

# CARIBBEAN AGRO-CLIMATIC BULLETIN OF THE CARISAM



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A joint bulletin of the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) and the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH). As of May 2017, the previous monthly CAMI bulletin transitions into the Caribbean Agro-Climatic Bulletin of the CariSAM.

## KEY MESSAGES

As the region approaches the end of its wet season rainfall totals are likely to be normal to below normal across the Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Barbados, the ABC Islands, and the Guianas.

The occurrence of at least three 7-day dry spells could be a reality across the northern Caribbean.

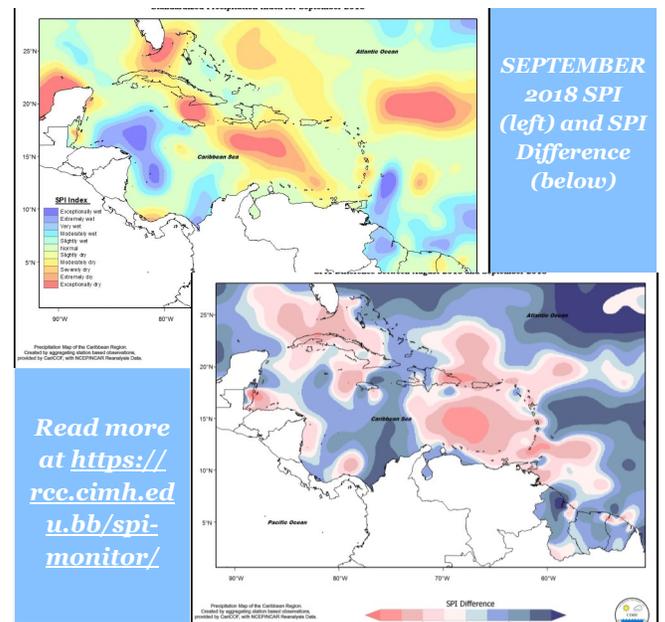
There is no concern for short-term drought (by the end of January) except for the northern portion of The Bahamas and St. Lucia. However, long-term drought may be of concern for northern Belize by the end of the wet season.

## SEPTEMBER IN REVIEW

Apart from Barbados that was moderate to exceptionally wet, and Trinidad that was normal to moderately wet, rainfall totals in the islands of the eastern Caribbean were normal to below normal. Tobago was moderately dry to normal from west to east; Grenada slightly dry; St. Vincent severely dry; St. Lucia normal to moderately dry; Martinique moderate to severely dry; Dominica normal; Guadeloupe slightly dry; and Antigua, St. Kitts, Anguilla and St. Maarten normal. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from extremely wet in northern portions of Guyana to moderately dry in the vicinity of the northern French Guiana/Suriname border. Aruba was slightly dry

Puerto Rico was normal to slightly dry, while Hispaniola ranged from normal in the northwest to moderately dry in the east and south. Conditions in Jamaica ranged from normal in the south to exceptionally dry in the north, but Grand Cayman was moderately wet. Conditions in Cuba ranged from normal in the west and east to exceptionally dry in the southeast and severely dry in the northwest, while northern Bahamas ranged from normal to extremely dry. Belize ranged from moderately wet in the west to extremely dry in the

The month of September was predominantly drier than August across most of region.



## AGRI-NEWS

Fisheries Ministers approve climate change protocol for the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) Member States. Read more <https://www.caricom.org/media-center/communications/news-from-the-community/fisheries-ministers-approve-climate-change-protocol-for-crfm-member-states-1>

The Inter-American Institute for the Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) is ready to strengthen the development of food production in Barbados. Read more <https://caribbeannewsservice.com/now/iica-ready-to-strengthen-the-development-of-food-production-in-barbados/>

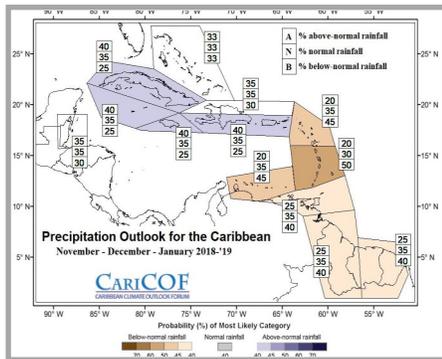
## ABOUT CariSAM

The Caribbean Society for Agricultural Meteorology (CariSAM) is an online platform that hosts forums, provided online weather and climate information for agro-meteorologists, and much more. Agricultural interests can register and access relevant information and be a part of future capacity building exercises, and more. Visit us at: [www.carisam.cimh.edu.bb](http://www.carisam.cimh.edu.bb)

