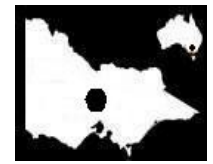


THE WINTER FORECAST

FOR CENTRAL VICTORIA 2013



As predicted by Kevin Long 24-5-2013 ph (03) 5441 2394

INCREASING ANTARCTIC SEA ICE SIGNALS A DEVELOPING MEGA DROUGHT

My recent research has led me to investigate the cyclic variations of the sea ice extent around Antarctica at the end of Summer. It appears the end of Summer sea ice extent variations can be used as a good early prediction tool for the following Autumn/Winter rainfall for the Murray Darling Basin. Generally the more sea ice, the colder the sea and the less atmospheric moisture is generated to feed the subtropical weather systems. Conversely, the less sea ice, the warmer the sea and the more atmospheric moisture there is to enhance Australia's weather systems. Current indicators are that the global cooling trend of the last 8 years is now accelerating the Antarctic sea ice growth rates of the last 34 years and confirms the end of the last global warming cycle.

To illustrate this "sea ice predictor" phenomena, you only have to look at the records. During February 2011 the extent of Antarctic sea ice was at cyclic record low levels and the MDB was in the midst of the wettest two years on record. Since then, the amount of sea ice left floating around the Antarctic at the end of Summer has increased by 52%, returning the sea ice extent back to record high levels. At the end of February 2013 there was 3.8 million square km of sea ice - a massive increase over the 2.5 million square km of just two Summers before.

The long-term records show that since 1979, the extent of Antarctic Summer sea ice has been steadily increasing at the average rate of 4% per decade. Furthermore it should also be noted that the southern half of Australia has been averaging a 10% loss of rainfall per decade during the same period. Most importantly, it should also be noted that most past drought years have developed when the Antarctic sea ice extent was at well above average levels, such as they have been for this last year.

DEEPENING SOLAR MINIMUM CYCLE

Many of the world's acclaimed solar scientists have been predicting (since 1980) that a long-term deep Solar Minimum Cycle with almost no sunspots is expected to begin at this time. History records that these Solar Minimum Cycles occur about every 178 years and are associated with global cooling cycles lasting 50-100 years. I forecast within a few years the accelerating growth of Antarctic sea ice will cascade the world into a Global Mega Drought. (For more details refer to the "MEGA DROUGHT DEVELOPING" document available on www.thelongview.com.au)

LA NINA IS BUILDING AGAIN

Since early Spring 2012, neutral ENSO has dominated the climatic conditions in the Pacific Ocean. Recently La Nina thresholds have almost been reached again, which is a very good sign for better rains later in the year. At present, cool seas along the east coast of Australia are continuing to provide a very effective block for the Pacific moisture flows. Currently it appears that this cool sea area is likely to continue to minimize most of the early Winter rain events. I forecast this negative force will stay with us until at least the end of June.

THE LUNAR AIR TIDE FORCES WILL BE STRONGEST DURING EARLY JUNE

The southern air tide reaches peak strength on the 8th of June. A second smaller peak will occur during the first week of July. During Aug-Sept-Oct the air tide cycle will be back in the drier transition phase again. (For more details refer to the "LUNAR AIR TIDE CYCLE EXPLAINED" document available on www.thelongview.com.au)

THE WINTER FORECAST **In brief, below-average rains until late Spring.**

Due to the weak La Nina conditions at present and the lack of any strong cosmic forces during this Winter/Spring, I forecast only two periods for effective growing season rain. The first one will be close to the 8th of June delivering about 50% of average June rainfall and a second weaker one delivering follow up rains in early July. Significant rainfall during late Winter and Spring, will be largely dependent on the further developments of the La Nina cycle and the transformation of the present cool seas into warm seas along the east coast of Australia. It is most likely that empty haysheds, empty dams and many failed crops are just a few months away. There is a high probability that this year's growing season will be too short to grow most crops to maturity.

The Lower MDB will remain generally dry for most of this year, but eventually some relief will come in the form of above-average thunder storm rains in early November and early December.

For more information: www.TheLongView.com.au