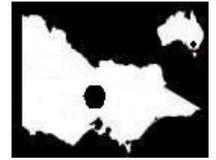


THE SPRING FORECAST

FOR CENTRAL VICTORIA 2011



As predicted by Kevin Long ph. 03 5441 2394 24/8/2011

COMMENTS ON THE SEASON SO FAR

As you have observed, following the record wet start to 2011 in January and February, there has been a very dramatic and sudden change back to below-average rainfall conditions from March to July.

During August, Mercury passed between the Sun and Earth which has "coincided" with a small lift in Central Victorian rainfall - producing mainly average rainfall during July and August. As well as the positive influence of Mercury, there has been a development of above-average sea surface temperatures close to Victoria's east coast. This has already produced floods in Gippsland. I am tipping that as Mercury moves away from Earth during the next few weeks the rainfall will again return to below-average in Central Victoria for the first month of Spring.

CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS

- During the first six months of this year, the La Nina system has been in steady decline. However in recent weeks some reversal of this trend has been observed. If this re-development of La Nina continues, then October and November are likely to yield several above-average rain events. However at present the unfavorable situation still remains, with most of the Australian coastline skirted by below-average sea temperatures. The exception is a small warm area of sea near east Gippsland which is expected to grow and produce more floods in that area.
- At this stage I don't believe the positive climate drivers are strong enough to produce damaging floods in Central Victoria during early to mid-Spring, even though the catchments are fully charged at present.
- In recent weeks the unfavorable "Chinese Effect" (i.e. Australia's moisture being drawn northward by the Asian pollution-driven hotspot) has again been blocked by the current redevelopment of the La Nina conduction. This is likely to continue until early 2012, resulting in close to average Spring and Summer rains.
- The global average temperatures for 2011 (as per the HadCRUT3 dataset used by the IPCC) have been similar to those of the mid 1990's. Many scientists believe the cooling trend of recent years is the start of an extended cooling trend to continue for the next 30 years. For details see my paper "The Triple Crown of Global Cooling"

THE SPRING FORECAST IN BRIEF: 85% average spring rain ... a heightened risk of cold snaps ... High chance of heavy thunderstorms late Spring / early Summer.

Due to no major planets being in close proximity to Earth during early Spring and below-average sea temperatures currently around most of the Australian coastline, I forecast only 85% of average Spring rainfall.

There is also a high risk of several lengthy warm dry periods during Spring. These will be brought on by the strong "blocking high" systems, triggered by the abnormally cold seas between Tasmania and New Zealand.

As in 2010, the positions of the moon and the planets will play a key role in the timing of the major rain events, with the heaviest rains and storms occurring on the peak of the lunar monthly cycles (southern declination point).

A strong start to the thunderstorm season can be expected from early October onwards. The most likely time is centered around the 29th October when Earth is closest to Jupiter and the moon is at its southern most point of declination. Given the present wet catchment conditions and the high risk of floods during late-Spring and early-Summer, it is very important that the water authorities maintain at least 6% empty space in all reservoirs to minimise the risk of flood damage, due to the predictable cosmic factors.

Where possible I advise the farmers to make silage early in the harvest season to avoid the high risk of water damaged hay in late-Spring and early-Summer.

There is already 580mm in the Bendigo rain gauge for this year and I now expect to see well over 750mm in it by the end of this year. (330mm of that was dumped on us during January and February).

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

For more information: www.TheLongView.com.au