



5R8X

BY ARCALA TEAM



General

- Additional dimension in Arcala operations is working contests from meaningful new locations
 - OX8XX, TF4X
- Key focuses of 5R8X
 - Give a double multiplier in CQWW SSB
 - Serious low band operation especially to serve the US who are in great need of 5R8



5R8 in a nutshell

- Big Island, 587000 km² (bigger than France)
- Capital Antananarivo,
 - 18S, 47E, 1200m ASL
- Population 20M
- GDP 400\$ per capita
- French annexation in 1896, independency 1960
- President Andry Rajoelina, a DJ



The 5R8X HQ

- 5R8FU radio pension
- Fully equipped hamshack
- 5 rooms, full board
- Transportation, paper work



5R8X low band station

- A farm under construction, abt 10km from the HQ
- K3, Alpha 91, MH Digikey 2
- 160m: Inverted $\frac{1}{4}$ wave L with elevated radials on a 18m pole
- 80m: 2x $\frac{1}{4}$ wave verticals with elevated radials on 18m poles with Comtek box
- 40m/30m dual wire vertical with elevated radials
- 200 m beverage



Low Band PileUps

2011 General QSOs 5R8X Continent List										
	160	80	40	20	15	10	30	17	12	ALL
USA calls =	174	462	865	0	0	0	284	0	0	1785
Canada calls =	10	27	47	0	0	0	17	0	0	101
NA calls =	0	1	26	0	0	0	7	0	0	34
SA calls =	0	2	60	0	0	0	23	2	0	87
Euro calls =	150	949	1106	0	0	0	1122	563	0	3890
African calls =	1	6	10	0	0	0	8	2	0	27
Asian calls =	6	53	61	0	0	0	47	27	0	194
Japan calls =	0	153	101	0	0	0	145	21	0	420
Ocean calls =	6	4	9	0	0	0	6	11	0	36
Unknown calls =	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total calls =	347	1657	2285	0	0	0	1659	626	0	6574

OH QSOs: 160m 17 (1 SSB), 80m 58 (1 SSB), 40CW 65, 40SSB 35, 30m 60
 SM QSOs: 160m 1, 80m 35, 40CW 21, 30m 22

- Beverage was absolutely crucial for receiving on all low bands
- Thunderstorms caused heavy QRN and breakouts
- Eu is 8000km, US 14-16000km.
- 30/40m were usable throughout the night. Strong signals also from the West Coast
- 80m started to open around 10-11z. Around sunrise good to most of US.
- 160m was a big challenge. Eu was calling, but often difficult to copy. No JA QSOs.
- The last two morning US openings to the US saved the top band game



Antanarivo



Lemurs



5R8X learnings

- Mains supply
- Changing SWR
- Easy to tune GPs
- Beverage
- Food
- Pre shipping

