If the Earth had a Ring - “What If” Seasonal Forecasts for Years to Come

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WEATHER AND CLIMATE
We provide a series of PosterPresentations.com seasonal forecasts for the upcoming years 2012 through 2014. This PowerPoint 2007 template produces a 48"x96" professional presentation that you can use to present our forecasts. This template has four different main layouts that you can use for your presentation. The layout background and all placeholders are automatically magnified. This template is at 50% the size of the final poster. All elements in the placeholders are automatically magnified. If you are using an older version of PowerPoint some template elements might not be magnified.

EARTH: A RINGED PLANET?
The notion of an Earth ring was first proposed by Elder (1605) who suggested that the Earth might once have had a ring, but that it was dissipated by past collisions that growth of such a ring could have driven onto the Sun, and that ring decay could account for climate warming and the end of the Ice Age. This presentation explores the possibility that a fateful Earth ring system exists today.

MAIN RING – Baked in the Cake
The likeliest component of an Earth Ring system is a ring in the plane of the Earth's equator, like Saturn's, well-known bright ring. This "Main Ring" would be the most dense component of the Earth ring system. Its density would be concentrated within a few Earth radii.

The Main Ring's shadow would travel north to south and back, every year in exactly the same way. So its effects should be "baked into" the climate, never to be distinguished unless the rings were to fade or grow denser. The approach here for using weather as a proxy for the program is:

(a) Setup a ring system "like" others in the solar system.
(b) Work out where the shadows of the ring system would fall.
(c) Propose weather events that follow if these shadows are significant.
(d) See whether significant events occur as forecast.

PROBLEMS WITH THE IDEA OF AN EARTH RING
(see accompanying video at Youtube)

MOON RING - Mother of All Telescopes
The "hazy" ring from Halley's comet, visualized in this video, would have been a visible ring if Halley's comet had been passing through the Moon's orbit. This video is a reenactment of Cassini's diagram of position of zodiacal light, in a place and time when it may have been brighter. (Google celestialia.sourceforge.net)

DUST HALO – Lava Lamp
Lava lamps mimic the Dust Halo. If the ocean were to boil, water vapor would condense into a cloud. The cloud would cool the Earth. Twice a year high winds would blow up and the end of the Ice Age. This is a return to a growing cloud of dust.

WARM AUTUMN IN 2011
Drought of 2011 was accompanied by mild winter temperatures. Drops of autumn frost and rain on leaves:

- September 25, 2011 (left)
- October 7, 2011
- October 21, 2011
- October 29, 2011

WARM AUTUMN IN 2011

- October 12, 2011
- November 5, 2011
- November 22, 2011
- December 19, 2011

- September 29, 2011
- October 15, 2011

Rings don't bring warmth, but it might appear otherwise. If the Main Ring is fading, then any land mass southwest of the Main Rings and NOT by the Moon Ring should be warm by historical standards. This may be the case.

* "My dream is a world in which people can see each other, and each other's minds, and move around together, and travel millions of miles without ever touching each other."

- Brian Eno

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COLD IN AUSTRALIA DECEMBER 6, 2011
The ring system would affect weather because its shadow would cool the Earth. Twice a year this would be especially important, when the Moon Ring shadow would collapse into a narrow band, and the optical depth of the ring would be concentrated. Deep shadow would cause unusual cooling of the air below it.

FLOODING IN INDIAN JUNE 2010 and 2011
What if the shadow is oriented so that it drives a wind across land, and not across water? The wind would blow moisture with it and could drive moisture-bearing events off the land, causing drought.

DROUGHT IN TEXAS SPRING 2011
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MOON RING SYSTEM COULD HAVE AFFECTED
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