

Climate over Sri Lanka during 2013

April 2014

Summary

Satellite Derived Monthly Rainfall

Rainfall drenched the island in the first quarter of the year (January-March) prevailed with quite wet conditions. The first half of the maha(specifically in November and December) season had a quite dry conditions with even start of august to end of October and exceptionally in april also.

Quarterly Rainfall Anomaly

First quarter (JFM) has shown above normal condition almost for the entire Sri Lanka while all other quarters and in (AMJ) also, above average in most cases dominated by (JFM). Below average rainfall in (ASO).

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- a. Satellite Derived Rain fall Estimates
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1. Climate summary in 2013

a) *Satellite Derived Rainfall Estimates*

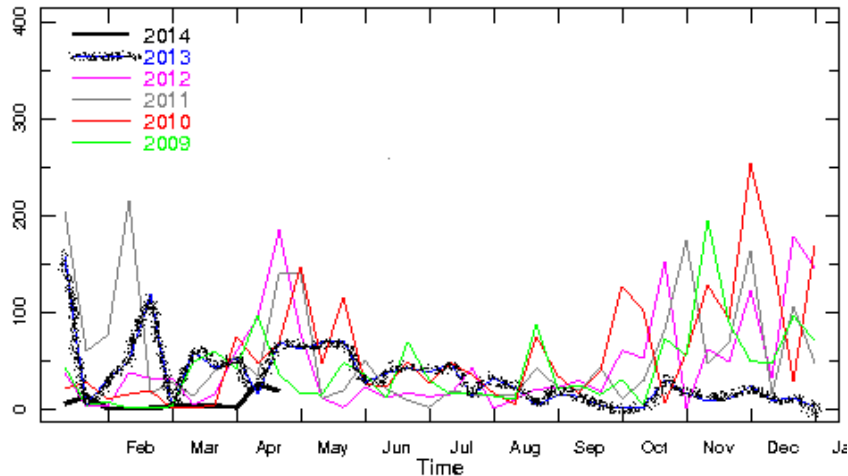


Figure 1: The average rainfall every dekad (approximately 10-days) over Sri Lanka during 2013 (Black dots with blue line) is compared with the average rainfall during, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006 and 2005. The over Sri Lanka is estimated from satellite data and ground based observations. The satellite estimates underestimate rainfall by 10-20% but this affect is uniform across the island and across seasons.

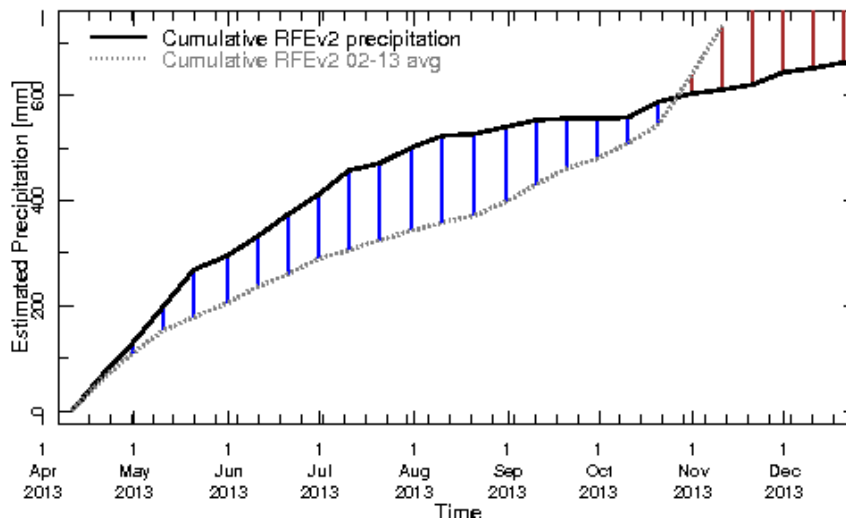


Figure 2: The cumulative rainfall over Sri Lanka starting in Jan 2013 until December 2013 in comparison with average of the previous 6 years. This graph shows that the total rainfall was near the 6 year average. RFE is an area averaged Rain Fall Estimate from satellite and ground base sources.

