

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 67

Country Name: Cook Islands

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	March 2013						
	January 2013 Total	February 2013 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Penrhyn (1937-Mar2013)	383.7	40.5	102.2	148.3	270.9	214.0	13/75
Rarotonga (1899-Mar2013)	382.8	76.7	42.6	158.0	280.0	214.0	4/115

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
January to March 2013**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #63]

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?)
Penrhyn	526.4	460.0	784.5	603.0	32/74	6/46/48 (29.7%)	Near consistent
Rarotonga	502.1	604.5	790.3	705.0	21/115	22/57/21 (1.4%)	Near consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for January to March 2013 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #63):

SSTa's 1&9 (Sep-Nov)

* 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
May to July 2013**

Predictors and Period used: SSTa's 1&9

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	47%	349.8	53%		12.8%	63.5%
Rarotonga	49%	343.5	51%		2.7%	57.8%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	23%	286.0	41%	486.4	36%	13.6%	50.8%
Rarotonga	33%	292.7	32%	408.7	35%	1.4%	37.5%

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
May to July 2013**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Rarotonga							

Summary Statements

Rainfall for March 2013:

Below normal for both groups

Accumulated rainfall for January–March 2013, including outlook verification:

As for the last 3-months near consistent forecast for both sectors, normal rainfall recorded for Penrhyn (very high skill) and below normal for Rarotonga (low skill).

Outlooks for May–July 2013:

1. SCOPIC:

Climate outlook for the next 3-months, normal rainfall for Penrhyn (good skill), above normal for Rarotonga (low skill)

2. POAMA: Period not updated on POAMA model.

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: $X \geq 35$