



## *Monthly Report on Solar activities*



March 2008

**Astronomical Society of Southern Africa, Solar Section**

Issue 63

**Hi Solar friends,**

As the emphasis in the ASSA group is on observations in the different sections, we in the solar group want to develop a professional platform for you the observer where you can participate in national and international solar observations.

Observations are used to calculate a monthly Southern African sunspot number and are published in the report section of this bulletin. A two monthly report on observations will be send to MNASSA for publication.

Solar observations are still an open field in Southern Africa amateur astronomy and we like to invite you to become part of the ASSA solar section.

Information on how to become involved in solar observations can be obtained from the solar section of ASSA at: [jvdelft.solar@starmail.co.za](mailto:jvdelft.solar@starmail.co.za)

*Keep looking at the sunny side of life,  
It keeps the shadows behind you!*

Regards,

Jacques van Delft  
Director solar section  
ASSA, Southern Africa

### **OBSERVERS**

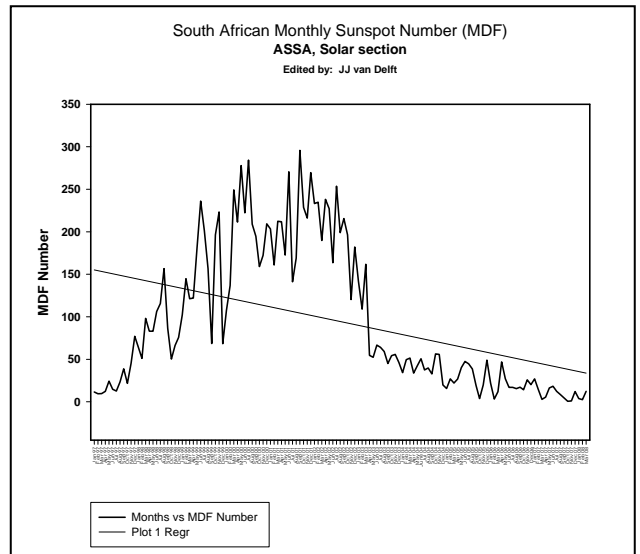
Jacques van Delft (DEJV)	Wepener,	Freestate	South Africa
Rob Blore (RBLO)	Hillcrest,	Natal	South Africa
Jim&Shirley Knight (KNJS)	Boksburg	Gauteng	South Africa
Simion Mircea (MIRS)	Bucharest		Romania
Howard Barnes (BARH)	Auckland		New Zealand

*SOLAR REPORT March 2008*

Date	DMF	DEVJ	KNJS	BARH
Mar-08				
1	0.0	0	0	
2	0.0	0	0	0
3	0.0	0		
4				
5	0.0			0
6				
7				
8	0.0		0	0
9	0.0		0	0
10				
11				
12	0.0	0		0
13				
14	0.0	0		0
15	0.0	0		
16	11.0			11
17				
18				
19	0.0	0		
20	0.0	0		0
21	0.0		0	
22	0.0		0	0
23	16.0	13	19	
24	27.3	17	27	38
25	33.0	33		
26	52.0			52
27	37.5	48	27	
28	40.0	43	37	
29	25.0		25	
30	32.0	38	26	
31	10.0		10	
<b>MMF=</b>	<b>12.3</b>			

***THE SUNSPOT CYCLE***

The excitement in January seeing the first sunspot of the new cycle, slowed down completely during February. Again a decline in the monthly number was recorded.



Explanation: Cnts = Sunspot counting's (MDF totals)  
 Days = Amount of days counting's were taken  
 DMF = Daily Mean Frequency  
 MMF = Monthly Mean Frequency

