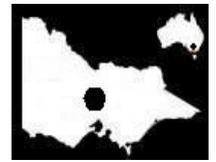


THE WINTER FORECAST

FOR CENTRAL VICTORIA 2012



As predicted by Kevin Long ph. 03 5441 2394 18/5/2012

THE FLOODS ARE OVER

It is now 16 months since the synchronised peak of the 18.6 year lunar flood cycle and the Jupiter/Saturn synodic cycle occurred, producing the extremely strong La Nina peak in Jan 2011. Since then, we have observed a gradual decline in the number of above-average storm events impacting Eastern Australia. The last wave of these record-breaking flood rains swept across Central Victoria and southeastern NSW during late February and early March 2012. It is unlikely that we will see such intense rain events again until early 2029.

During mid-March, a rapid cooling of the sea surface to the northwest and northeast of Australia occurred which changed the whole dynamics of Australia's weather patterns. Since then, inland Eastern Australia has been plunged back into drought-like conditions with only about 10% of average rain falling since the first week of Autumn.

The main climate drivers indicate that this dry weather will be with us for many months to come.

THE "CHINESE EFFECT" IS STEALING OUR MOISTURE - AGAIN

The "Chinese Effect" has begun to dry out our climate again (i.e. the drawing of equatorial moisture flows from the Pacific towards the northern hemisphere due to warmer seas north of New Guinea caused by Asian air pollution).

(For more information on "the Chinese Effect" see: www.thelongview.com.au/chinese-effect.html)

Australia has recently been hit with a "double whammy"... firstly, by the increase in northwards cross-equatorial moisture flow and secondly, by the changing air currents in the Pacific as La Nina conditions decline into El Nino.

Overall, this will result in Winter and Spring having very few days with high enough humidity levels to trigger productive rain in eastern Australia.

EI NINO IS FORMING

The sea surface in the Eastern Pacific has also started warming and the Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) has recently plunged back into negative. This usually means the next El Nino cycle is not far away.

Therefore, I forecast the next 18 months to generally produce below-average rainfall. Furthermore, the Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) has also been indeterminate in recent weeks, another strong indicator of a dry climate.

COSMIC FORCES WILL NOT PROVIDE A RAIN STIMULUS THIS WINTER-SPRING

The moon will be 180° out of phase with the sun during this Winter for Eastern Australia. This will have the effect of enhancing the storm events to the north of New Guinea and minimising the Winter rain events across Australia.

Furthermore, the Earth will not be close to any of the major planets during this Winter-Spring period.

The combined negative forces of the cosmic bodies - together with the earth-based negative climate drivers that I mentioned in the previous sections of this forecast - all add up to a very dry growing season.

LOWEST SUN SPOT CYCLE FOR 100 YEARS POINTS TO SOLAR MINIMUM PERIOD - 2015 TO 2045

NASA has changed their sunspot prediction from **extremely high sun spot activity** to the **lowest for 100 years**.

(See details in the recent paper on my website: *"NASA's latest predictions support global cooling"*)

THE WINTER FORECAST

In brief: **A very dry growing season should be expected.**

The Winter rains will be sporadic. Small rains will sometimes be produced by the passing cold fronts, generally when the moon is close to its Northern declination point (low in the northern sky and close to new moon phase).

- Frosts this Winter will be more intense than they have been for many years. These intensifying frosts will be the first noticeable signs of a general cooling trend that will last for many decades.
- There is a very high risk that many of the Winter crops will fail to finish off this season and will only be good enough for grazing or cutting for hay mid-Spring.
- I predict this dry period will extend through Winter and Spring, producing only 20% of average monthly rainfall.
- I estimate Bendigo's rainfall will total about 400mm this year, with about 25% of the year's rainfall falling mid-November and mid-December.
- Victorian reservoirs will struggle to register any inflows during this Winter-Spring.

I hope this information will assist you to develop the best plans for the growing season ahead. Regards, Kevin.