

Northwest cloud bands

Fully active northwest cloud bands usually occur at least twice a year, but their frequency may be greater in some years. Connected with upper trough/upper low.

- Cloud bands which are relatively weaker occur much more frequently.
- They may occur in any month but are most likely to develop in the cooler months of the year.

Dr Peter McIntosh research scientist with the CSIRO Marine Research says northwest cloud bands don't generate the rainfall from the Indian Ocean down to South Australia, the rainfall is generated from the Tasman and Coral Seas.

The question is why Port Hedland quadruples June rainfall-Warm waters building up across the eastern Indian Ocean are expected to boost rainfall over the state's north and Interior during the winter months ahead

Answer: A negative IOD during winter-spring increases the chances of above-average rainfall over southern Australia and increased humidity over parts of northern Australia. The northwest cloudband that tracked across Australia during the first weekend of June is one example of how a negative IOD might influence southern Australia.

See video of satellite images from the event.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iBafFTkEOe4>

Regards,
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