

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 77

Country Name: *Niue Island*

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	January 2014						
	November 2013 Total	December 2013 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Hanan Airport	106.8	238.5	282.0	187.0	336.0	239.5	37/64

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
November to January 2014**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #73]

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	627.3	506.7	683.9	598.0	37/64	17/18/65 9.6	Near Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for November to January 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #73):

Periods: July - September
Predictors: SST's 1 & 9

* 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
March to May 2014**

Predictors and Period used: Periods: November – January 2014

Predictors: SST's 1 & 9

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Hanan Airport	61	617.0	39		0.3%	53.1%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Hanan Airport	43	550.5	13	769.0	44	4.7%	45.3%

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
March to May 2014**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Hanan Airport	18	544	46	701	36		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2014:

- Normal Rainfall with a moderate skill.

Accumulated rainfall for November – January 2014, including outlook verification:

- Three months rainfall using sst's 1 and 9, periods July-September for November-January was "**Above Normal**" rainfall.
- Observed rainfall value was 627.3 mm and it was "**normal**".
- The verification was "**near consistent**".

Outlooks for March – May 2014:

1. SCOPIC:

- Rainfall for the next 3 months using SST's 1 & 9 is forecast to be "**Above Normal**" rainfall with a Low Skill.
- Note from Report on SCOPIC –
There is a little indication of bias towards either "above normal" or "below normal" rainfall conditions for March through to the end of May. This unusual situation is indicative of low predictability (forecast skill) for this period of the year.

2. POAMA:

- Lower: 18
- Middle: 46
- Upper: 36

- SCOPIC is forecast for "**Above Normal**" and POAMA is forecast to be "**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: $X \geq 35$