

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 79

Country Name: Cook Islands

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			March 2014				
	January 2014 Total	February 2014 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Penrhyn 1937-Mar 2014	215.2	153.6	71.0	146.7	270.3	211.0	9/76
Rarotonga 1899-Mar 2014	228.6	52.6	229.8	158.0	279.0	211.0	64/116

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall January to March 2014

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #75]

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	439.8	461.4	782.7	600.0	21/75	26/ 51 /23 (29.7%)	Near consistent
Rarotonga	511.0	603.5	789.0	704.0	26/116	13/ 69 /18 (1.4%)	Near consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for January to March 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #75):

SSTa's 1&9(Sep-Nov)

* 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
May to July 2014**

Predictors and Period used: SSTa's 1&9

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	56%	350.4	44%		13.2%	65.6%
Rarotonga	44%	345.0	56%		2.7%	58.5%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	26%	287.3	45%	482.3	29%	13.8%	53.1%
Rarotonga	28%	293.0	30%	410.0	42%	1.1%	33.8%

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Penrhyn	15%	370	80%	576	5%		
Rarotonga	36%	403	40%	475	24%		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for March 2014:

Below rainfall for Penrhyn.

Normal rainfall was recorded for Rarotonga

Accumulated rainfall for January to March 2014, including outlook verification:

as for the last 3-months, near consistent forecast for both groups (very high skill for Penrhyn), (low skill for Rarotonga)

Outlooks for May-July 2014:

1. SCOPIC: The SCOPIC outlook for May to July shows the most likely outcome is normal for Penrhyn (good skill), and above normal for Rarotonga (low skill).

2. POAMA: The POAMA outlook for May to July shows the most likely outcome is normal for both Penrhyn and 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: $X \geq 35$