**Climate and Weather at Elizabeth Macarthur Agricultural Institute (EMAI)**

Seasonal weather conditions are a major limiting factor to production on all farms that depend on the growth of crops and/or pastures. Rainfall and temperature are the two most important components of the weather when it comes to farm production.

The table below shows the average temperature and rainfall at Camden Airport, the closest weather station to the farm and approximately 10 km away. These are averages for the past 39 years.

You can view the climatic data for Camden Airport at <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/cw_068192.shtml>

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|   | **Jan** | **Feb** | **Mar** | **Apr** | **May** | **Jun** | **Jul** | **Aug** | **Sep** | **Oct** | **Nov** | **Dec** | **Annual** |
| **Mean rainfall (mm)** | 78 | 101 | 86 | 67 | 58 | 62 | 38 | 42 | 40 | 65 | 77 | 55 | 768.4 |
| **Mean temp (OC)** | 23.7 | 22.7 | 21 | 18 | 14 | 11 | 10.1 | 11 | 14 | 17 | 20 | 22 |   |

**Activities**

1. Transfer these figures into a Microsoft Excel spread sheet and then use the chart facility of the program to construct graphs of the average annual rainfall and average monthly temperatures for the district.
2. Discuss the ways in which seasonal weather conditions are likely to impact on production at EMAI.
3. Suggest management strategies that could be used to help alleviate the effects of unfavourable seasonal weather conditions on the farm