

Welcome to AMS News You Can Use.

Each week, we send out a sampling of recent news and items of interest in meteorology and related fields, as covered by various media outlets.

[‘Godzilla’ dust storm traced to shaky northern jet stream](#)

Science Magazine - December 7, 2020

In June, residents of Puerto Rico woke to a Sun shrouded in a thick haze, and everything outside seemingly coated in reddish dust. Little did they know the phenomenon was connected to winds swept up by the largest African dust storm on record—an event so massive, scientists have dubbed it Godzilla.

[Central Europe: Dry Aprils pave the way for summer droughts](#)

ScienceDaily - December 7, 2020

In the past 20 years, Central Europe has experienced six summer heat waves and droughts. Until now, however, it was unclear what factors led to these extreme events.

[Gravity Data Reveal Unexpected Antarctic Ice Variations](#)

Eos - December 7, 2020

A new analysis of long-term satellite records shows the East Antarctic Ice Sheet is unexpectedly dependent on fluctuations in weather. This study may improve models of how much sea levels will rise.

[A change in the weather: new demand for TV presenters to include climate in forecasts](#)

The Guardian - December 5, 2020

Graham Creed has spent 30 years with his head in synoptic charts, and for the past 20 he’s been on television letting Australians know if it’s going to be hot, cold, wet or dry. But for the past two years, usually at the end of months with heatwaves and extreme temperatures, Creed has been adding extra information to his weather segments.

[Outside Oz, GLINDA reports on tornado acoustics](#)

EurekAlert! - December 7, 2020

A system for listening to severe weather events can help scientists better understand their behavior, potentially decreasing the number of deaths caused by tornadoes.

A68a: World's biggest iceberg is fraying at the edges

BBC News - December 2, 2020

The world's biggest berg is riven with cracks. Battered by waves and under constant attack from warm waters, it's now shedding countless small blocks.

A NOAA Expert Answers Our Questions About the Historical 2020 Hurricane Season

NOAA - November 30, 2020

Jim Kossin is an atmospheric research scientist at NOAA's Center for Weather and Climate, part of NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI). His research focuses on extreme storms—in particular tropical cyclones (hurricanes, typhoons)—and their relationship with climate and climate change. We recently sat down with Jim to look back at the record-breaking 2020 Atlantic Hurricane Season as it draws to a close.

Earth just notched its warmest November, as 2020 closes in on record for hottest year

The Washington Post - December 7, 2020

Global warming's influence grows despite the presence of a cooling influence in the tropical Pacific.

Jupiter and Saturn Head for Closest Visible Alignment in 800 Years

The New York Times - December 6, 2020

On Dec. 21, Jupiter and Saturn will appear to be no more than a dime's width apart in the night sky. The last time that could be seen was in 1226.

=====

Weather Eye with John Maunder

<https://www.sunlive.co.nz/blogs/15193-tauranga-november-rainfalls-18982020.html>

My book is now on *Electroverse* and *Facebook* and on *YouTube*.

<https://www.facebook.com/electroverse2/posts/fifteen-shades-of-climate-by-dr-john-maunderdr-maunder-sees-himself-as-a-realist/108355617773512/>

=====

Thanks to our regular contributors

