



December 2013

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**There is a 65 to 70% likelihood of normal to above normal rainfall accumulations across Barbados and the Windward Islands between December, 2013 and February 2014**

## December Outlook

The graphic from the CIMH suggests that there is a 65 to 70% likelihood of normal to above normal rainfall accumulations across Barbados and the Windward Islands between December and February, 2014. For Grantley Adams Int'l Airport the 'normal' rainfall range would occur between 165.7 and 226mm. Above normal rainfall values would exceed 226mm.

As the northern hemisphere's pattern of winter weather approaches, the frequent movement of a number of deep-layered low pressure systems over the northern Atlantic may result in above-normal swells and deteriorating sea-conditions across the eastern Caribbean from time to time. In addition, a number of westward-moving surface troughs on the southern side of the Atlantic High pressure ridge will generate mostly trade wind showers here in the island chain.

## November Synopsis

Only one storm, Melissa, formed over the Atlantic in November to bring a relatively quiet end to the 2013 Atlantic Hurricane Season. As a result, the Season concluded with a total of thirteen named storms; only two of these reached the minimum Category 1 hurricane status.

## November Wind Report

The high pressure ridge was particularly dominant over two 5 to 6-day spells when wind-speeds varied between 15 and 20 knots; these were respectively from 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> and again between 24<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> November.

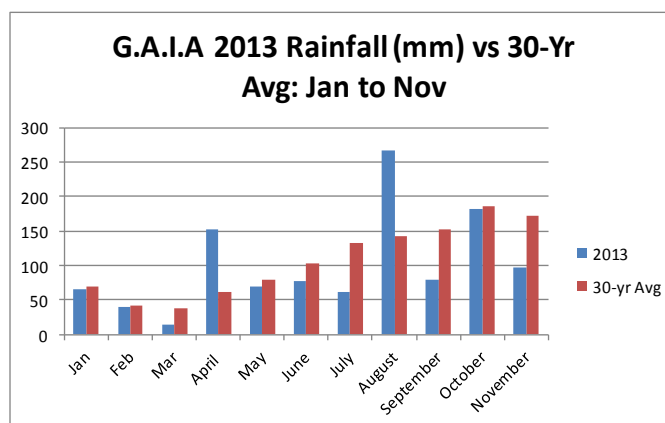
## November Rainfall Report

Grantley Adams Airport recorded a total of just 96.2 mm for November or 56% of the long-term

November 2013--- G.A.I.A

November Rainfall	Actual (2013)	Normal (1981-2010)
Rainfall Total (mm)	96.2	171.6
Rain Days ( $\geq 1.0$ mm)	10	14
<b>Highest November Rainfall (1942-2012): 513.1 mm (1991)</b>		
<b>Lowest November Rainfall (1942-2012): 27.4mm (1998)</b>		

2013 G.A.I.A Rainfall (mm)



normal of 171.4mm over a period of ten rain days (rainfall  $\geq 1$ mm). Golden Ridge in St. George experienced slightly better with a total of 128.2mm over sixteen rain days. There were, however, four significant rain-events at the Airport when rain days were over 10mm. These occurred 1<sup>st</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> November. Meanwhile, Barbados' cumulative rainfall total up to the end November at the Airport reached 1108.9mm. (43.71inches) or 24.0mm (25.4mm=1 inch) more than for the same period last year. In comparison, the 1981-2010 average cumulative total up to the end of November is 1180.59mm (46.48inches) rainfall.

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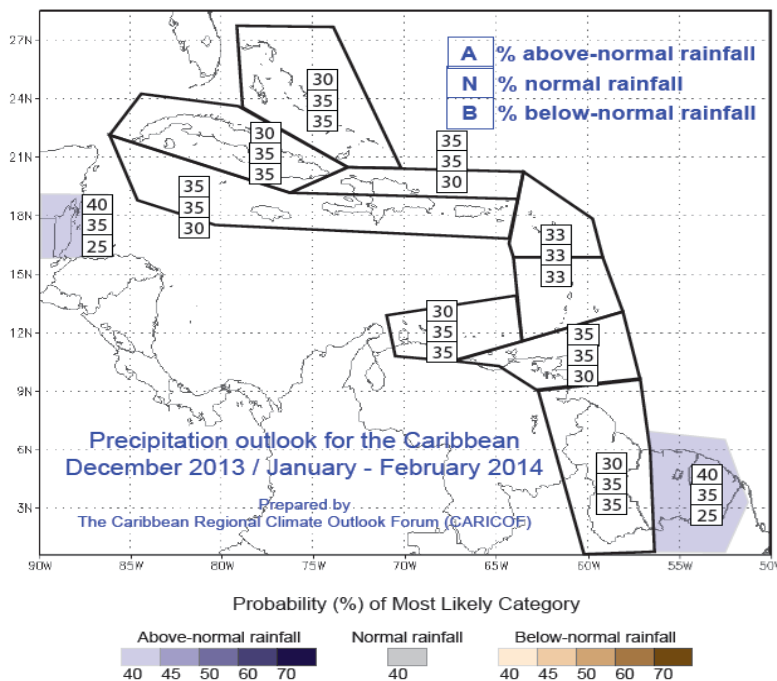
November Temperatures	Actual (2013)	Normal (1981-2010)
Avg, Air Temp (°C) (day)	28.2	27.0
Avg, Air Temp (°C) (night)	26.2	
Avg. Max Temp (°C)	29.9	30.2
Avg Min Temp (°C)	24.9	23.9
Avg Relative Humidity (%)	77	83
Highest Max Temp(°C)	30.7	32.4 (2007)
Lowest Min Temp (°C)	22.2	18.5 (1985)

### November Temperature Report

There were fifteen days on which the maximum temperature exceeded the long-term average (1981 to 2010) maximum temperature of 30.2°C. The lowest minimum of 22.2°C was recorded on November 20th.

November Rainfall	Normal (1981-2010)	
Rainfall Total (mm)	89.6	
Rain Days (>=1.0mm)	12 days	
<b>Highest December Rainfall (1942-2012): 327.9 mm (1998)</b>		
<b>Lowest December Rainfall (1942-2012): 13.3mm (2009)</b>		

December Normal 1981-2010 – G.A.I.A	
Parameter	
Avg, Air Temp (°C) (day)	26.4
Avg Wind-Speed (km/hr)	18
Avg. Max Temp (°C)	29.5
Avg Min Temp (°C)	23.2
Avg Humidity (%)	79
Highest Max Temp(°C)	31.3 (2012)
Lowest Min Temp (°C)	17.0 (1973)



### Recommendations for the Period

We have now completed one full year of this publication. We have consistently included monthly rainfall data and day and night temperatures, both actual and 30yr average. These various forms of data along with the CIMH 3 month Precipitation Outlook should form a good resource in planning your production. From your experience you would be able to identify when various crops do well for you, when this is combined with the data it would give you an understanding of why and allow you to use this information to forecast outcomes which could lead to greater profitability as you plan how to mitigate the conditions that would hinder a planned crop or better use conditions that help a crop.

These historical information resources will remain available on the website for you convenience and use.

### Disclaimer

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