

CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

December 2019 | Volume V I | ISSUE 7

Announcement

As the region enters the 2019-2020 dry season, rainfall is expected to decline, with parts of the region already suffering drought conditions in recent months feeling effects from long term drought by the end of the dry season. These would include Barbados, Belize and Cayman Islands. This is despite the eastern parts of the region likely having above normal rainfall during the first half of the season. Much of the region should monitor conditions as there is some chance that long term drought impacts can be felt in other parts of the region.

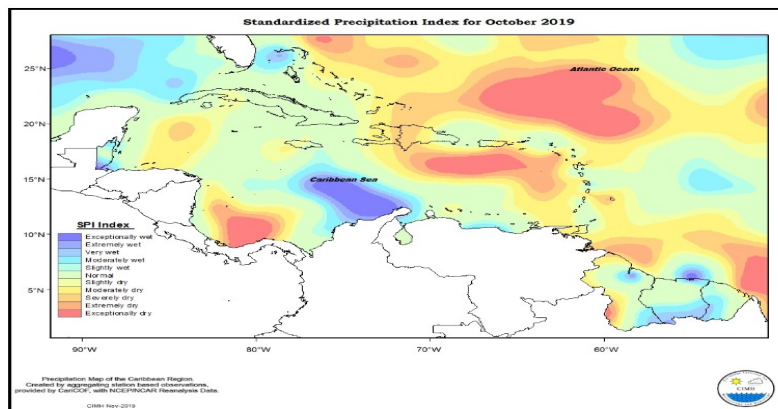
Month at a Glance

The islands of the eastern Caribbean were predominantly normal to below normal for the month of October, with the exception of a few areas that were slightly wet. Trinidad, St. Lucia and Guadeloupe ranged from normal to moderately dry; Tobago, Dominica and Anguilla normal to slightly wet; Grenada and St. Thomas slightly dry; Barbados moderate to severely dry; St Vincent and Antigua normal to slightly dry; Martinique from slightly wet in the south to moderately dry in the north;; St Kitts severely dry; St Maarten normal;; And St Croix moderately dry. In the Guianas, conditions were mainly normal to extremely wet, with the exception of the northern part of Guyana which was slight to severely dry, the west and south west of Guyana that ranged from slight to exceptionally dry, and north east French Guiana which was slight to moderately dry. Curacao was slightly dry. Conditions in Puerto Rico ranged from normal in the west to severely dry in the extreme south east. Conditions in Hispaniola ranged from normal in the east and extreme west to severely dry around the Haiti/Dominican Republic border. Jamaica was normal to slightly dry from east to west, while Grand Cayman was normal.

[Read More;](#)

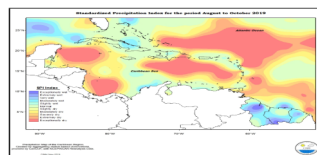
Latest News

Jamaica Met service Director reports, Drought is over ! Fair rainfall projected into 2020, Read more; <http://jamaica-gleaner.com/article/lead-stories/20191102/drought-over-fair-rainfall-projected-2020>

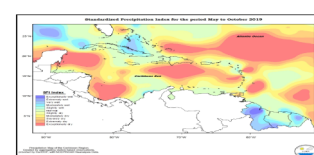


August-September-October

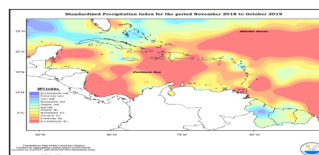
Rainfall in the eastern Caribbean over the three month period was predominantly normal to below normal, with the exception of Guadeloupe that ranged from slightly wet to extremely dry from west to east. Trinidad and Martinique were normal to severely dry; Tobago and St Kitts normal to slightly dry; Grenada slightly dry; St Vincent moderate to severely dry from south to north; Barbados exceptionally dry; St Lucia normal to moderately dry from north to south; Dominica slightly wet in the north to moderately dry in the south; Antigua, Anguilla, St Maarten; St Croix and St. Thomas normal. Conditions in the Guianas were primarily normal to exceptionally wet, with the exception of northern part of Guyana which was slightly dry. Curacao was normal to slightly dry. Puerto Rico was predominantly normal with the exception of the extreme south west which was slightly dry. In Hispaniola, conditions ranged from slightly wet at the northern Haiti/Dominican Republic border to slightly dry in the extreme southwest of Haiti and to exceptionally dry in southeast Dominican Republic. In Jamaica, conditions were normal in the east to moderately dry in the extreme northwest, but Grand Cayman extreme to exceptionally dry from east to west. With the exception of west central areas that were slight to moderately dry, conditions in Cuba were normal to very wet in the west and normal to moderately wet in the east. Northern Bahamas ranged from normal to moderately wet. In Belize, conditions ranged from extremely dry in central areas to normal in the north and south.