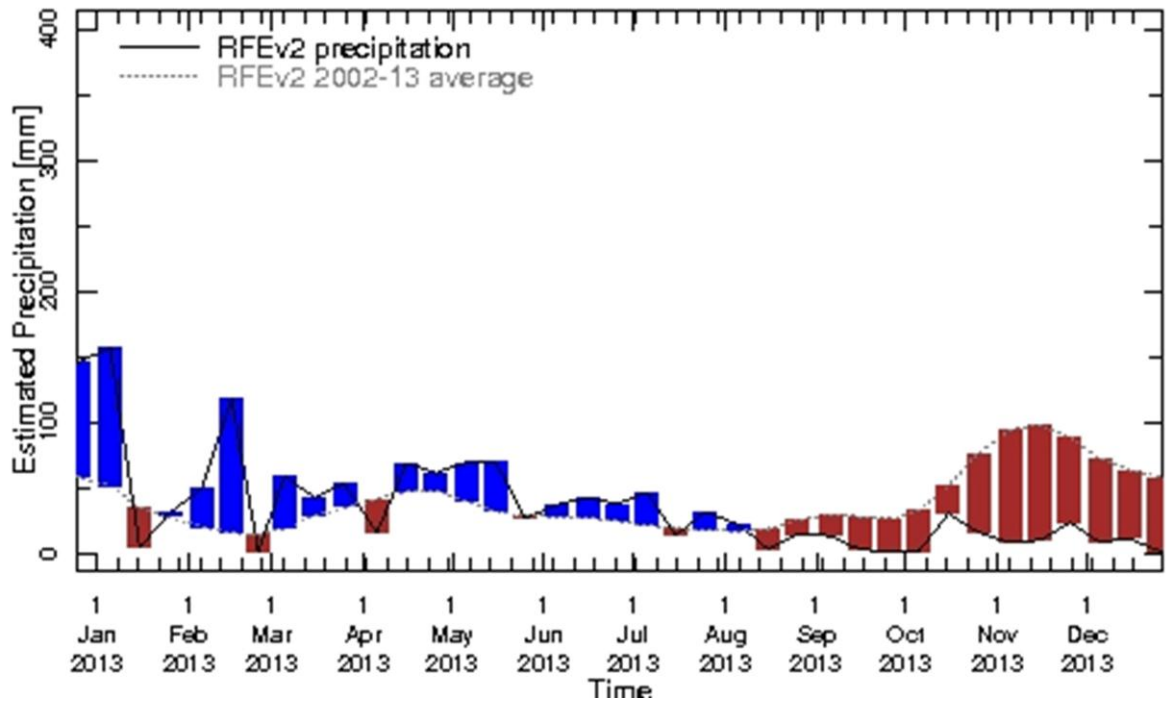


Figure 3: Rainfall for the past 5 years with above-average (compared to the last 8 years) hatched in blue and below normal in brown.

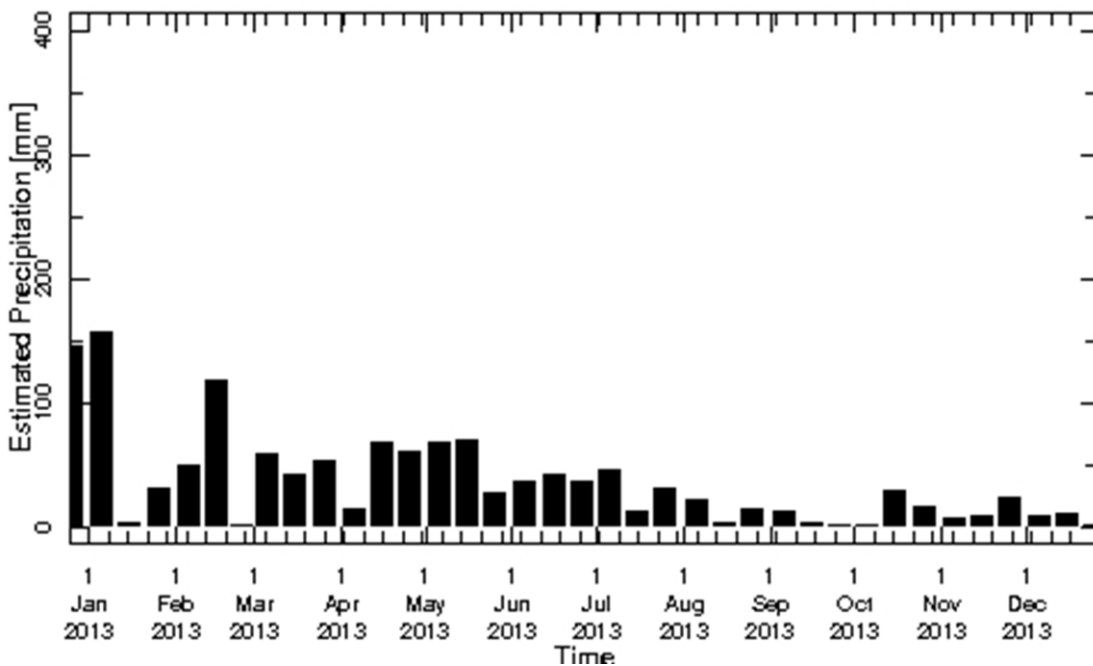
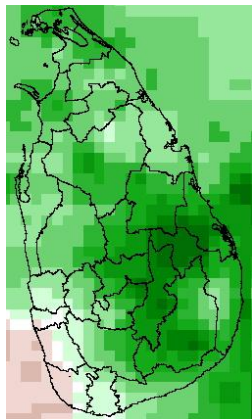


