

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 84

Country Name: Cook Islands

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	August 2014						
	June 2014 Total	July 2014 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Penrhyn (1937-Aug 2014)	33.2	29.1	29.5	81	154.7	122	4/76
Rarotonga (1899-Aug 2014)	114.7	147.2	102.1	71	126	93	64/116

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

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #80]

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	91.8	264	541.3	401.6	2/75	28/ 42 /30 (15.5%)	Near consistent
Rarotonga	364	254	371	298	75/116	28/ 40 /32 (1.5%)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for June to August 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #79):

SSTa's 1&9 (Feb-Apr)

* 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 October to December 2014

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 (2 mnths)

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	47	492	53		2.5%	54.8%
Rarotonga	60	476	40		28.2%	81.3%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	25	370.4	37	627	38	11.8%	41.9%
Rarotonga	40	405	39	545	21	22.9%	53.1%

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Penrhyn	12	325	46	643	42		
Rarotonga	6	297	61	404	33		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for August 2014:

Penrhyn experienced below normal rainfall in August with only 29.5mm recorded, and Rarotonga experienced normal rainfall with 102.1mm recorded.

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

Penrhyn rainfall for the period June to August was below normal with 91.8mm recorded, while rainfall was normal for Rarotonga with a total of 364mm recorded. The June to August Outlook was near consistent for Penrhyn (high skill) and consistent for Rarotonga (low skill).

Outlooks for October to December 2014:

1. SCOPIC: The seasonal rainfall outlook for October to December shows that there is a near equal likelihood of normal or above normal rainfall for Penrhyn and near equal likelihood of below normal or normal rainfall for Rarotonga. Confidence in the outlooks during this time of the year is good for Penrhyn and high for Rarotonga.

2. POAMA: The most likely rainfall outcome for Penrhyn and Rarotonga 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: $X \geq 35$