

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### How summer has affected our fresh potatoes

As the nation's largest producer of fresh washed potatoes, supplying 80% of the total Australian market, South Australian producers have been very much at the hands of extreme weather conditions. This last extended burst of heat has certainly affected our production.

The Bureau of Meteorology's official seasonal climate report for South Australia, released on 1 March, confirms that the mean maximum temperature for the state in February was 1.73 °C warmer than average and rainfall was 92% below average. This makes it the State's ninth-driest February on record and driest since 2009.

The hot dry summer in South Australia has provided very challenging conditions across all potato growing regions of the state resulting in some slight 'cosmetic' defects on the skin including staining and spotting.

However, the eating quality of this highly nutritious, robust vegetable remains perfect! The blemishes are only skin-deep so continue to enjoy!

ENDS

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