

SOME FEATURES OF THE DIFFERENT RAINFALL
REGIMES IN THE AMPARA DISTRICT

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Rainfall data during the 111-year period from 1876 to 1986 in the Ampara district were analysed. This analysis revealed that:

- i. the rainfall during the Yala agricultural season was more variable (cv=37.9%) than that during the Maha agricultural season (cv=28.3%)
- ii. the rainfall during the second intermonsoon period was less variable (cv=35.9%) than that during the first intermonsoon period (cv=58.3%)

A correlation analysis revealed that there was no correlation between (a) the Yala and Maha rainfall ($r=0.17$); (b) the Northeast monsoon and Southwest monsoon rainfall ($r=0.026$) and (c) the first intermonsoon and second intermonsoon rainfall ($r=0.13$).

The Mann-Kendall rank statistic showed that the rainfall series, except that during the first intermonsoon are not random. When the non-random series was subjected to a 'low-pass filter' it was found that all of them exhibited both increasing and decreasing trends during different periods from 1876 to 1986. All of the different rainfall series showed a decreasing trend during the period 1967-1980.

References:

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