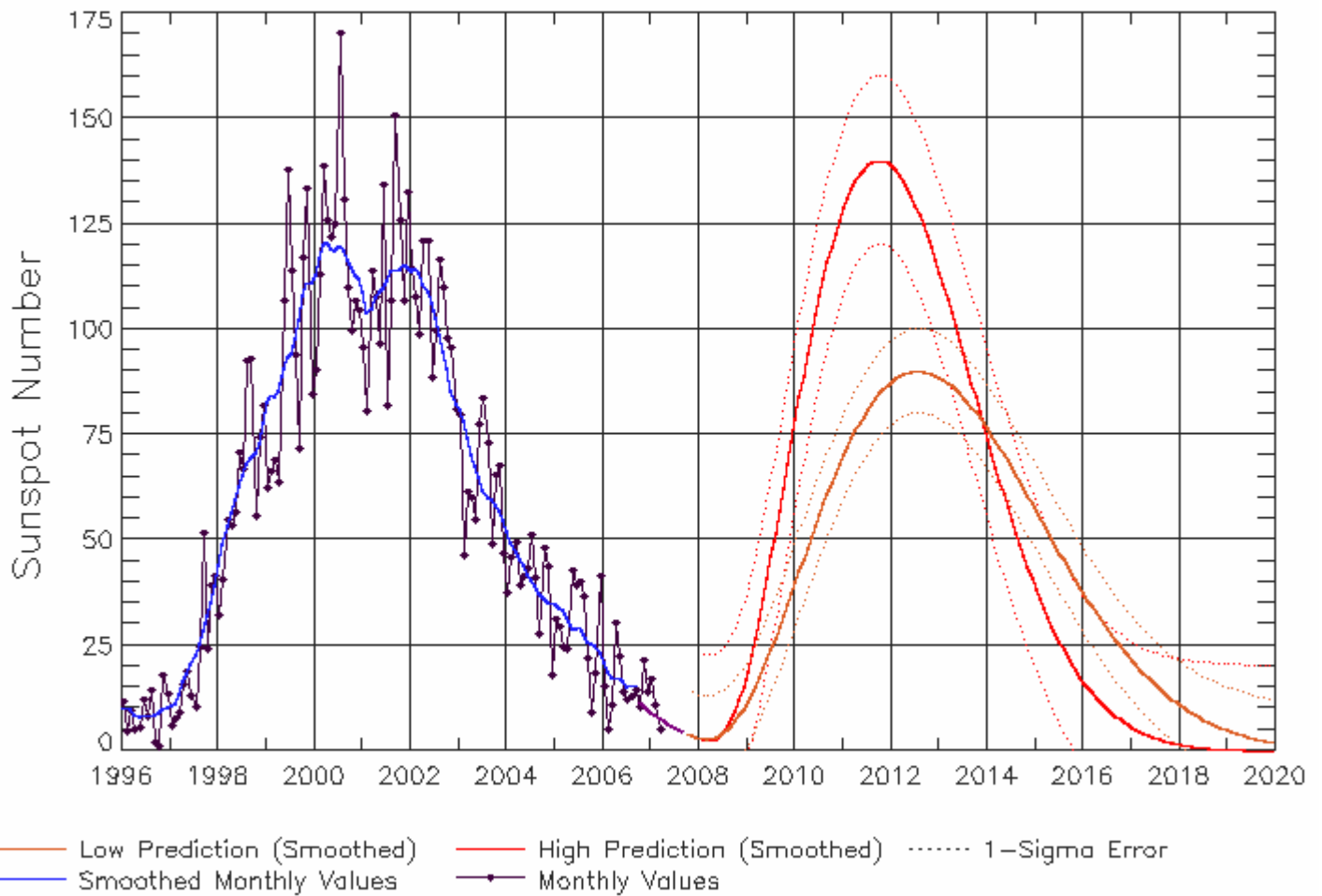
## SOLAR ACTIVITIES

Mar 08	Bz pos	Bz neg	Protons	Solarwind	X - Ray	Geo- magn.	Low Press	Ci Index
1	3	-5	2	820	A0	29.56	6	4.927
2	3	-3	1	720	A0	18.52	1	18.520
3	3	-2	1	600	A0	18.33	4	4.583
4	3	-2	3	450	A0	7.92	5	1.584
5	4	-5	8	440	A1	26.56	4	6.640
6	3	-4	4	420	A1	8.43	6	1.405
7	1	-4	8	360	A1	13.01	6	2.168
8	10	-13	42	490	A0	23.91	4	5.978
9	10	-5	21	700	A0	49.43	4	12.358
10	4	-4	4	740	A1	25.40	6	4.233
11	4	-5	3	720	B5	29.25	5	5.850
12	4	-4	2	700	A4	19.44	6	3.240
13	4	-4	2	630	A0	21.17	4	5.293
14	4	-4	3	640	A0	26.03	5	5.206
15	5	-5	3	640	A0	21.91	5	4.382
16	4	-3	3	600	A0	15.77	4	3.943
17	2	-2	8	520	A0	13.63	5	2.726
18	4	-2	4	520	A1	12.74	5	2.548
19	5	-5	5	540	A0	20.81	6	3.468
20	5	-5	3	580	A0	17.08	4	4.270
21	4	-2	5	520	A0	15.50	2	7.750
22	5	-1	4	460	A0	13.85	3	4.617
23	5	-5	5	520	A7	15.28	5	3.056
24	4	-2	4	470	B4	5.76	5	1.152
25	5	-4	8	420	M1	7.95	3	2.650
26	10	-10	16	620	B6	47.34	5	9.468
27	5	-6	4	700	B4	51.50	5	10.300
28	5	-4	2	740	B1	38.62	4	9.655
29	2	-3	1	630	B3	22.52	5	4.504
30	4	-4	2	550	B1	20.00	6	3.333
31	2	-3	4	420	B2	13.19	4	3.298

During March the corona became very weak and energy was released on a constant higher level. Most of this period the geomagnetic power stayed high and caused unsettled conditions in the atmosphere. The last week the sunspot number suddenly increased and also produced an M-class flare on the 25<sup>th</sup>. These sunspots were still of the cycle 23 looking at the magnetic orientation of the magnetogram.

# Solar Cycle 24 Sunspot Number Prediction

Data Through 31 Mar 07



Updated 2007 Apr 20

NOAA/SEC Boulder, CO USA

Clear skies,

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