

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 82

Country Name: Cook Islands

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			June 2014				
	April 2014 Total	May 2014 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Penrhyn (1937-Jun 2014)	58.8	135.2	33.2	100	169.9	128	5/76
Rarotonga (1899-Jun 2014)	90.8	119	114.7	68	125	96	77/116

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
April to June 2014**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #78]

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	227.2	323.3	512.7	383	10/75	28/ 53 /19 (9.2%)	Near Consistent
Rarotonga	324.5	379	493	428	26/116	23/ 44 /33 (4.2)	Near Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for April to June 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #78):

SSTa's 1&9 (Dec 2013-Feb 2014)

* 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 August to October 2014

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 (May-Jun)

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	37%	371.2	63%		8.5%	66.7%
Rarotonga	51%	338	49%		-3.5%	28.1%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	25%	295	31%	441.3	44%	7.6%	53.3
Rarotonga	40%	277	24%	394	36%	-2%	40.6

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for August to October 2014

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Penrhyn	5%	254	74%	522	21%		
Rarotonga	5%	238	83%	368	12%		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for June 2014:

Below normal for Penrhyn and normal rainfall was recorded for Rarotonga.

Accumulated rainfall for April to June 2014, including outlook verification:

Near consistent forecast for Penrhyn and Rarotonga. Moderate skill for Penrhyn, low skill for Rarotonga.

Outlooks for August to October 2014:

1. SCOPIC: The seasonal rainfall outlook for Aug to Oct 2014 shows the most likely outcome for Penrhyn is above normal. Confidence in the Penrhyn outlook is moderate. The outlook shows the most likely outcome for Rarotonga is below normal. Confidence in the Rarotonga outlook is very low.

2. POAMA: Favours normal for 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: $X \geq 35$