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## Agro-meteorological Bulletin and Assessment for Farmers and Livestock Producers of Trinidad and Tobago for the Third dekad (21<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>) of July 2015

### Definitions used in the forecast and bulletin:

<b>Term</b>		<b>Meaning</b>
<b>Dekad</b>		10 day rainfall measuring period
<b>Rain Day</b>		A day with 1.0 mm or more of rainfall amount
<b>Wet Day</b>		A day with 10.0 mm or more of rainfall amount
<b>Extremely Wet Day</b>		A day with 25.0 mm or more of rainfall amount
<b>Normal Rainfall</b>		Between 75% and 125 % of the average
<b>Below Normal Rainfall</b>		Rainfall below 75% of the average
<b>Above Normal Rainfall</b>		Rainfall in excess of 125 % of the average
<b>Much below Normal Rainfall</b>		Rainfall below 50% of the average
<b>Much above Normal Rainfall</b>		Rainfall above 150% of the average
<b>Scanty Rainfall</b>		Less than 1 mm
<b>Moderate Rainfall</b>		1-10 mm
<b>Heavy Rainfall</b>		10-50 mm
<b>Very heavy Rainfall</b>		Greater than 50 mm
<b>Probability of 1-30 %</b>		Low Chance
<b>Probability of 30-70 %</b>		Moderate Chance
<b>Probability greater than 70%</b>		High Chance
<b>Term</b>	<b>Amount of Rain</b>	<b>Type of day</b>
<b>Scanty Rainfall</b>	Less than 1 mm	Relatively dry day
<b>Moderate Rainfall</b>	1-10 mm	Relatively wet day
<b>Heavy Rainfall</b>	10-50 mm	Wet day
<b>Very heavy Rainfall</b>	Greater than 50 mm	Excessively wet day

### Weather Assessment for the Second dekad of July (11<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>) 2015

Scanty to heavy rainfall occurred over Trinidad during the second dekad of July, while scanty to moderate rainfall occurred over Tobago. This slightly improved the rain fed water availability to the farming community in Tobago. In Trinidad, rainfall amounts were moderate for most of the dekad with the exception of days six and seven which experienced heavy rainfall.

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The average maximum and minimum temperatures decreased slightly in Trinidad. In Tobago, maximum and minimum temperatures increased slightly. Maximum temperatures peaked at 32.7 °C at Piarco and at 31.8 °C at Crown Point. Rainfall during the period would have slightly improved the agriculture water shortage in Tobago which was experienced during the last few months.

### **Expected Weather for the Third Dekad (21<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>) of July, 2015 and Likely Impact on Agriculture**

The forecast for the third ten days of July shows strong possibilities for weather which will continue to be favourable for rain-fed agriculture with days one to three and five to six experiencing the most rainfall amounts. Overall, there is a 75% chance for the total rainfall of the last ten days to range between 30.0 mm and 100.0 mm across varying districts of the country, with Tobago and parts of north-eastern and north-western Trinidad likely to receive the highest rainfall amounts. However, there is still a small chance (25%) for the total rainfall to be below 10 mm in some parts.

Throughout the dekad, average temperatures are not expected to vary much and to be near 28.0 °C in Trinidad and Tobago. Maximum temperatures are likely to be near 33.0 °C in Trinidad and near 31.5 °C in Tobago. Minimum temperatures are likely to be above 24.0 °C for both Trinidad and Tobago. Average relative humidity values are expected to range between the low seventies (70's) to high eighties (80's) percentage in both island during daylight hours, with higher values during rainfall occurrence. Wind speeds are expected to be a gentle breeze (2 – 5 meters per second) at 2.0 meters from the surface.

During the third dekad, conditions continue to be sufficient to meet crop water requirements. The likely rainfall has the potential to encourage weeds to grow, pest and disease development, top soil erosion and soil saturation. Attention should be given to drainage in areas which may experience soil saturation since crops differ in tolerating and adapting to water logging. Also, water harvesting is strongly encouraged in areas which have not received sustainable amounts of rainfall.