Figure 4: Monthly estimated precipitation in 2013

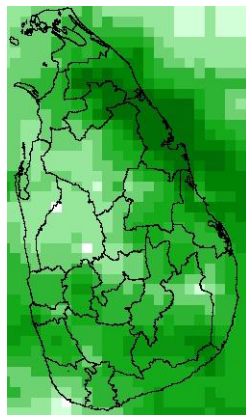
Monthly Anomalies of Rainfall during 2013

Prepared by the staff of FECT

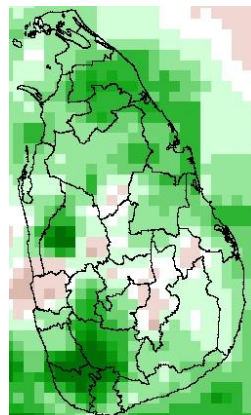
January



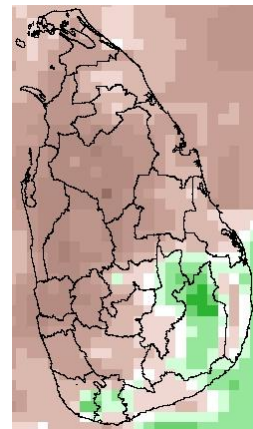
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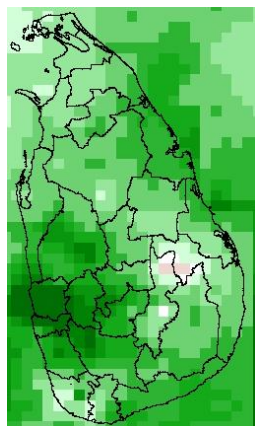
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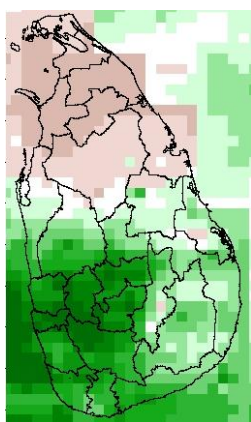
April



