

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 88

Country Name: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	December 2015						
	October 2014 Total	November 2014 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Northern Region							
Sola	536.2	455.1	155.0	222.0	474.3	353.9	9/44
Pekoa	273.6	99.3	162.4	138.9	225.0	177.4	20/43
Lamap	191.3	93.3	130.7	97.0	166.6	122.2	29/52
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	379.5	107.7	264.5	109.4	203.1	157.7	34/42
Port Vila	250.5	122.8	190.2	108.5	211.1	158.5	35/62
Whitegrass	39.4	109.2	92.9	47.9	96.1	72.6	29/44
Aneityum	149.7	196.9	271.9	110.4	231.4	158.0	49/63

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	1146.3	601.1	1043.2	823.0	21/42	34:33:33(-3.8)	Inconsistent
Pekoa	535.3	269.0	492.3	403.7	24/42	35:31:34(10.4)	Inconsistent
Lamap	415.3	235.7	356.5	293.2	28/52	37:36:27(13.8)	Inconsistent
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	751.7	314.8	400.4	338.2	38/42	37:38:25(15.9)	Near-consistent
Port Vila	563.5	261.9	417.4	324.4	51/62	37:37:26(10.9)	Near-consistent

* 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	241.5	140.8	234.3	165.1	31/43	36:34:30(3.0)	Inconsistent
Aneityum	618.5	316.6	457.3	393.1	48/63	36:28:36(-3.1)	Inconsistent

October to December 2014

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #84]

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for October to December 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #84):

Using Nino 3.4, Jun - Aug

**TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for
February to April 2015**

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 SST Anomalies, Oct – Dec 2014

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	56	1162.3	44		0.6	54.8
Pekoa	50	855.3	50		-3.6	3.3
Lamap	52	703.2	48		-2.5	45.2
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	56	919.8	44		0.9	56.3
Port Vila	57	858.8	44		1.6	59.4
Whitegrass	58	488.0	42		0.6	51.6
Aneityum	52	845.4	48		-1.2	50.0

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region							
Sola	40	1047.7	33	1328.0	27	0.5	35.5
Pekoa	31	749.1	35	960.4	34	-2.5	30.0
Lamap	34	639.8	34	756.8	32	-3.9	12.9
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	40	795.6	35	999.5	25	3.2	40.6
Port Vila	40	774.9	34	924.0	26	3.0	43.8
Whitegrass	39	416.4	41	586.7	20	1.7	38.7
Aneityum	37	705.6	36	967.4	27	-0.1	28.1

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
February to April 2015**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Northern Region							
Sola	27	927	37	1315	36		
Pekoa	24	719	46	976	30		
Lamap	24	609	46	744	30		
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	27	796	49	983	24		
Port Vila	27	773	49	911	24		
Aneityum	40	733	36	979	24		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for December 2014:

- Rainfall for the past month was *normal* for all stations (Pekoa, Lamap, Port Vila, Whitegrass) except for Bauerfield and Aneityum which received *above normal* rainfall and Sola which recorded *below normal* rainfall.

Accumulated rainfall for October to December 2014, including outlook verification:

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

Outlooks for February to April 2015:

1. SCOPIC:

Using Nino 3.4 SST Anomalies;

- The most likely outcome at Sola, Bauerfield and Port Vila is *below normal* with *normal* the next most likely.
- The most likely outcome at Whitegrass is *normal* with *below normal* the next most likely.
- The outlook offers little guidance for Lamap, Aneityum and Pekoa for the coming season as the chances of *above normal*, *normal* and *below normal* rainfall are similar.
- Overall; *below normal* to *normal* rainfall is favoured for the coming three months.

2. POAMA:

- The most likely outcome at Pekoa and lamap is normal with above normal the next most likely.
- The most likely outcome at Bauerfield and Port Vila is normal with below normal the next most likely.
- The most likely outcome at Aneityum is below normal with normal the next most likely.
- The outlook offers little guidance as there is equal likelihood of normal and above normal for Sola station for the coming 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: $X \geq 35$

