

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

Country Name: *Niue Island*

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
Hanan Airport (NINO3.4)	282.0	135.0	556.3	193.9	311.0	247.5	61/65

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?)
Hanan Airport SST's 1 & 9	973.3	636.0	951.0	790.0	46/65	9/26/65 (13.8)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

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

Periods: September – November 2013

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
May to July 2014**

Predictors and Period used: Periods: January – March 2014

Predictors: NINO 3.4

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Hanan Airport	45	311.0	55		0.9	51.6

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Hanan Airport	31	252.0	30	397.0	39	0.0	42.2

**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)		
Hanan Airport	27	415	64	584	9		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for March 2014:

- March rainfall was “Above Normal”.

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

- Three months rainfall using SSTs 1 and 9, periods September – November for January-March was for “***Above Normal***” rainfall.
- Observed rainfall value was 973.3 mm and it was “***Above Normal***”.
- The verification was “***Consistent***”.

Outlooks for May – July 2014:

1. SCOPIC:

Rainfall for the 3 months using Nino 3.4 shows the most likely outcome is “***Above Normal***”. The next mostly likely is “***Below Normal***” and the least likely category is “***Normal***”. Confidence in the outlook is “low”.

2. POAMA:

- Lower: 27
 - Middle: 64
 - Upper: 9
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- The POAMA outlook for May to July 2014 shows the most likely outcome is “***Normal***”.

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: $X \geq 35$