



Ministry of
Environment
Seychelles



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Seasonal Rainfall Forecast for Jul - Oct 2007
Seychelles National Meteorological Services
5th July 2007

Above Normal Temperature predicted for the Jul to Sep 2007
Above Normal rainfall predicted for Jul to Sep 2007
Normal rainfall predicted for Aug to Oct 2007

ENSO – High chance of neutral conditions expected during the next 3-5 months.

*“The Seasonal Prediction” foretells about the total accumulated rainfall for a period of not less than one month. Therefore, **it does not capture or predict individual extreme rainfall events***.”*

Latest **Rainfall** Climate prediction models are indicative of normal to above normal condition with >40-55 % chance rainfall over Mahé and Inner Islands, to be **well above the average level** for the Jul-Sep season (fig 1). There is only a small (5-25 %) chance that rainfall will be either **well above the average level or well below normal** for Aug-Oct season with the outer islands in the south western sector with greater chances (fig 2).

Latest **Temperature** Climate prediction models are indicative of Warmer condition with 80% chance over Mahé and Inner Islands, to be **well above the average level** for the Jul-Sep season. The trend shows that normal temperature is expected to prevail from the Aug- Oct season towards the end of the year.

Overall, this indicates that the forecast period is predicted to be rather Above Normal in both temperature and rainfall at the beginning and shifting to normal conditions. Tendency towards below normal condition towards the end of the dry season in rainfall is likely (SON).

NB As indicated above*, month to month variation can occur. Example one ‘freak’ storm can change the above results. Only, the daily and the Medium Range Forecast Predictions Schemes can target or capture such storm.



Figure 1: Probability of Well Above Normal Rainfall (JAS)

Figure 2: : Probability of Well Above Normal Rainfall (ASO)

Synopsis:

Of relevance in the preparation of this outlook is that the tropical Pacific SSTs, having transitioned from El Nino to neutral conditions between January and early March, will continue to cool during the coming months. Only a low possibility of weak La Nina conditions is expected otherwise highly likely that ENSO-neutral condition will prevail. Such tropical Pacific conditions are indicated in the SST predictions on which these climate forecasts are based.

The SST anomalies in the Indian Ocean are predicted to slowly weaken over the course of the forecast periods reaching the coolest level since the beginning of this year.

Table 1: Long Term Mean Seasonal Average of selected stations for Jul-Aug-Sep (JAS) and Aug-Sep-Oct (ASO) rainfall amount recorded from 1976 to 2002.

*** Indicate station(s) with missing data record over the 27 years period.**

Source: Seychelles National Meteorological Services Climate Centre

Station	JAS Average /mm	ASO Average /mm
Anse la Mouche*	118.6	161.7
Tea factory	148.0	175.0
Anse Boileau*	159.7	159.7
Anse Forban	102.2	142.0
Bel' Ombre	150.7	176.7
Bon Espoir	147.8	186.1
Cascade	155.1	189.3
Grand Anse Research	169.6	194.2
La Gogue*	91.6	115.5
La Misere (Fair view)	176.2	206.7
Le Niolle	185.8	197.4
Quatre Borne*	99.4	130.2
R/Sonde (Ile du Souete)	112.1	144.3
Rochon	159.6	188.1
International Airport	120.3	152.8
St Louis	114.4	150.6
La Digue*	139.6	154.8
Praslin*	102.6	134.3

NB: Background information extracted from IRI (USA), NCEP (USA), UK Met Office, ECMWF (EUROPE) and CPC(USA)