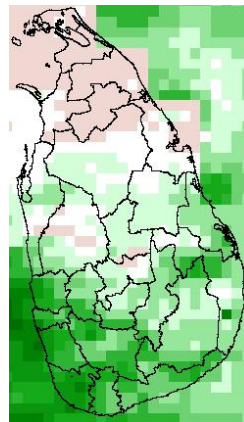
May



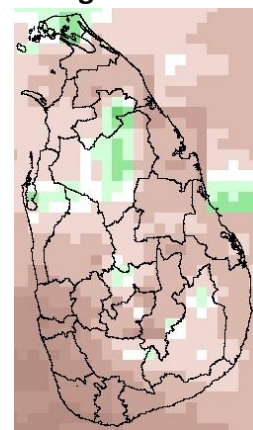
June



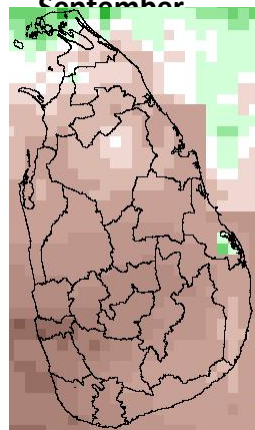
July



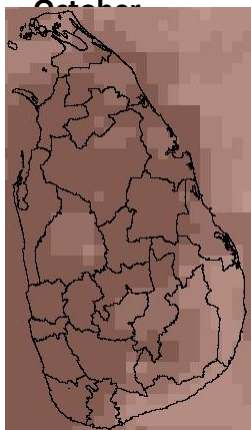
August



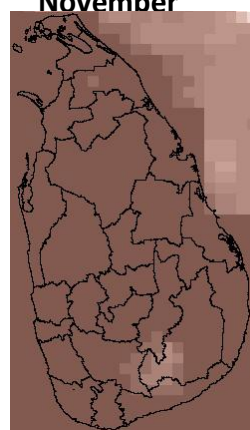
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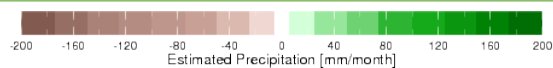
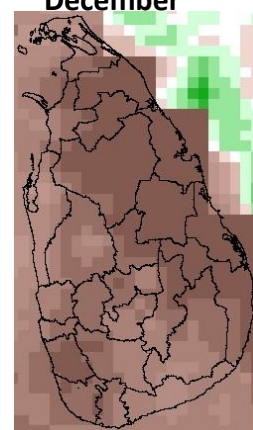
October



November

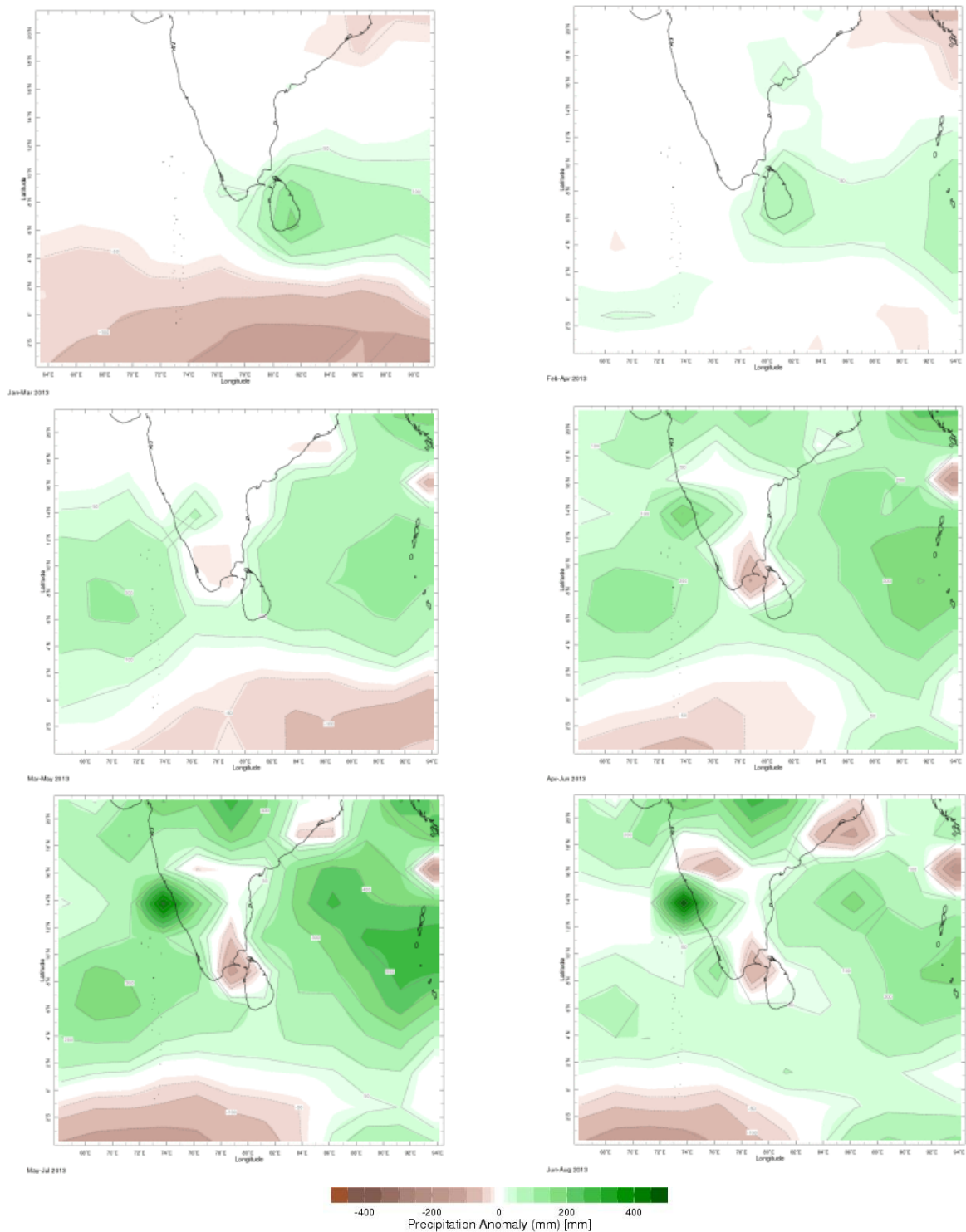


December



Anomalies of Rainfall from the Average over the previous 10 years from January to December of 2013. Data obtained from NOAA CPC via IRI. Previous work at FECT has shown correspondence between ground observations and satellite estimates.

