

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

Country Name: Vanuatu

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
Northern Region							
Sola	218.6	388.1	344.0	273.7	452.2	366.3	16/44
Pekoa	104.1	136.2	408.4	123.0	238.1	200.7	38/45
Lamap	155.7	156.1	262.3	111.1	194.5	138.8	42/55
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	487.3	800.1	82.5	101.2	220.6	156.9	6/43
Port Vila	421.4	792.8	100.7	100.5	185.0	143.3	6/63
Whitegrass	81.2	43.1	29.3	44.3	104.6	72.5	6/44
Aneityum	248.5	176.4	92.7	121.2	204.8	166.1	13/64

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall (February – April 2015)

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	950.7	1047.7	1328.0	1162.3	10/44	40:33:27(0.5)	Consistent
Pekoa	648.7	762.8	960.9	858.3	12/45	31:35:34(-2.5)	Near Consistent
Lamap	574.1	639.8	756.8	703.2	10/54	34:34:32(-3.9)	Near Consistent
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	1369.9	795.6	999.5	919.8	42/43	40:35:25(3.2)	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).

Port Vila	1314.9	774.9	924.0	858.8	63/63	40:34:26(3.0)	Inconsistent
Whitegrass	153.6	416.4	586.7	488.0	1/44	39:41:20(1.7)	Near Consistent
Aneityum	517.6	705.6	967.4	845.4	9/64	37:36:27(-0.1)	Consistent

February to April 2015

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

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for February to April 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #88):
NINO3.4 SST Anomalies, October - December 2014

**TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for
June to August 2015**

Predictors and Period used: NINO3.4 SST Anomalies, February – April 2015

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	67	799.5	33		14.4	65.5
Pekoa	65	400.5	35		7.9	60.6
Lamap	65	290.9	35		12.2	65.6
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	60	337.5	40		2.8	48.5
Port Vila	54	323.7	45		-1.5	48.5
Whitegrass	65	164.8	35		6.2	58.1
Aneityum	60	391.4	40		0.3	54.5

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region							
Sola	48	594.8	19	1041.8	33	8.8	62.1
Pekoa	52	260.9	18	483.8	30	8.9	30.3
Lamap	49	232.0	37	356.5	14	15.4	43.8
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	39	301.6	33	396.7	28	-0.2	33.3
Port Vila	46	261.8	16	417.3	38	-0.1	54.5
Whitegrass	47	139.5	34	231.7	19	6.0	41.9
Aneityum	43	313.5	33	449.9	24	3.4	45.5

**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)		
Northern Region							
Sola	36	510	59	739	5		
Pekoa	5	242	90	399	5		
Lamap	5	196	90	361	5		
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	5	320	89	373	6		
Port Vila	5	241	89	362	6		
Whitegrass	5	121	90	193	5		
Aneityum	27	291	49	429	24		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for April 2015:

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

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

- The Accumulated Rainfall for the past 3 months was *above normal* for Bauerfield and Port Vila while all other stations (Sola, Pekoa, Lamap, Whitegrass and Aneityum) recorded below normal rainfall.
- The outlook was *consistent* for Sola and Aneityum, *near consistent* for Pekoa, Lamap and Whitegrass and *inconsistent* for Bauerfield and Port Vila.

Outlooks for June to August 2015:

1. SCOPIC:

Using Nino 3.4 SST Anomalies:

- The outlook favours below normal rainfall for all stations (except Bauerfield) with above normal being the next most likely for Sola, Pekoa and Port Vila and normal the next most likely outcome at Lamap, Whitegrass and Aneityum.
- For Bauerfield there is little guidance as the chances of above normal, normal and below normal rainfall are similar.

Overall: Below normal rainfall is favoured for most of Vanuatu for the coming three months.

2. POAMA:

- The POAMA outlook favours normal rainfall for all stations (Sola, Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum) for this coming season.

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: $X \geq 35$

