

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 120

Country Name: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			August 2017				
	June 2017 Total	July 2017 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
NORTHERN REGION							
Sola	166.1	77.5	352.9	133.6	269.1	189.1	35/44
Pekoa	36.2	62.8	60.4	59.3	104.6	80.4	17/47
Lamap	67.5	10.5	51.3	48.3	91.7	66.8	22/57
SOUTHERN REGION							
Bauerfield	74.3	22.1	50.6	47.1	66.4	94.3	18/45
Port Vila	47.3	80.8	37.4	48.5	96.5	76.8	18/65
Whitegrass	77.3	2.4	1.7	23.7	56.7	31.5	1/46
Aneityum	77.1	26.7	40.0	72.5	138.8	103.8	8/66
Saratamata	32.5	7.7	30.9	22.6	28.4	76.4	6/10

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
June to August 2017**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #116]

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	596.5	195.8	343.3	258.6	16/42	43:26:31(9.9)	Inconsistent
Pekoa	159.4	82.2	155.6	131.8	5/47	45:29:26(11.7)	Inconsistent
Lamap	129.3	76.7	118.8	95.0	2/56	43:37:20(8.2)	Inconsistent
SOUTHERN REGION							
Bauerfield	147.0	89.8	129.0	111.7	4/45	40:31:30(4.1)	Inconsistent
Port Vila	165.5	85.9	139.0	106.6	11/65	45:28:27(7.5)	Inconsistent
Whitegrass	81.4	46.1	78.1	54.9	4/45	43:30:27(5.9)	Inconsistent
Aneityum	143.8	103.8	150.7	130.5	2/66	41:33:26(5.6)	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).

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for June to August 2017 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #116):
Nino3.4 period March to April

**TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for
 October to December 2017**

Predictors and Period used: NINO3.4 for June - August

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
NORTHERN REGION						
Sola	49	391.1	51		0.3	56
Pekoa	46	169.6	54		18	65
Lamap	47	130.3	53		14	69
SOUTHERN REGION						
Bauerfield	43	149.2	57		27	77
Port Vila	47	142.9	53		40	83
Whitegrass	43	61.4	57		33	78
Aneityum	47	131.1	52		21	72

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
NORTHERN REGION							
Sola	28	300.5	36	446.9	36	7	37
Pekoa	26	135.1	41	207.7	23	29	59
Lamap	33	114.0	35	151.9	32	16	39
SOUTHERN REGION							
Bauerfield	29	104.8	37	184.5	35	15	50
Port Vila	30	104.0	39	164.5	31	24	47
Whitegrass	25	46.2	43	69.6	33	31	53
Aneityum	28	98.2	40	180.0	32	25	55

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
October to December 2017**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
NORTHERN REGION							
Sola	36	824	28	1228	36		
Pekoa	42	383	25	597	33		
Lamap	42	316	25	421	33		
SOUTHERN REGION							
Bauerfield	48	327	25	499	27		
Port Vila	48	303	25	461	27		
Whitegrass	48	116	19	186	33		
Aneityum	42	286	19	413	39		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for August 2017:

Rainfall for August was above normal for stations Sola, normal for Pekoa, Lamap and Bauerfield, and below normal for Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum. Whitegrass has the driest month of August in 46 years.

Accumulated rainfall for June to August 2017, including outlook verification:

Rainfall for the last three months was above normal for most stations except for Aneityum which was normal. The SCOPIC outlooks issued in April were all inconsistent, apart from Aneityum which was near-consistent.

Outlooks for October to December 2017:

1. SCOPIC:

Seasonal rainfall outlooks for the next three months shows normal is the most likely at Pekoa, Aneityum and Whitegrass. For all other stations the outlook offers little guidance.

2. POAMA:

Sola, Aneityum, Pekoia, Lamap – The outlook for the season is mixed (climatology)
Bauerfield- the outlook for the season shows below normal as the most likely
outcome.
Whitegrass – The outlook for the season shows below normal as the 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: $X \geq 35$