

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 89

Country Name: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	January 2015						
	November 2014 Total	December 2014 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Northern Region							
Sola	455.1	155.0	265.5	318.3	465.8	390.5	9/44
Pekoa	99.3	162.4	157.7	246.9	350.4	290.9	9/45
Lamap	93.3	130.7	163.1	181.0	276.4	223.4	16/55
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	107.7	264.5	267.1	214.7	336.5	257.0	25/44
Port Vila	122.8	190.2	365.0	202.4	322.9	245.7	46/63
Whitegrass	109.2	92.9	239.3	111.4	220.1	168.2	41/44
Aneityum	196.9	271.9	178.7	164.0	355.3	256.0	25/64

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	875.6	592.1	848.1	681.4		37:34:29(4.1)	Inconsistent
Pekoa	419.4	228.7	397.3	348.4		38:39:23(16.5)	Near Consistent
Lamap	387.1	196.8	299.3	242.8		38:37:25(7.8)	Inconsistent
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	639.3	186.2	295.5	239.3		41:41:18(21.8)	Near

* 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).

							Consistent
Port Vila	678.0	213.8	336.9	259.1		43:41:16(11.8)	Inconsistent
Whitegrass	441.4	107.4	187.9	128.5		41:36:23(11.8)	Inconsistent
Aneityum	647.5	268.7	374.3	343.6		38:32:30(5.2)	Inconsistent

November 2014 to January 2015

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #85]

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for November 2014 to January 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #85): July – September 2014, Nino 3.4

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

Predictors and Period used: November 2014 – January 2015, Nino 3.4

[Table 4 - Complete one or both tables. Once you have made a choice continue to use the same table]

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	66	1262.8	34		16.4	71.0
Pekoa	53	697.8	47		-2.4	61.3
Lamap	51	615.3	49		-3.4	35.5
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	59	753.4	41		6.7	65.6
Port Vila	59	718.0	41		4.5	59.4
Whitegrass	62	357.7	38		11.0	64.5
Aneityum	51	715.3	49		-3.1	35.5

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region							
Sola	46	1127.8	34	1381.2	20	16.3	48.4
Pekoa	41	607.6	29	866.8	30	8.3	54.5
Lamap	35	572.3	33	724.3	32	-4.2	38.7
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	39	605.2	32	869.3	29	1.1	43.8
Port Vila	38	635.3	36	824.9	26	2.4	28.1
Whitegrass	42	317.4	39	461.7	19	8.2	38.7
Aneityum	36	607.6	35	892.1	29	-0.6	32.3

**TABLE 5: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
March to May 2015**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Northern Region							
Sola	52	927	30	1315	18		
Pekoa	52	719	18	976	30		
Lamap	52	609	18	744	30		
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	27	796	49	983	24		
Port Vila	27	773	49	911	24		
Aneityum	52	733	21	979	27		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2015:

Rainfall for the past month was *below normal* for Sola, Pekoa and Lamap and *normal* for Bauerfield and Aneityum while Port Vila and Whitegrass recorded *above normal* rainfall.

Accumulated rainfall for November 2014 to January 2015, 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 *near consistent* for Pekoa and Bauerfield and *inconsistent* for all other stations (Sola, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum).

Outlooks for March to May 2015:

1. SCOPIC:

Using Nino 3.4 SST Anomalies;

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

2. POAMA:

- The most likely outcome for Sola is below normal with normal the next most likely.
- The most likely outcome for Pekoa, Lamap and Aneityum is below normal with above normal rainfall the next most likely.
- The most likely outcome for Bauerfield and Port Vila is normal with below normal the next most likely.

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: $X \geq 35$

