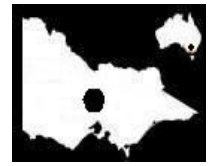


THE SPRING FORECAST

FOR CENTRAL VICTORIA 2013



As predicted by Kevin Long ph. 03 5441 2394 28th August 2013

COSMIC FORCES HELPED TO PRODUCE THE EARLY WINTER BREAK

The southern lunar air tide cycle reached peak strength during early June. This force helped to develop the very good general rains that swept across southern Australia ensuring a belated start to the growing season.

JET STREAMS ALSO ENHANCED WINTER RAINFALL

An unusually strong North West Jet Stream has been directing moisture into Victoria for most of this Winter. These jet streams were enhanced by the strongest negative Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) that I have seen for many years. This moist jet stream flow has maintained the highest Winter humidity levels that I can ever recall in Central Victoria, averaging over 90%. This extremely high background humidity enabled most of the cold front systems to produce reliable small rain events right through Winter, culminating in close to average rainfall across most of the lower MDB. The BOM's forecast of an 80% chance of average rainfall for this Winter/Spring is looking good so far.

EARLY WARM START TO SPRING

The dry transition phase of the "Lunar Air Tide Cycle" commenced mid-August and runs through to mid-October. Furthermore, due to the present devastating drought conditions impacting the Top End, any north winds that blow our way during this Spring will produce exceptionally hot and dry weather. Under these conditions it will only take a few weeks to use up all the sub-soil moisture which has accumulated during Winter. Farmers will need to be very careful not to miss the optimum time to cut the hay crops, which will dry off very quickly early-spring. (See "Lunar Air Tide Cycle Explained" document available from my web site.)

COLD WATER ANOMALY

Generally most of the northern and eastern coastal seas are presently dominated by below-average sea surface temperatures (SST's). This general cool condition is very likely to maintain the devastating Top End drought until late this year. Although there are some good indicators that show La Nina is now slowly building up again, this developing trend should produce a strong thunderstorm season commencing in the first week of November.

GLOBAL TEMPERATURE TRENDS COMING DOWN

Global temperature records revealed 2012 was the third coldest year this century, with both the Arctic and the Antarctic recording the highest sea ice growth rates since the satellite records were established in 1979. Furthermore, the Antarctic "sea ice extent" has just set new high records for the months of July and August. Recent global cooling trends are continuing this year, with this year's global average temperature records being on track to finish slightly cooler than last year.

QUIET SUN POINTS TO DEEPENING SOLAR MINIMUM CYCLE (2015-2045 COOLER DRIER PERIOD)

NASA reported that "sunspot cycle number 24 is the lowest for 100 years and the next cycle is likely to be much lower than this one". Most solar scientists are now predicting a return of Little Ice Age conditions very soon.

THE SPRING FORECAST In brief: **Early Spring below-average rainfall and above-average temperatures.**

- North West Jet Streams that have fed large quantities of moisture into our weather systems during Winter are now moving away from Central Victoria. With the cosmic forces being at their weakest during Spring, the rain systems will become unreliable so farmers should be prepared for an early finish to the growing season.
- I forecast the recent good river stream flows will drop away quickly at the beginning of Spring, resulting in below-average inflows to most of the MDB reservoirs during Spring.
- Further La Nina development during Spring and the peak of the north east air tide will enhance Summer rains.
- The majority of the balance of this year's rainfall will be generated from strong thunderstorms in early November and early December.
- Early to mid-Spring rainfall will be below-average due to the passage of lunar air tide transition phase.
- My current estimate for this year's total rainfall for the lower MDB is a general 80% of average.

I hope this information will assist you to get the most out of this year's harvest season. Regards, Kevin.

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