



Get Prepared for El Nino

Forecasters are predicting that the already strong El Nino conditions of spring 2015 will continue over summer and into autumn 2016. This El Nino could rank amongst the four strongest El Nino events recorded along with 1972/73, 1982/83 and 1997/98.

During El Nino New Zealand tends to experience stronger or more frequent winds from the west in summer, leading to drier conditions in the north and east, and more rain in the west.

El Nino will increase the chances of more frequent and extreme adverse weather events (such as flooding and drought) so you need to think about how you will manage your way through. Hope for the best but plan for the worst.

WHAT YOU CAN DO



Look after your animals and regularly monitor their condition

The responsibility for ensuring the health and welfare of animals rests with the owner and person in charge.

Animals need adequate feed and water and access to shade and shelter – this is particularly important during adverse events. Check for seasonal problems such as facial eczema, footrot and flystrike and give thought to parasite control. Ask your vet if you're concerned about the health or welfare of your animals.

If you are unsure where to go for advice or assistance visit

www.mpi.govt.nz, contact your local vet practice or visit www.nzva.org.nz



Feed is key

Know how much and what type of feed you will need. Organise the purchase and delivery of feed supplies before you absolutely need to.



Make decisions early and take action



Use water efficiently and plan for water restrictions



Monitor seasonal forecasts, and extreme weather and fire warnings



Ask for help if you need it

