

## Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 74

**Country Name: COOK ISLANDS**

**TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall**

Station (include data period)	October 2013						
	August 2013 Total	September 2013 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Penrhyn (1937-Oct 2013)	344.2	262.8	<b>343.7</b>	94.0	183.0	142.5	73/75
Rarotonga (1899-Oct 2013)	104.7	75.7	<b>154.1</b>	61.7	137.7	90.0	81/115

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall  
August to October 2013**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #70]

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	<b>950.7</b>	293.0	440.0	359.0	70/74	<b>50</b> /37/13 (11.9 %)	Inconsistent
Rarotonga	<b>334.5</b>	275.7	394.7	338.0	56/115	30/33/ <b>37</b> (-0.9 %)	Near Consistent

Period: \*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for August to October 2013 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #70):

**SSTa's 1&9 (Apr-Jun)**

\* 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 December 2013 to February 2014**

**Predictors and Period used: SSTa's 1&9 (Aug-Oct)**

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	69%	628.0	31%		20.4%	64.5%
Rarotonga	42%	680.5	58%		5.6%	54.7%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	45%	364.4	36%	837.2	19%	29.1%	48.4%
Rarotonga	10%	558.3	83%	769.7	7%	7.1%	51.6%

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for December 2013 to February 2014**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Penrhyn	83%	608	7%	1027	10%		
Rarotonga	16%	543	37%	719	47%		

**Summary Statements**

**Rainfall for October 2013:**

Above normal rainfall recorded for both groups.

**Accumulated rainfall for August–October 2013, including outlook verification:**

As for the last 3-months, inconsistent forecast for Penrhyn above normal rainfall (good skill), normal rainfall was recorded for Rarotonga (very low skill) near consistent forecast.

**Outlooks for December 2013–February 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:  $X \geq 35$