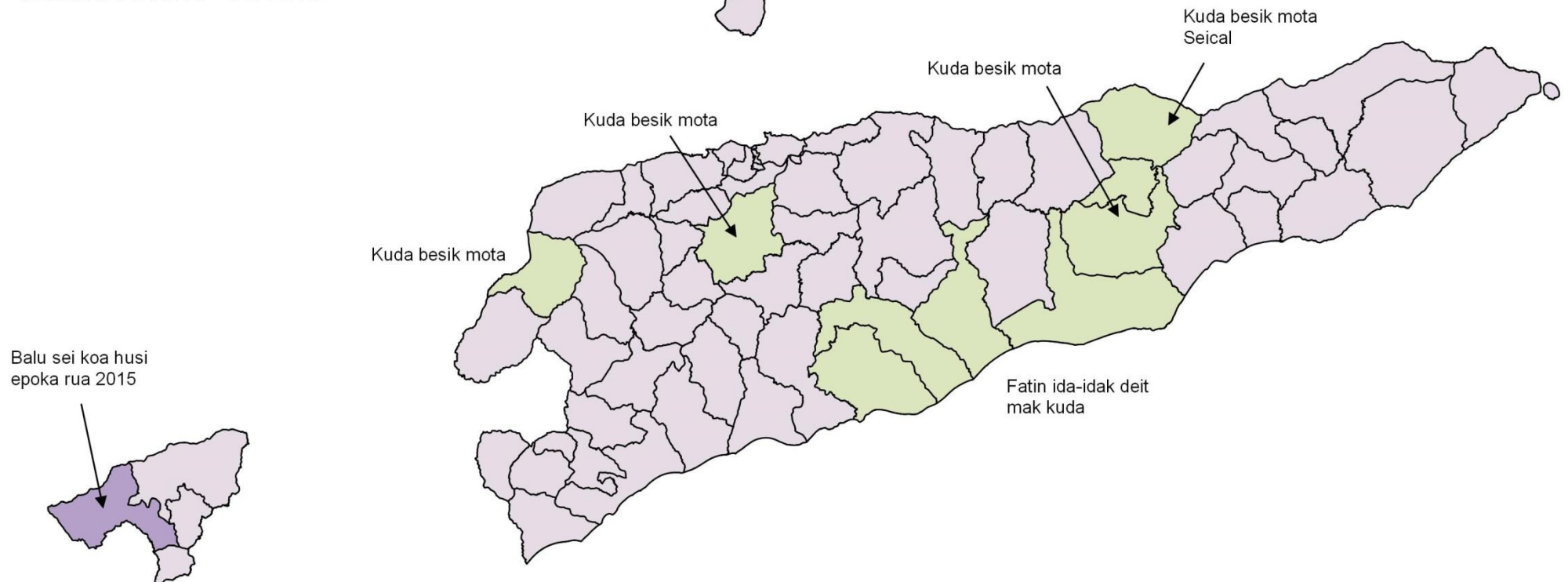
Legenda

Batar (Maize)

- la kuda (not planted)
- balu kuda ona (some planted)

Hare

Outobru 16/10/15 - 31/10/15



Informasaun Mapa



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Seeds of Life
Fini ba Moris

Produsaun: S. Bacon
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Lokasaun: S -8.8o, E 125.8o
Skala: 1:1250000

Informasaun Dadus

Kona ba Hare:

La kuda - sidauk kuda hare

Balu kuda ona - iha fatin balu, laos P. Admin hotu

Moris diak - hare lao diak no buras

Namlaik - hare komesa sae aat tanba bee menus

Balu koileta - iha fatin balu sei koa hare

Balu mate - mate iha fatin balu deit

Barak mate - hare barak mate iha Posto Admin

Legenda

Hare (Rice)

