Agalega

The island is situated 1000 Km to the North of Mauritius at Latitude 57° S and Longitude 10° 33' E. It is divided into two parts, namely the North and the South islands (Fig 7.4). The North Island is finger-shaped and is about 12 Km long and 1.5 Km wide. The area of this island is 14.4 Km^2. The pear-shaped South island is 6 Km long and 3 Km wide. The area is 10.7 Km^2. Thus, the total area of Agalega comprising these two islands, separated by a shallow sea about 1.7 Km wide called " La Passe ", is about 25 Km^2.

The island is an atoll surrounded by coral reefs closed on the eastern part and opening up to 1 km on the south western point. Both the North and South islands are about 4 m a.m.s.l. The land is generally flat or slightly undulating.

In general, the source of water supply is from shallow dug wells and rainwater harvesting.
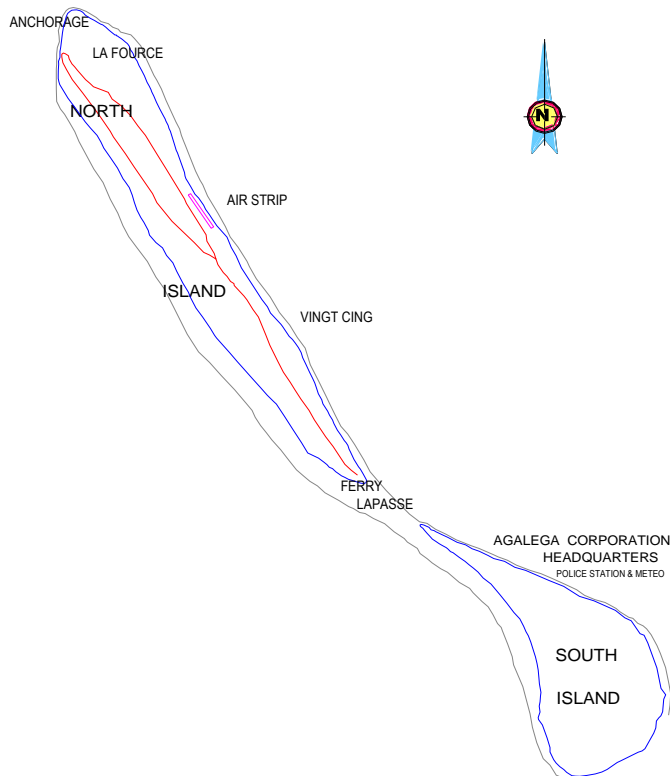

Fig. 7.4 Agalega Island

Precipitation

It rains throughout the year with the driest months being August and September with about 50 to 60 mm of rainfall. The mean annual rainfall is 1600 mm with a mean monthly rainfall ranging from 46 mm to 272 mm. Monthly, annual and long term mean rainfall data for Agalega are provided in Table 7.4.

PERIOD	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YEAR
2001	374	217	180	36	95	88	90	79	97	68	28	12	1364
2002	357	164	178	157	44	59	30	20	28	29	164	495	1725
2003	194	246	211	288	269	86	194	23	24	139	122	201	1997
2004	444	82	364	137	134	52	101	53	24	96	123	111	1721
2005	278	372	181	162	299	54	185	40	63	140	53	166	1993
Long Term Mean 1971-2000	272	251	179	152	102	79	85	61	46	69	110	186	1592

Table 7.4 Monthly Rainfall Data (mm) for 2001-2005