

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 92

Country Name: Cook Islands

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	April 2015						
	February 2015 Total	March 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Penrhyn (1937-Apr 2015)	206.4	398.4	-	104.8	182.7	130	-
Rarotonga (1899-Apr 2015)	42.9	375.0	139.1	123.7	231	192	33/87

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
February to April 2015**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #88]

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	-	442.3	727.3	560.2	-	48/37/15 (14.5)	-
Rarotonga	557	569.3	718.7	658	27/87	43/33/24 (4.3)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for February to April 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #88):

* 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
June to August 2015**

Predictors and Period used:

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	15	383.8	85		24.6	71.9
Rarotonga	57	300	43		-0.4	54.7

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	8	263.8	34	540	58	17.7	43.8
Rarotonga	34	254	33	365	33	-1.9	1.6

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
June to August 2015**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Aitutaki	55	NA	40	180	5		
Penrhyn	5	288	90	568	5		
Rarotonga	45	255	50	370	5		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for April 2015:

Normal rainfall recorded for Rarotonga for the period.

Accumulated rainfall for February to April 2015, including outlook verification:

Below normal for Rarotonga. Observed rainfall consistent with outlook for the same period.

Outlooks for June to August 2015:

1. SCOPIC: The Penrhyn seasonal rainfall outlook for Jun-Aug 2015 shows that the most likely outcome is above normal with normal the next most likely. The Rarotonga outlook offers little guidance for the coming season as the chances of above-normal, normal and below-normal rainfall are similar. Confidence in the outlooks is high for Penrhyn and very low for Rarotonga.

2. POAMA: the most likely rainfall outcome for Penrhyn is below normal, Rarotonga and Aitutaki 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: $X \geq 35$