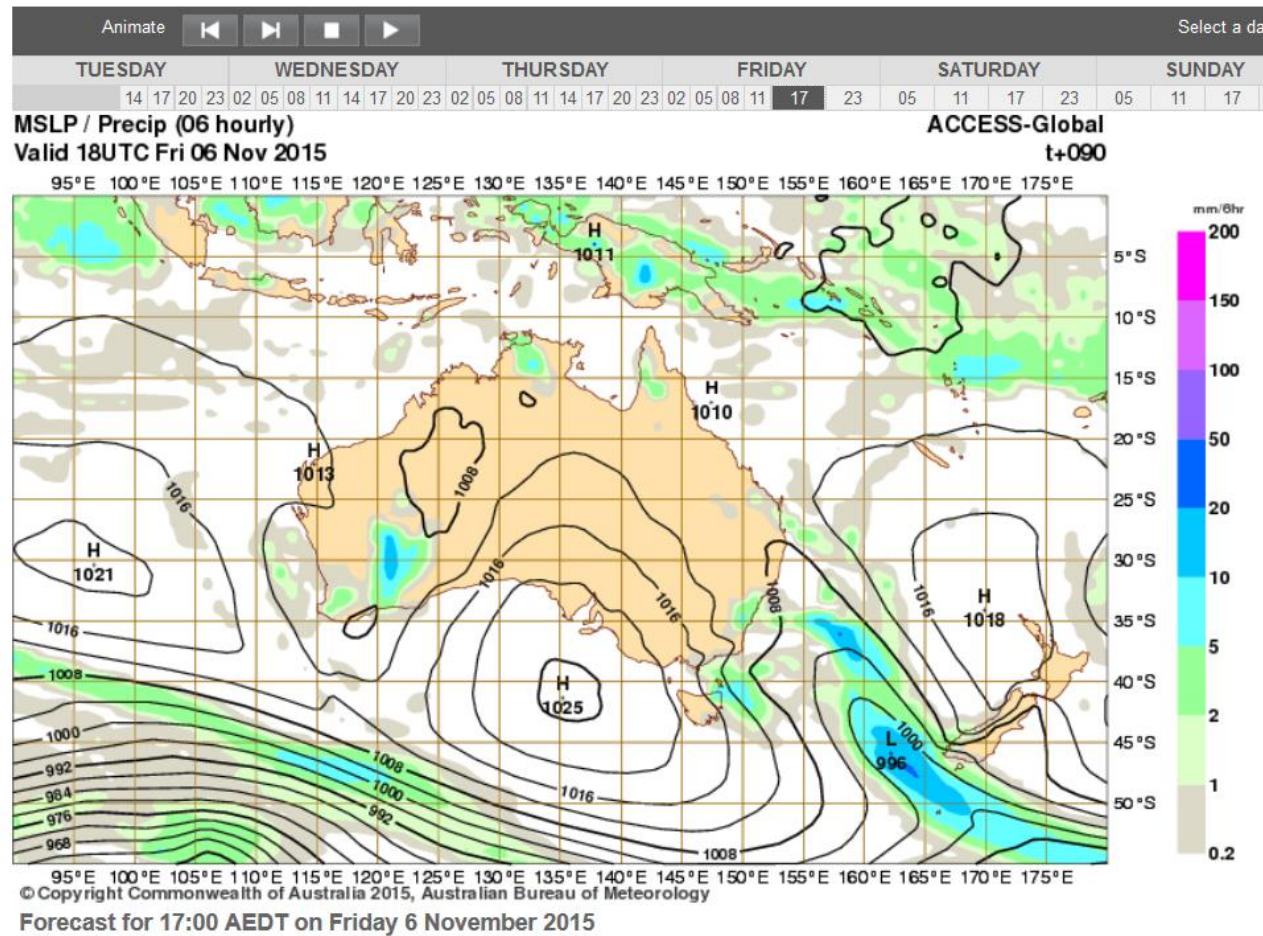
□ la kuda (not grown)

■ balu koileta (some harvesting)

■ balu kuda ona (some growing)

