

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 78

Country Name: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			February 2014				
	December 2013 Total	January 2014 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Northern Region							
Sola	213.5	475.8	296.0	269.7	381.9	341.6	18/43
Pekoa	123.7	494.0	430.5	216.6	370.0	283.4	34/42
Lamap	97.8	409.4	69.8	186.5	277.4	230.1	5/54
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	179.0	560.0	125.8	253.7	357.3	288.9	3/42
Port Vila	127.9	394.1	102.7	218.4	312.0	255.0	3/62
Whitegrass	71.2	460.6	18.8	118.5	237.2	169.4	1/43
Aneityum	418.4	575.5	57.6	192.6	304.1	234.3	1/63

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall

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?)
Northern Region							
Sola	985.3	1004.5	1205.5	1101.1	14/40	24:24:52(1.3)	Inconsistent
Pekoa	1048.2	694.2	895.8	765.8	33/41	31:20:49(-0.8)	Consistent
Lamap	577	550.8	709.2	587.6	22/51	21:47:32(10.6)	Consistent
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	864.8	655.1	862.4	778.3	26/40	20:35:45(21.3)	Consistent
Port Vila	624.7	611.9	816.5	724.9	22/61	22:31:47 (17.4)	Near-consistent
Whitegrass	550.6	338.3	503.7	438.5	29/42	20:46:34(12.4)	Near-consistent
Aneityum	1051.5	562.7	878.7	723.1	51/62	20:44:36 (9.9)	Near-consistent

* 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).

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December 2013 to February 2014

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #74]

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for December 2013 to February 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #74): SST 1 & 9, Aug –Oct 2013

**TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for
April to June 2014**

Predictors and Period used: SST 1& 9, Dec 2013- Feb 2014

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	45	1197.6	55		13.7	60.0
Pekoa	48	656.3	52		0.4	58.1
Lamap	49	507.0	51		1.7	59.6
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	45	605.2	55		13.5	65.9
Port Vila	40	551.7	60		6.7	60.7
Whitegrass	38	264.2	62		20.2	66.7
Aneityum	38	573.0	62		0.8	55.7

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region							
Sola	24	1061.6	34	1276.4	42	8.2	42.5
Pekoa	13	477.2	49	808.0	38	2.8	39.5
Lamap	22	387.8	40	608.4	38	7.4	40.4
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	28	482.3	30	763.6	42	-2.1	31.7
Port Vila	20	444.5	29	639.4	51	7.8	39.3
Whitegrass	29	219.5	47	329.2	24	15.3	54.8
Aneityum	18	451.6	18	651.7	64	7.0	36.1

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
April to June 2014**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Northern Region							
Sola	52	928	42	1363	6		
Pekoa	24	617	64	808	12		
Lamap	24	574	64	721	12		
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	15	590	70	817	15		
Port Vila	15	506	70	772	15		
Aneityum	39	598	49	862	12		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for February 2014:

- Rainfall for the past month was *normal* for Sola, *above normal* for Pekoa and *below normal* for the rest of the stations (Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum).

Accumulated rainfall for December 2013 to February 2014, including outlook verification:

- Rainfall for the past three months was *below normal* for Sola, *above normal* for Pekoa, Bauerfield, Whitegrass, and Aneityum, and *normal* for Lamap, and Port Vila.
- Confidence was consistent for Pekoa, Lamap and Bauerfield, Near-consistent for Whitegrass, Port Vila and Aneityum, and inconsistent for Sola.

Outlooks for April-June 2014:

1. SCOPIC:

The seasonal rainfall outlook for April to June 2014 shows:

- the most likely outcome at Sola, Bauerfield, and Port Vila is above-normal, with normal the next most likely;
- the most likely outcome at Pekoa and Lamap is normal, with above-normal the next most likely;
- the most likely outcome at Whitegrass is normal, with below-normal the next most likely; and
- the most likely outcome at Aneityum is above-normal, with equal chance of normal and below-normal the next most likely.

- Overall *normal to above normal* rainfall is favoured for the coming three months.

2. POAMA:

- *Normal* rainfall is favoured for all stations except Sola for the coming three months (April to June 2014). *Below Normal* rainfall is favoured for Sola.

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: $X \geq 35$

