

THE SUMMER FORECAST

FOR SOUTHERN MDB REGIONS 2015-16



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Forecasts for other regions, supported with regular email updates are available via my subscription forecast service. See details on the home page of: www.thelongview.com.au

GREAT NEWS THE NEXT LA NINA CYCLE IS ON ITS WAY

The rapid rise in the SOI during the last few weeks of Spring, and the much warmer sea surface conditions developing around the Top End, is heralding the imminent development of the next La Nina cycle. Consequently, I forecast that conditions for delivering average rain during Autumn and Spring 2016 will most likely develop during the coming months.

HOWEVER ... A POOR "TOP END WET" IS STILL FORECAST FOR THIS SUMMER

The rain-enhancing effects of the lunar and planetary cycles reached their peak strength during early November 2015. As a result, there is little time for the Top End Wet to accumulate significant rainfall before the drier "transition phase" of these climate cycles takes over during Jan-March 2016 (see commentary below). I therefore forecast that the drought-declared regions of Northern Australia will remain deeply in drought for another year.

WHY THE LUNAR, PLANETARY AND SOLAR CYCLES RULE THE ROOST

Unfortunately, the BOM (without taking into account the drying effects of these cosmic forces!!) has forecast high chances of above-average Summer rainfall for most regions of Australia. Sadly, another typical over-estimate.

Early 2016 will be an excellent opportunity to observe the effects of the lunar and planetary cycles at work ...

- Jan-March the cycles will deliver **very dry weather with extreme fire risk**, and a few dry thunderstorms for MDB.
- April-June they will switch over to average rainfall conditions.
- July-August (mid-late Winter) they will return predominantly to drier times.

Although I forecast 2016 will be much better than 2015 was for most regions, **I do not believe a very strong La Nina is likely to develop during 2016**. This is due to the combined factors of: (i) reducing strength of the solar sunspot cycles, and (ii) the weakening strength of the lunar and planetary cycles. Therefore, I forecast a move back towards neutral ENSO during Summer 2015-16 and just maybe a weak La Nina in time to assist the Spring rains.

For more details, see my document "LUNAR AIR TIDE CYCLE EXPLAINED at: www.thelongview.com.au

OTHER INFLUENCES IN BRIEF:

- **Cool sea surface temperatures in the Bight region have been diminishing the incoming rainfall systems**
Recent cooling of the oceans to the southwest of Australia has assisted the Antarctic sea ice to remain at above-average levels. If these cool seas move into the Bight again this Autumn, patchy Autumn rainfall is likely.
- **Jet stream moisture flows are forecast to stay in the southern ocean regions**
The strong jet streams present during Winter have remained south of Australia during recent months and I do not expect them to return with any positive effect until mid to late-Autumn.

GOVERNMENT-MADE DISASTER LOOMS

Due to the unsustainable level of environmental water releases, major water shortages are forecast for 2016 and beyond. These releases (which started only two months after the 2011 floods) will now see the MDB reservoirs almost empty by the end of this present season, leaving us totally reliant on each year's Winter/Spring inflows to supply all future needs. Throughout history major droughts have on average occurred every 18.6 years, which means for the next ten years there is little chance that Winter inflows will average more than 30% of the norm. It is my understanding that the next decade will be setting many new "lowest average rainfall" records again for most of the MDB.

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IN BRIEF: The best chance of effective rain is during mid-December.

The last round of the Northeast Air Tide for this year has a small chance of firing up some thunderstorms, mainly during the second week of December. After Christmas, dry, warm, and settled conditions will dominate the rest of Summer. I forecast above-average crops will be grown over most MDB regions, with a weak La Nina condition helping to produce a reasonable finish to the southern growing season. But still again little runoff for most dams should be expected.

Finally I would like you to reflect on the next two lines that I wrote a year ago (Nov 2014):

"The long term forecast for the MDB generally is for dry conditions for the majority of 2015, with mostly small rainfall events that will struggle to accumulate 60% of average rainfall by Christmas."

I wish you all the best for what I believe will be a La Nina-assisted year, with a few decent rainfall events to work with.

For more information: www.TheLongView.com.au