**REGIONAL OUTLOOKS**

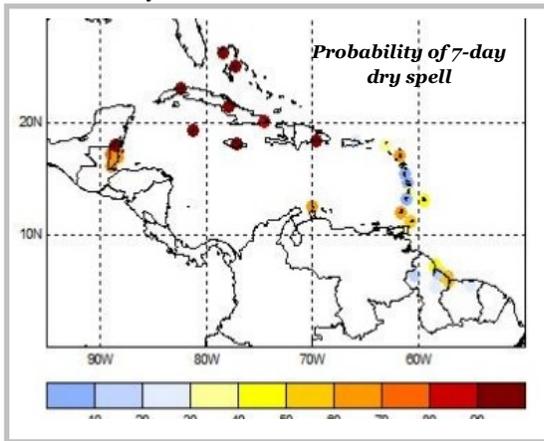
**RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE (NOVEMBER TO JANUARY)**

Rainfall totals are likely to be normal to below normal across the Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, Barbados, the ABC Islands, and the Guianas but normal to above normal elsewhere (except for northern Hispaniola, Belize and the Bahamas where there is greater uncertainty).

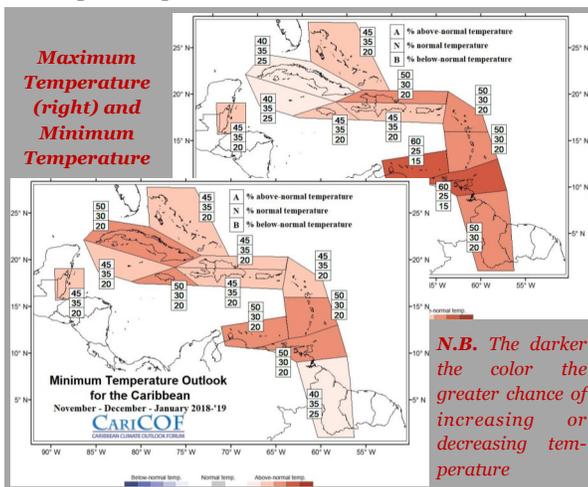


There is also the chance of slightly fewer wet days across the region.

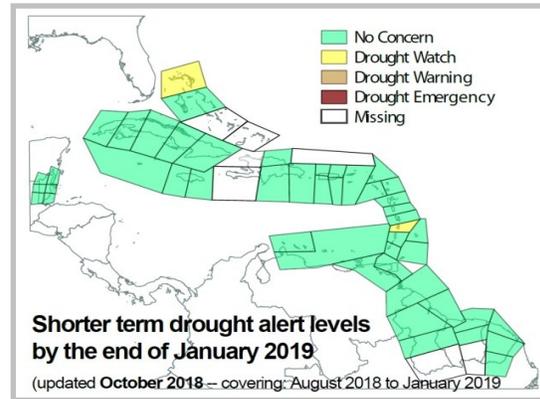
There is a favourable chance of territories across the northern and western Caribbean receiving at least three 7-day dry spells during November to January.



Day and night time temperatures are likely to be normal to above normal across the region. Even though this period is usually cooler than the rest of the year, the likelihood of increasing temperatures could still impact crops and livestock.



**DROUGHT**



There is currently no short-term (by the end of January) drought concern with the exception of the northern portion of The Bahamas and St. Lucia.

By the end of the wet season, long-term drought may be of concern across northern Belize.

Visit <https://rcc.cimh.edu.bb/long-range-forecasts/caricof-climate-outlooks/>.

**CLIMATE-SMART ADVISORIES**

Measures may have to be put in place to provide supplemental water for crops as the region enters into its dry season, especially in territories where rainfall totals may be normal to below normal (in particular the western Caribbean)

Also, increasing dry spells (along with increasing day and night time temperatures) may also be of concern at critical growing phases of crops, farmers should ensure that irrigation and water conservation techniques are employed.



Adequate/increased shading and water may be required for livestock.

**Disclaimer**

The information contained herein is provided with the understanding that the CARDI, and the CIMH make no warranties, either expressed or implied concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability or suitability of said information. This bulletin provides a broad overview of climate conditions up to 6 months in advance. It is recommended that stakeholders should use this information in combination with nearer term weather forecasts to guide operational decision making. The bulletin may be freely used by the public with appropriate acknowledgement of its source but shall not be modified in content and then presented as original material.

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