

CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

October 2017 | Volume IV | ISSUE 5

Announcement

Recent and forecasted conditions suggest some concern over short and long term drought over the north and central Bahamas (particularly central) from November 2017 into early 2018. Conditions over Haiti should also be monitored. There is little concern about drought over the remainder of the Caribbean.

Month at a Glance

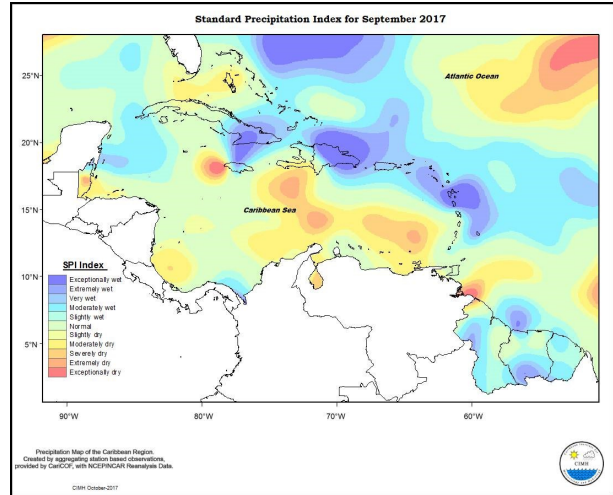
Normal to above normal rainfall was experienced over the islands of the eastern Caribbean for September 2017. Trinidad, Tobago, St. Vincent, and St. Lucia were normal; Grenada slightly wet; Barbados very to extremely wet from south to north; Martinique slight to moderately wet; Dominica and Guadeloupe exceptionally wet; Antigua moderately wet; and St. Kitts very wet. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from moderately dry in the north to extremely wet in southern Suriname and western Guyana. Aruba and Curacao were normal. Conditions in Hispaniola ranged from slight to moderately dry in southern Haiti to exceptionally wet in most of the Dominican Republic; while Jamaica ranged from extremely wet in central areas to severely dry in the west. Grand Cayman was normal. Western Cuba was slightly dry to slightly wet, and eastern areas normal to exceptionally wet. Belize ranged from exceptionally dry in central areas to moderately dry in the south and moderately wet in the north.

Latest News

Please note that this and future bulletins will feature climate forecast information for the subsequent month. Previous issues would have featured climate forecasts for the same month of issue.

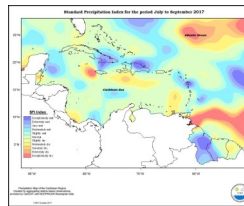
Chapter on Caribbean drought in newly released publication.

<https://www.crcpress.com/Drought-and-Water-Crises-Integrating-Science-Management-and-Policy-Second-Wilhite-Pulwarty/p/book/9781138035645>

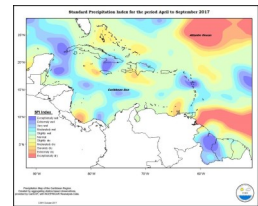


July-August-September

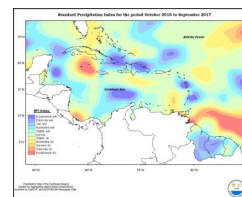
Apart from Trinidad that was slightly wet to moderately dry, the islands of the eastern Caribbean experienced normal to above normal rainfall for the three month period. Tobago, Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia and Martinique were normal; Barbados and Dominica moderate to extremely wet; Guadeloupe extreme to exceptionally wet; Antigua slightly wet; and St. Kitts very wet. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from moderately dry to exceptionally wet in central areas of Guyana to the west into western Suriname. Both Aruba and Curacao were normal. Conditions in Hispaniola ranged from normal in the southwest to exceptionally wet northern Dominican Republic; while Jamaica was moderately wet in central areas to extremely dry in the west. Grand Cayman was normal. Western Cuba was slightly dry to slightly wet, and eastern areas normal to exceptionally wet. In Belize, conditions ranged from exceptionally dry in central areas to normal to the north and south.



JUL - SEP 2017
SPI 3 MONTHS



APR - SEP 2017
SPI 6 MONTHS



OCT 2016 - SEP 2017
SPI 12 MONTHS

The Caribbean Drought & Precipitation Monitoring Network

The Caribbean Drought and Precipitation Monitoring Network was launched in January 2009 under the Caribbean Water Initiative (CARWIN). The goal of CARWIN was to increase the capacity of Caribbean countries to deliver equitable and sustainable Integrated Water resources Management (IWRM).