C) *Quarterly Rainfall Anomaly in 2013*



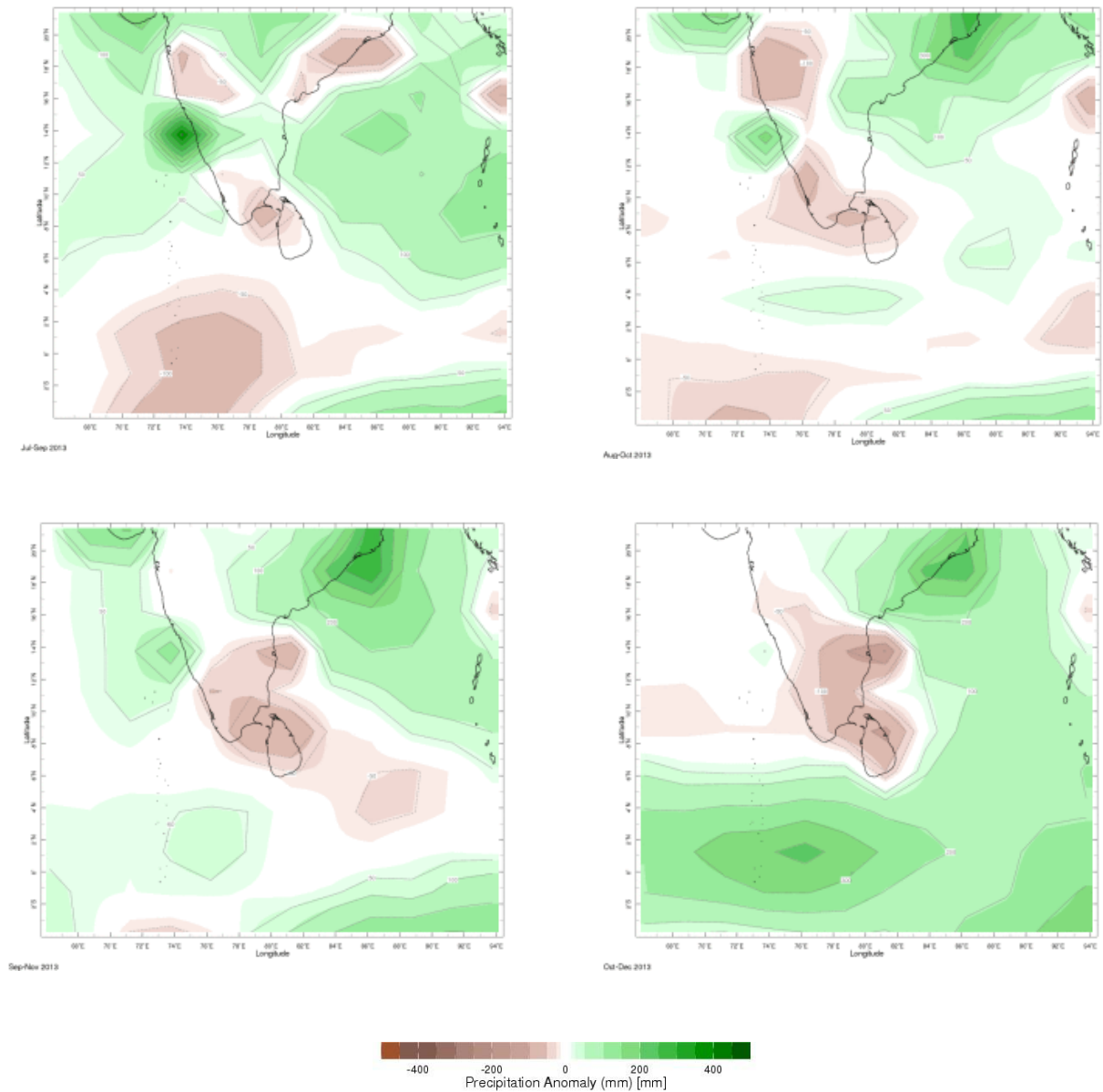


figure 6: Seasonal Precipitation Anomaly in 2013 over Southern Peninsular India, Maldives and Sri Lanka, Data obtained from NOAA CPC.