

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 64

Country Name: *NIUE*

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	December 2012						
	October 2012 Total	November 2012 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Hanan Airport	40.7mm	54.6mm	98.2	125	215.7	149.1	17/63

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall October to December 2012

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #60]

Station	Three-month Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking	Forecast probs.* (include LEPS)	Verification* (Consistent, Near-consistent, Inconsistent?)
Hanan Airport	193.5	380.3	541.0	450.5	7/63	52/20/28 (13.7)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for October to December 2012 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #60):

Predictors using SST's 1 & 9. Periods June, July, August.

* Forecast is consistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) categories coincide (are in the same tercile).

Forecast is near-consistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) differ by only one category (i.e. terciles 1 and 2 or terciles 2 and 3).

Forecast is inconsistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) differ by two categories (i.e. terciles 1 and 3).

**TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for
February to April 2013**

Predictors and Period used: SST's 1 & 9, October to December

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Hanan Airport	30	744	70		14.1	65.1

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Hanan Airport	38	636.7	19	857.3	43	5.8	49.2

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
February to April 2013**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Hanan Airport	5	608	90	851	5		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for December 2012:

December rainfall was “Below Normal” with a good skill.

Accumulated rainfall for October to December 2012, including outlook verification:

3 months rainfall for October to December was “Below Normal” with a good confidence. The observed value was 193.5 mm and it was “Below Normal”. The forecast was consistent.

- A drought watch is now cancelled for Niue.

Outlooks for February – April 2013:

1. SCOPIC: Rainfall for the next 3 months using SST’s 1 & 9 is forecast for “Above Normal” with a moderate skill.

2. POAMA: Lower: 5

Middle: 90

Upper: 5

- SCOPIC forecast for “Above Normal” rainfall and POAMA forecast for “Normal” Rainfall.

NB: The X LEPS % score has been categorised as follows:

Very Low: $X < 0.0$

Low: $0 \leq X < 5$

Moderate $5 \leq X < 10$

Good: $10 \leq X < 15$

High: $15 \leq X < 25$

Very High: $25 \leq X < 35$

Exceptional: $X \geq 35$