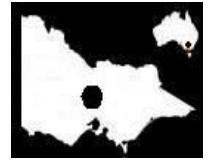


# REVISED AUTUMN FORECAST

## FOR CENTRAL VICTORIA 2013



As predicted by Kevin Long 5-4-2013 ph (03) 5441 2394

**This revised forecast replaces my earlier Autumn Forecast dated 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013**

### RAPIDLY CHANGING SEA SURFACE TEMPERATURES A DRIER SEASON AHEAD

At the end of Summer, very positive sea surface temperature patterns had developed and all was looking good for the steady development of the next La Nina cycle (i.e. period of above-average rainfall). But alas that is not to be. During March a rapid reversal of the improving sea surface temperature patterns occurred, resulting in the climate indicators which now show a trend back towards El Nino type conditions again. I therefore advise a very cautious approach to this year's growing season.

### THE LUNAR AIR TIDE CYCLE IS IN THE DRY TRANSITION PHASE

The lunar air tide cycle is currently progressing through the drier transition phase of its cycle (Feb to end of April). This period should only produce about 45% of average rainfall.

### SOUTHERN AIR TIDES TO HELP PRODUCE EARLY WINTER RAINFALL

The month of May will bring forward the redevelopment of the southern air tides for this year. These southern air tides traditionally help promote above-average rains **mainly for the regions south of the divide**. This Winter the peak strength of this cycle will be occurring during June and July. During these months Central Victoria should receive the best of the growing season rains. But late Winter will only produce a few light showers. I forecast about 60% of average Winter rainfall.

### SPRING OUTLOOK

Lower Murray-Darling Basin regions will receive well below-average Spring rainfall, similar to last year. This year represents a very risky growing season with long periods of dry weather from the beginning of Spring. I believe many crops will not fill their heads and these may not be even good enough for hay production. If cool seas continue to dominate the east coastline of Australia like they have done during the last 8 months, then this extremely dry weather is likely to extend into a major drought before Spring is over.

### THREE DECADES OF DECLINING RAINFALL

The Murray-Darling Basin's average rainfall during the last three decades has reduced by approximately 30%. This coincides with the reducing solar activity of the past 30 years. Many expert solar scientists predict further reductions in solar activity during the next three decades. My considered opinion is that the last 8 months of dry weather is just a small sample of the type of dry climate that will dominate the years to come (otherwise referred to as a "developing mega-drought period". The sun's solar output typically declines into a Solar Minimum Period lasting about 33 years on average once every 178 years. Furthermore on about a 1,000 year cycle, this type of Solar Minimum Period lasts for extended periods, which results in mega-droughts lasting for centuries.

I have a new document called "**Mega-Drought Developing**" on my website which discusses evidence of a recent mega-drought in northern Victoria. This is shown by very large tree stumps that remain in the lower levels of our local lakes and deep swamps, indicating these water bodies were dry for a period of at least a century.

### REVISED AUTUMN FORECAST **In brief: A very dry Autumn with no break.**

Due to the present neutral ENSO type conditions I expect the Autumn rainfall to remain well below-average. There is also a high probability of continued below-average rainfall during Winter. At the beginning of Spring, the Lunar Air Tide Cycle moves back into the drier transition phase for the next 89 days which will limit the Spring rainfall to just a few passing showers. The rainfall totals across the lower MDB will struggle to achieve 60% of average by New Year.

For more information: [www.TheLongView.com.au](http://www.TheLongView.com.au)