

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 68

Country Name: Cook Islands

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	April 2013						
	February 2013 Total	March 2013 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Penrhyn (1937-Apr 2013)	40.5	102.2	60.4	107.0	179.3	130.5	10/75
Rarotonga (1899-Apr 2013)	76.7	42.6	63.2	139.7	237.3	192.0	12/115

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall February to April 2013

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #64]

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	203.1	443.0	728.0	541.4	4/74	12/47/41 (18.7%)	Near Consistent
Rarotonga	182.5	582.4	727.6	667.0	1/115	37/36/27 (1.3%)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for February to April 2013 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #64):
SSTa's 1&9 (Oct-Dec)

* 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
June to August 2013**

Predictors and Period used: SSTa's 1&9

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	50%	397.2	50%		18.4%	66.1%
Rarotonga	45%	296.5	55%		0.6%	59.4%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	23%	264.0	48%	540.0	29%	13.2%	48.4%
Rarotonga	34%	254.0	25%	367.0	41%	-1.5%	31.3%

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
June to August 2013**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Rarotonga	24%	255	53%	370	23%		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for April 2013:

Below normal rainfall was recorded for both groups Penrhyn and Rarotonga.

Accumulated rainfall for February–April 2013, including outlook verification:

As for the last 3-months, below normal rainfall for Penrhyn, near consistent forecast (high skill) consistent forecast for Rarotonga (low skill)

Outlooks for June–August 2013:

1. SCOPIC: Climate outlook for the next 3-months normal for Penrhyn (good skill) and above normal for Rarotonga (very low skill).

2. POAMA: Normal for Rarotonga

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: $X \geq 35$