

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 87

Country Name: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	November 2014						
	September 2014 Total	October 2014 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Northern Region							
Sola	216.2	536.2	455.1	298.0	487.5	388.9	27/44
Pekoa	191.6	273.6	99.3	126.1	213.3	180.9	9/44
Lamap	168.0	191.3	93.3	90.6	141.4	113.4	21/54
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	71.9	379.5	107.7	93.9	180.1	134.9	16/42
Port Vila	142.4	250.5	122.8	74.8	159.3	119.8	34/62
Whitegrass	135.2	39.4	109.2	30.2	84.6	46.6	35/44
Aneityum	184.4	149.7	196.9	57.9	137.7	95.8	46/63

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall

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	1207.5	873.6	1161.5	1019.3	30/43	43:26:31(7.6)	Inconsistent
Pekoa	564.5	298.9	520.7	434.9	31/43	57:28:15(36.3)	Inconsistent
Lamap	452.6	274.5	408.0	326.9	42/54	44:28:28(11.3)	Inconsistent
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	559.1	236.7	419.9	306.3	38/42	50:32:18(34.2)	Inconsistent
Port Vila	515.7	239.7	390.2	305.5	53/62	53:26:21(30.9)	Inconsistent

* 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).

Whitegrass	283.8	115.5	225.7	138.9	35/42	49:44:7(33.8)	Inconsistent
Aneityum	531	260.7	423.8	347.0	51/63	59:28:13(32.2)	Inconsistent

September to November 2014

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #83]

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for September to November 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #83): May – Jul, NINO3.4 SST Anomalies

**TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for
January to March 2015**

Predictors and Period used: NINO 3.4 SST Anomalies, Sep- Nov

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	53	1128.8	47		-2.4	61.3
Pekoa	47	825.2	53		-2.1	53.3
Lamap	56	732.9	44		0.5	54.8
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	63	984.6	37		13.1	75.0
Port Vila	57	881.5	43		1.5	62.5
Whitegrass	54	564.6	46		-1.8	54.8
Aneityum	57	887.7	43		0.4	59.4

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region							
Sola	37	1011.5	32	1220.8	31	-2.2	38.7
Pekoa	36	758.8	27	972.7	37	-3.3	20.0
Lamap	36	662.3	36	817.1	28	-1.1	16.1
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	43	800.8	28	1035.1	29	4.1	40.6
Port Vila	41	767.9	37	1002.2	22	6.6	50.0
Whitegrass	40	495.2	33	707.8	27	1.4	35.5
Aneityum	41	756.8	37	992.2	22	7.0	43.8

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
January to March 2015**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Northern Region							
Sola	48	855	42	1127	10		
Pekoa	42	693	21	918	37		
Lamap	42	487	21	649	37		
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	18.	604	45	867	37		
Port Vila	18	579	45	750	37		
Aneityum	48	715	24	975	27		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for November 2014:

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

Accumulated rainfall for September to November 2014, including outlook verification:

- Rainfall for the past three months was *above normal* for all stations (Sola, Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass, and Aneityum) .
- Outlook was *inconsistent* for all stations. (Sola, Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum)

Outlooks for January to March 2015:

1. SCOPIC:

The seasonal rainfall outlook for January to March 2014 show:

- The most likely outcome at Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum is below normal with normal the next most likely for the later three stations.
- The outlook offers little guidance as there is near equal likelihood of below normal and above normal for Pekoa station.
- The outlook offers little guidance for Sola and Lamap for the coming season as the chances of above-normal, normal and below-normal rainfall are similar.

2. POAMA:

- The most likely outcome at Sola is below normal with normal the next most likely.
- The most likely outcome at Pekoa and Lamap is below normal with above normal the next most likely.

- The most likely outcome at Bauerfield and Port Vila is normal with above normal the next most likely.
- The most likely outcome at Aneityum is below normal with near equal chances of normal and above normal as the next most likely.
- Overall normal to below normal rainfall is favoured for the coming three months.

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: $X \geq 35$