

# **THE WINTER FORECAST**

## **FOR THE MDB REGIONS 2024**



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### **“LA NINA” ANOMALY IS SLOWLY DEVELOPING**

During Autumn, neutral ENSO forces have dominated the Australia climate, together with slightly warmer than average Sea Surface Temperature (SST) dominating the coastal regions around most of Australia. There were only small areas of cooler-than-average SST near the Australia coast. Surprisingly these slightly positive overall conditions still resulted in very dry conditions for the southern regions of Australia generally. NSW and QLD received very good Summer and Autumn rains, ensuring a very good start to this year’s northern growing season.

### **THE 2022 TONGAN VOLCANIC MOISTURE BOOST IS ALMOST DEPLETED**

The very wet start to this Summer was driven by the recent very high planetary alignment forces and the left-over Tongan moisture boost. Both of these positive rain forces are now in rapid decline, causing dry climate to return once more to the southern half of Australia.

The Southern Lunar Air Tide rain events during Autumn were much weaker than I had forecast. Antarctic sea ice dipped back to record-low levels during mid-Autumn, before starting to grow back towards average levels once more. Hence most southern regions of Australia remained very dry during Autumn. Surprisingly, the weak Northeast air tides still delivered most of the rain.

### **SOUTHERN LUNAR AIR TIDE FORCES PEAKED DURING LATE AUTUMN - EARLY WINTER**

Late Autumn and early Winter represented the last chance for a decent rain event to get the southern Winter growing season established. If you are still dry by mid-June, there is little chance you will receive any major rain in Winter, while the drier transition phase of the Air Tides dominate. But good rains are forecast to return in Spring.

I forecast good general Spring rains, resulting from the Northeast Lunar Air Tide peaks, which will occur close to the New Moon phases in the Spring months. These Spring rain events will also be enhanced by the strengthening La Nina forces and the warm SST anomalies that should build up along the Australian east coast.

**Global temperatures have started cooling again, after a long record-warm period. The ENSO cycle, sea ice, planetary alignments and atmospheric moisture levels are all moving back towards a general cooling effect. (These changing climate forces are explained in my subscription forecast, available above.)**

### **THE WINTER FORECAST**

**IN BRIEF: Possible small southern rains in early-June, before a dry July-August sets in.**

Only weak cold fronts are forecast for the southern half of Australia in late Autumn and early Winter. These rain-bearing fronts will be assisted by the third and strongest Southern Lunar Air Tide peak, which will occur close to the early June New Moon period.

Winter rainfall to be below average across most of the MDB regions, but the regions on the coastal side of the Great Divide are forecast to continue receiving good productive rain events throughout Winter / Spring.

Northern MDB regions will dry out from mid-Autumn, resulting in a normal dry Winter for the tropical north.

Good early and mid-Spring rains are forecast to fall generally across all MDB regions, helping to finish off well, a lean Winter growing season, for the most astute farmers.

Most MDB reservoirs will be close to full again by late-Spring. Some of the very large environmental water allocations need to be pre-released from the fullest reservoirs, to maintain at least 5% airspace. This would help protect all floodplain communities from the unacceptably high risk of damaging floods in Spring / Summer.

Note that the flood risk will be enhanced this year by the strengthening La Nina forces and positive planetary forces once again!

For more information:

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