The concept was born out of the need to mitigate and respond to the creeping phenomenon, drought. Drought and the general precipitation status is monitored at the regional scale. Efforts are being made to enhance drought monitoring at the national level.

The Caribbean Climate Outlook Forum (CariCOF)

The CariCOF brings together climate experts and meteorological services in the Caribbean region on an operational basis to produce a monthly climate outlook. CariCOF interacts with sectoral users to assess the likely implications of the outlooks on the most pertinent socio-economic sectors. The Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH), in its role as WMO Regional Climate Centre, coordinates the CariCOF process. [Read more.....](#)

For more information contact:

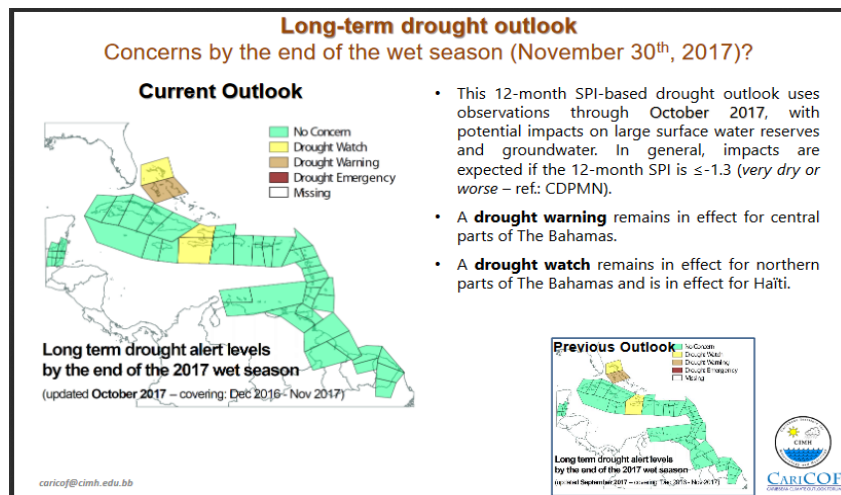
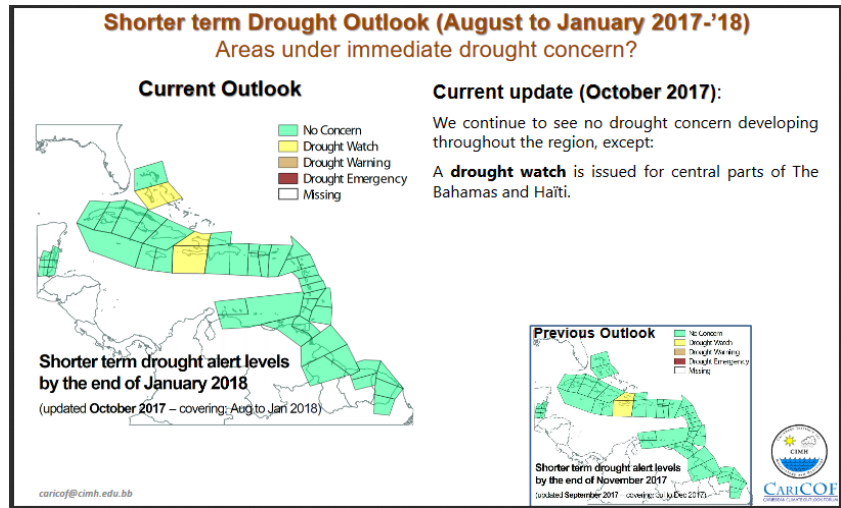
Mr. Adrian Trotman:
atrotman@cimh.edu.bb

Mr. Anthony Moore:
amoore@cimh.edu.bb

Mrs. Lisa Kirton-Reed
lkreed@cimh.edu.bb

Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#)

Drought Outlook for the End of January 2018 CariCOF's Drought Alert Map



Current Drought Situation

- Current drought situation (up to the end of September 2017):**
 - Cayman is under long term drought
 - Short term drought is seen in central Belize and western most portions of Jamaica
 - Short and long term drought have also been developing in southern portions of Haïti
- Shorter term drought situation (by end of January 2018):**
 - Due to a marked rainfall deficit in Haïti in August we expect a shorter term drought situation to possibly remain. Short term drought might also develop in central parts of The Bahamas
- Long term drought situation (by end of November 2017):**
 - Long term drought is evolving in central parts of The Bahamas and will possibly continue in Haïti and possibly develop in N Bahamas.
 - The long term drought situation in Cayman is expected to improve, though the potential long term drought concerns are very few region-wide at this time. We advise all stakeholders to keep monitoring drought and look for our monthly updates.

Drought outlook available for download [here](#)