AUG 2019- OCT 2019
SPI 3 MONTHS



MAY 2019- OCT 2019
SPI 6 MONTHS



NOV 2018- OCT 2019
SPI 12 MONTHS

The Caribbean Drought & Precipitation Monitoring Network

The Caribbean Drought and Precipitation Monitoring Network is led by the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH), the World Meteorological Organization's Regional Climate Centre (RCC) for the Caribbean. The Network was launched in January 2009 under the Caribbean Water Initiative ([CARWIN](#)) to support equitable and sustainable Integrated Water Resources Management.

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.....](#)

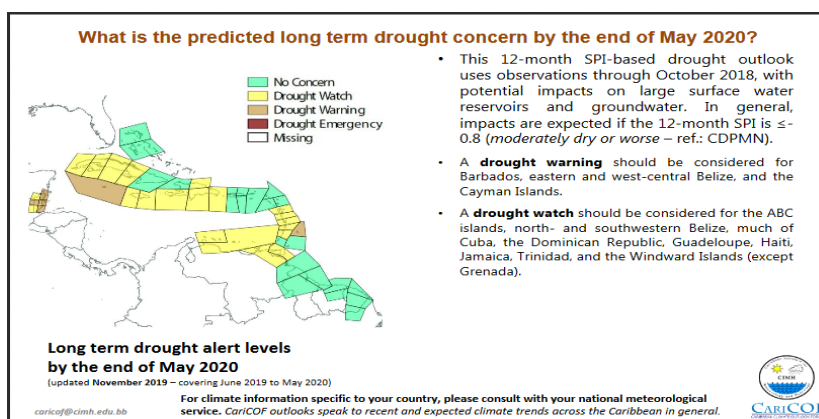
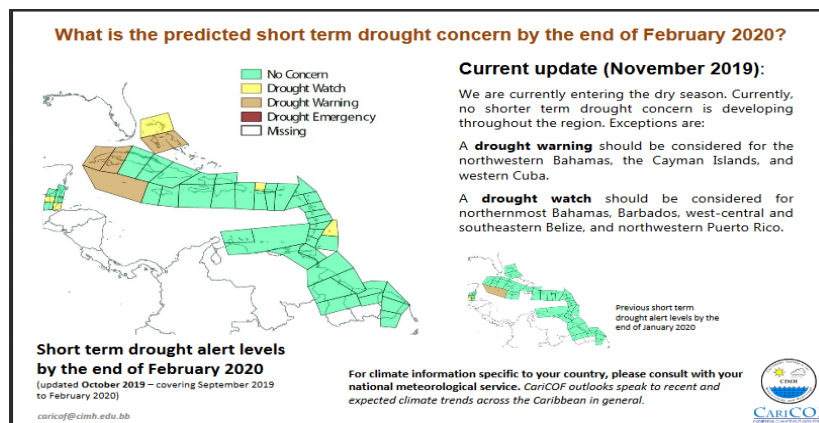
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Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#)

Drought Outlook for the End of February 2020 CariCOF's Drought Alert Map



Current Drought Situation

- **Current drought situation (up to the end of October 2019):**
 - Severe (or worse) shorter term drought has developed in Barbados, eastern Hispaniola, St Vincent, Trinidad.
 - Severe (or worse) long term drought has developed in Aruba, Barbados, Cayman, Eastern Cuba, eastern, southern and western most Hispaniola, Martinique, western Puerto Rico, St Barth, St Thomas, Trinidad.
- **Shorter term drought situation (by end of February 2020):**
 - Shorter term drought is evolving in NW Bahamas, Cayman Isls and western Cuba.
 - Shorter term drought might possibly continue in the northernmost Bahamas, Barbados, West-central and southeastern Belize and northwestern Puerto Rico.
- **Long term drought situation (by end of May 2020):**
 - Long term drought is evolving in Barbados, eastern and west-central Belize and the Cayman Isls.
 - Long term drought might possibly develop or continue in the ABC islands, NW and SW Belize, much of Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Guadeloupe, Haiti, Jamaica, Trinidad, And the windwards (except Grenada).
 - Areas ending up in long term drought may experience significantly reduced water levels in large reservoirs, large rivers and groundwater during the upcoming dry season.

We advise all stakeholders to keep monitoring drought and look for our monthly updates.

Drought outlook available for download [here](#)