

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

Country Name: Vanuatu

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
Northern Region							
Sola	475.8	296.0	446.5	284.2	450.3	352.6	28/43
Pekoa	494.0	430.5	492.3	193.5	289.7	243.2	41/43
Lamap	409.4	69.8	406.6	204.0	344.4	269.2	44/53
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	560.0	125.8	473.9	239.4	332.9	285.2	37/42
Port Vila	394.1	102.7	339.0	248.3	366.0	306.5	38/62
Whitegrass	460.6	18.8	250.2	143.6	220.2	192.6	35/43
Aneityum	575.5	57.6	230.2	249.6	386.7	313.1	19/63

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?)
Northern Region							
Sola	1218.3	1004	1220	1120	27/42	30:26:44(-4.6)	Near-consistent
Pekoa	1416.8	758	965	808	41/42	36:36:29(-4.5)	Near-consistent
Lamap	885.8	655	817	728	41/53	38:41:21(7.5)	Near-consistent
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	1159.7	800	1023	983	32/42	45:15:40(6.2)	Inconsistent
Port Vila	835.8	760	1008	886	28/62	57:19:26(8.5)	Near-consistent
Whitegrass	729.6	475	687	559	30/43	46:26:28(4.1)	Inconsistent
Aneityum	863.3	752	999	897	31/63	32:38:29(7.4)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

* 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).

Predictors and Period used for January to March 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #75): SST
1&9, September – November 2013

**TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for
May to July 2014**

Predictors and Period used:

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	42	1004.2	58		8.4	51.3
Pekoa	34	488.7	66		6.9	58.1
Lamap	34	404.4	66		8.2	65.4
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	27	444.1	73		11.3	58.8
Port Vila	36	408.2	64		15.8	68.9
Whitegrass	31	224.3	69		11.0	61.0
Aneityum	47	446.4	53		4.2	54.1

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region							
Sola	35	754.0	32	1198.4	33	2.3	31.6
Pekoa	12	390.0	49	579.4	29	9.6	58.8
Lamap	27	310.6	22	475.4	51	5.0	26.7
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	21	327.6	32	532.8	47	3.3	46.7
Port Vila	15	349.1	40	498.2	45	13.4	55.6
Whitegrass	30	186.2	38	272.7	32	8.3	41.7
Aneityum	27	358.6	39	526.2	34	0.9	37.0

**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)		
Northern Region							
Sola	36	923	52	1212	12		
Pekoa	6	461	85	726	9		
Lamap	6	396	85	592	9		
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	5	476	90	691	5		
Port Vila	5	426	90	639	5		
Aneityum	5	408	89	658	6		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for March 2014:

- Rainfall for the past month (March) was *normal* for Sola and Port Vila, *Above normal* for Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield and Whitegrass and *Below normal* for Aneityum.

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

- Rainfall for the past three months was *normal* for Sola, Port Vila and Aneityum. The rest of the stations recorded above normal rainfall (Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield and Whitegrass).
- Confidence was consistent Aneityum, Near consistent for Sola, Pekoa, Lamap, and Port Vila and inconsistent for Bauerfield and Whitegrass.

Outlooks for May-July 2014:

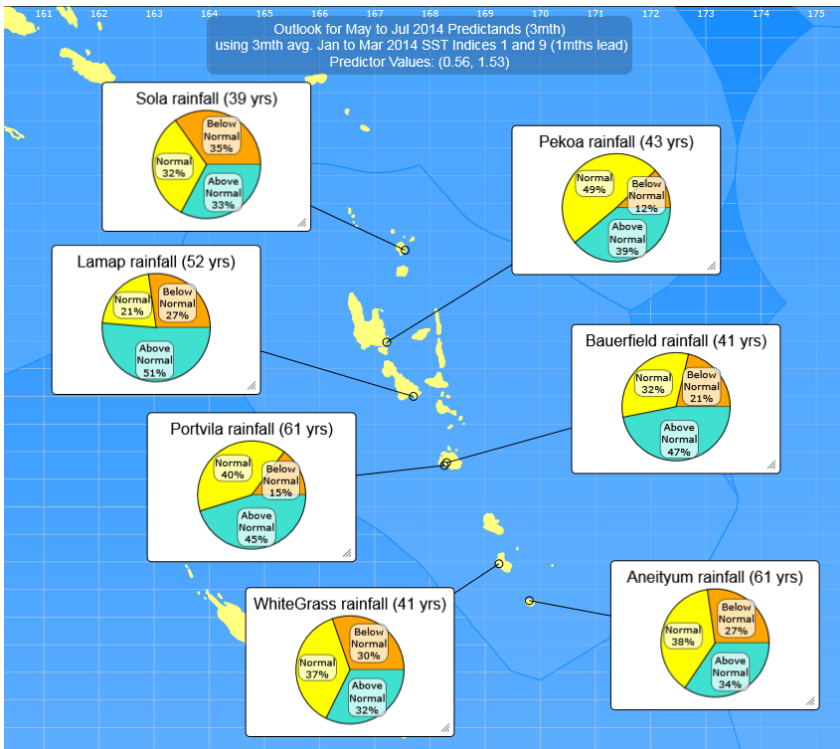
1. SCOPIC:

The seasonal rainfall outlook for May to July 2014 shows:

- The mostly likely outcome at Lamap is above normal with below normal the next most likely;
- The most likely outcome for Bauerfield and Port Vila is above normal with normal the next most likely
- The most likely outcome for Pekoa, Whitegrass and Aneityum is normal with above normal the next most likely.
- Little guidance for Sola as the chances of above normal, normal and below normal rainfall are similar.

2. POAMA:

- Normal rainfall is favoured for all station (Sola, Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila and Aneityum) for the next three months (May 2014 to July 2014)



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: $X \geq 35$