

Make Oil Companies Pay

Had enough of oil companies making obscene profits?
www.yeson87.com

Grassroots Climate Action

You Can Act Now To Reduce Climate Change. Neutralize Your Emissions!
www.DriveNeutral.org

Climate Changes

Learn more about urbanization, population growth and megacities.
www.siemens.com/megatrends

Ads by Goooooql

Advertise on this site



Mercopress News Agency

Mercosur

Falklands-Malvinas

E-mail News Subscribe

Books Listing

Advertise

Monday, 21 August 106

Search News:

- Falklands
- Mercosur
- Both
-

Mercosur

Saturday, 12 August

Greenland's ice cap melting faster than anticipated

The meltdown of Greenland's ice sheet is speeding up reaching 239 cubic kilometres per year according to an article in Science journal based on satellite measurements. Data from a United States Aero Space Agency, Nasa satellite show that the melting rate has accelerated since 2004.

Most of the ice is being lost from eastern Greenland, a US team writes in Science journal. Jianli Chen of the University of Texas at Austin and colleagues studied monthly changes in the Earth's gravity between April 2002 and November 2005. The measurements came from the US space agency's Grace (Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment) satellite, launched in 2002 which helped to estimate changes in the mass of Greenland's ice sheet.

The article points out that a number of factors contribute to fluctuations in the Earth's gravity field. However once the influence of the atmosphere and the oceans is removed, the variations mostly reflect changes in the mass of ice sheets and of water stored in the ground.

Estimated monthly changes in the mass of Greenland's ice sheet suggest it is melting at a rate of about 239 cubic kilometres per year. This figure is about three times higher than an earlier estimate of the mass loss from Greenland made using the first two years of Grace measurements. If Greenland's ice cap were to completely disappear, global sea levels would rise by 6.5m.

Dr Chen and colleagues partly attribute this to increased melting in the past one-and-a-half years and partly to better processing of the data.

"Acceleration of mass loss over Greenland, if confirmed, would be consistent with proposed increased global warming in recent years" write the authors in Science. This would amount to a contribution to global sea level rise from Greenland of about half a millimeter each year. The group's findings agree remarkably well with a study released earlier this year that used data from other satellites to estimate mass changes in the Greenland ice.

Grace also appears to have detected a loss of ice from Arctic glaciers that were omitted from this study and are separate from the main Greenland ice sheet.

Send this article to a friend

Your Name

Your Email Address

Recipient Email Address

Mercosur Monday, 21 August 2006
Newspapers 'more trusted than web'

Mercosur Monday, 21 August 2006
Six regional Air Forces in routine exercise

Mercosur Monday, 21 August 2006
Mayor earthquake in South Sandwich Islands area

Mercosur Monday, 21 August 2006
China raises interest rates to cool economy

Personal Message



Advertisements:



[back to main page...](#)

MERCOPRESS is a news agency concentrating in Mercosur countries which operates from Montevideo, Uruguay, and includes in its area of influence the South Atlantic and insular territories.

E-mail: merco@mercopress.com - Web technical help: webmaster@mercopress.com