Outlook for the coming week

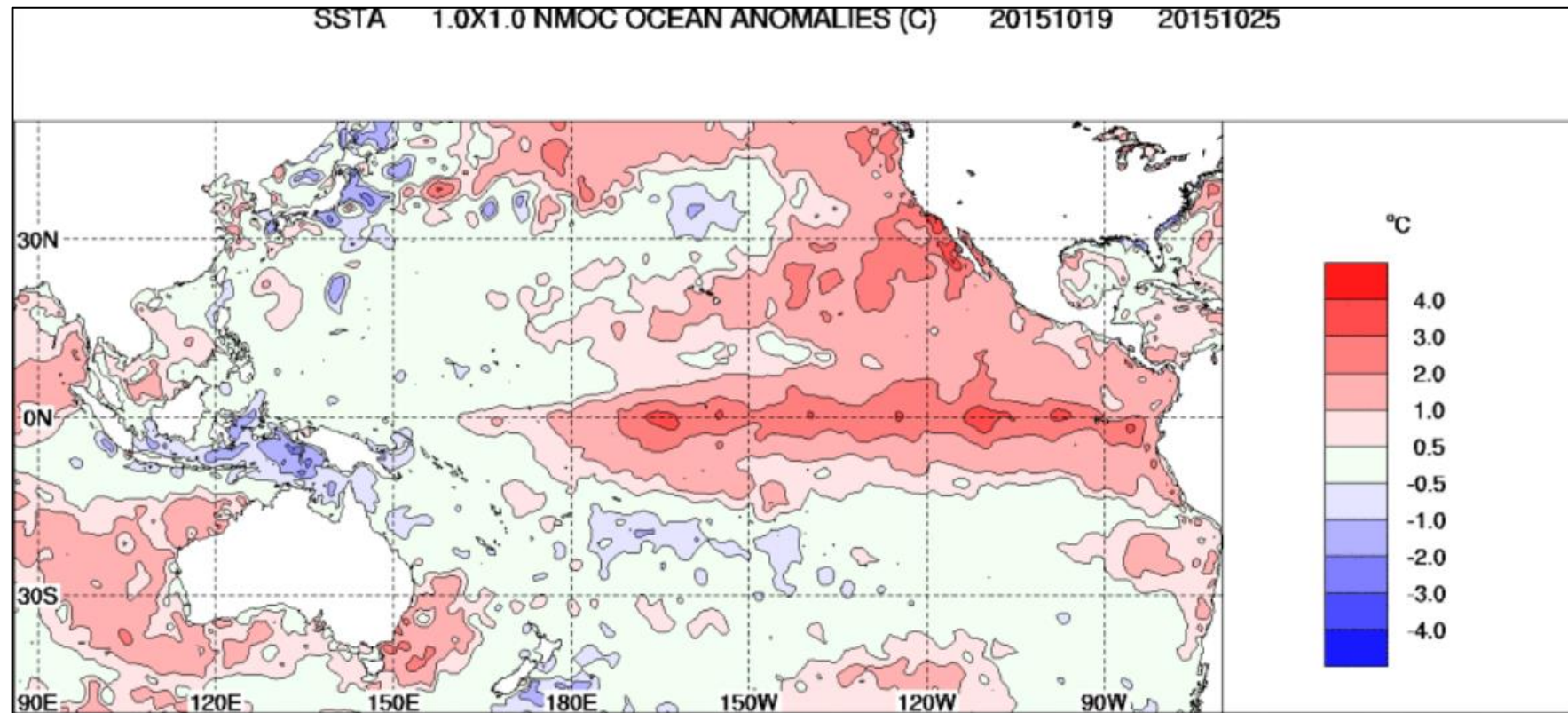
Modelled rainfall forecast from Bureau of Meteorology indicates dry weather in the coming week with possible light showers in some areas especially in the west late this week however prediction accuracy decreases after 2-3 days. (Source: <http://www.bom.gov.au/australia/charts/viewer/index.shtml>, accessed 3/11/2015)



Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies

This image shows how the Pacific Ocean is 2-3°C warmer than usual toward the east. This is causing air to rise and draw the trade winds from the west.

Note that the sea surface temperature is also cooler around eastern Indonesia and Timor resulting in drier weather.



Last week of Rainfall

Google Earth imagery using measured data collated from a range of satellites and delivered by NASA. <http://pmm.nasa.gov/data-access/google-earth> (accessed: 3/11/2015). This shows some good rainfalls in Papua New Guinea and Borneo but no rain in the Timor region.

