

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 73

Country Name: Cook Islands

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	September 2013						
	July 2013 Total	August 2013 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Penrhyn (1937-Sep 2013)	141.6	344.2	262.8	74.0	140.0	106.0	68/74
Rarotonga (1899-Sep 2013)	156.8	104.7	75.7	73.7	126.3	95.0	41/115

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
July to September 2013**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #69]

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	748.6	295.0	471.0	341.0	67/74	32/ 47 /21 (12.4 %)	Near consistent
Rarotonga	337.2	253.3	364.3	295.0	68/115	35 /34/31 (-3.1 %)	Near consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for July to September 2013 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #69):

SSTa's 1&9 (Mar-May)

* 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
November 2013 to January 2014**

Predictors and Period used: SSTa's 1&9

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	73%	562.6	27%		14.3%	62.9%
Rarotonga	41%	582.0	59%		3.9%	53.1%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	55%	358.0	29%	739.0	16%	17.9%	48.4%
Rarotonga	16%	504.3	59%	687.7	25%	7.3%	39.1%

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
November 2013 to January 2014**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Penrhyn	95%	530	5%	892	0%		
Rarotonga	20%	451	27%	661	53%		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for September 2013:

Above normal for Penrhyn. Normal rainfall recorded for Rarotonga.

Accumulated rainfall for July–September 2013, including outlook verification:

For the last 3-months above normal for Penrhyn and normal for Rarotonga. Near consistent forecast for both groups.

Outlooks for November 2013–January 2014:

1. SCOPIC:

Below normal for Penrhyn

Normal for Rarotonga

2. POAMA:

Below normal for Penrhyn

Above 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: $X \geq 35$