### **Preliminary Rainfall and Temperature Outlook for Ten Days of August 2015**

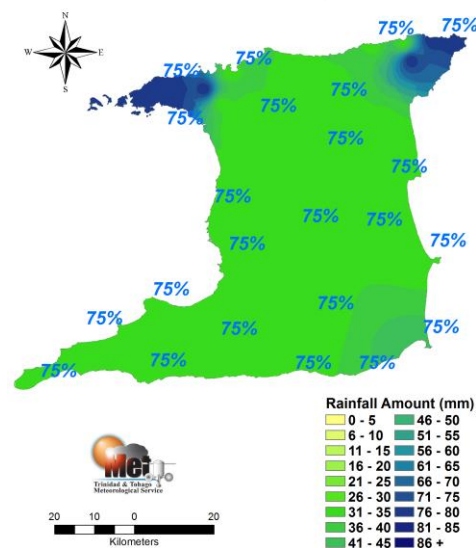
The first dekad of August favour moderate to heavy rainfall for the first five days. Maximum temperatures will vary slightly.

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## Trinidad Rainfall Forecast for the Third Dekad of July (21<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>) 2015

**Percentage Probability Rainfall Map of Trinidad  
Last Dekad of July 2015**



**Figure 1. Rainfall Map of Trinidad showing expected mean rainfall totals for districts across Trinidad during the third ten days of July 2015 and percentage probability of occurrence.**

### **Eastern and North-Eastern areas**

High chance (75 %) of mean daily rainfall up to 7.5 mm.

### **South-Eastern areas**

High chance (75 %) of mean daily rainfall up to 4.0 mm.

### **Southern areas**

High chance (75 %) of mean daily rainfall up to 3.0 mm.

### **South-Western areas**

High chance (75%) of mean daily rainfall up to 3.0 mm.

### **Northern, North-Western areas**

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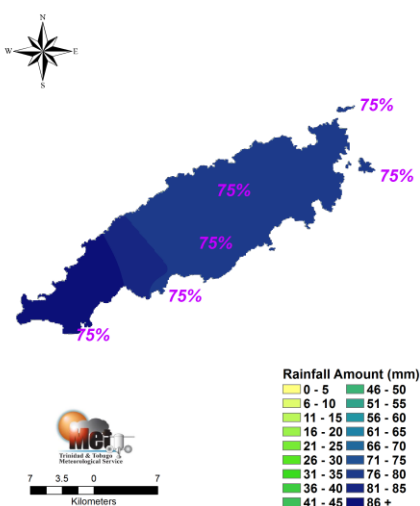
High chance (75 %) of mean daily rainfall up to 7.5 mm.

### **Central, West-Central and inland areas**

High chance (75 %) of mean daily rainfall up to 3.0 mm.

## **Tobago Rainfall Forecast for the Third Dekad of July (21<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>) 2015**

**Percentage Probability Rainfall Map of Tobago  
Last Dekad of July 2015**



**Figure 2. Rainfall Map of Tobago showing expected mean rainfall totals for districts across Tobago during the third ten days July 2015 and percentage probability of occurrence.**

### **North-Eastern areas**

High chance (75 %) of mean daily rainfall up to 10.0 mm.

### **South-Western areas**

High chance (75%) of mean daily rainfall up to 7.5 mm.

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## Temperatures

### **Trinidad Temperature Forecast for the third dekad of July (21<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>) 2015**

High chance (75 % chance) for above normal mean daily temperatures (warmer than 28.0 °C).

High chance (75 % chance) for the daily maximum temperature to exceed 31.8 °C.

High chance (75 % chance) for the minimum night-time temperature to remain above 24.0 °C.

### **Tobago Temperature Forecast for the third dekad of July (21<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>) 2015**

High chance (75 % chance) for above normal mean daily temperatures (warmer than 28.0 °C).

High chance (75 % chance) for the daily maximum temperatures to exceed 31.0 °C.

High chance (75 % chance) of the minimum night-time temperatures remaining above 24.0 °C.

## **Summary**

The forecast for the third ten days of July shows strong possibilities for weather which will continue to be favourable for rain-fed agriculture with days one to three and five to six experiencing the most rainfall amounts. Overall, there is a 75% chance for the total rainfall of the last ten days to range between 30.0 mm and 100.0 mm across varying districts of the country, with Tobago and parts of north-eastern and north-western Trinidad likely to receive the highest rainfall amounts. However, there is still a small chance (25%) for the total rainfall to be below 10 mm in some parts. Average temperatures are not expected to vary much and to be near 28.0 °C in Trinidad and Tobago. Maximum temperatures are likely to be near 33.0 °C in Trinidad and near 31.5 °C in Tobago. Minimum temperatures are likely to be above 24.0 °C for both Trinidad and Tobago. Attention should be given to drainage in areas which may experience soil saturation since crops differ in tolerating and adapting to water logging. Also, water harvesting is strongly encouraged in areas which have not received sustainable amounts of rainfall.

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