

CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

June 2017 | Volume IV | ISSUE 1

Announcement

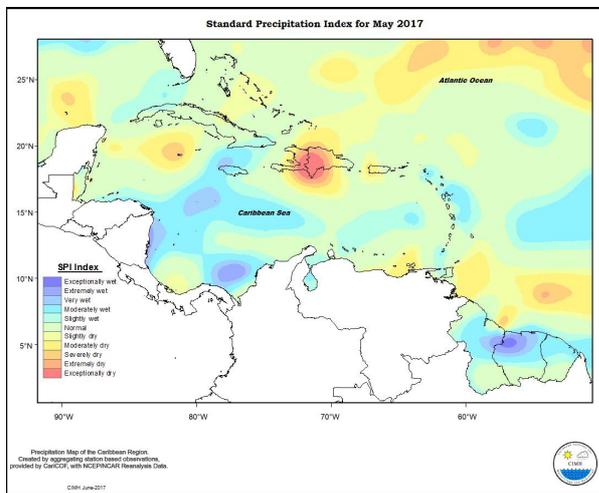
Rainfall amounts continued to increase across parts of the region, reducing short term drought impacts, particularly in the eastern Caribbean and the Guianas, and Jamaica. Rains are expected to continue during June to August, particularly in the Belize, Greater Antilles, the Leeward Islands and Guyana, with little concern over drought, at least until at the end of August. There may still be some need to be watchful regarding impacts from longer term drought that can influence groundwater and large rivers by the end of November in parts of the eastern Caribbean.

Month at a Glance

Apart from Tobago that was slightly dry, the islands of the eastern Caribbean were normal to wet. Trinidad, Barbados, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, St. Croix and St. Thomas were normal; Grenada slight to moderately wet; Martinique normal to slightly wet; Guadeloupe and Anguilla moderately wet; and Antigua, St. Kitts and St. Maarten slightly wet. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from moderately dry in eastern Coastal Guyana to very wet in northwestern Suriname. Aruba was normal while Curacao was slightly wet. Conditions in Puerto Rico ranged from moderately dry in the west to normal in the east, but in the Dominican Republic they ranged from exceptionally dry in the west to normal in the east. Conditions in Jamaica ranged from very wet in the west to slightly wet in the east, but Grand Cayman was severely dry. [Read more...](#)

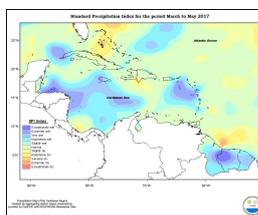
Latest News

Chapter on Drought Risk Management in the Caribbean featured in the latest edition of the book 'Drought and Water Crises: Integrating Science, Management, and Policy.' ([Click here for more information](#))

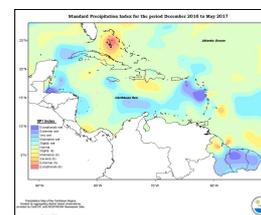


March-April-May Rainfall Summary

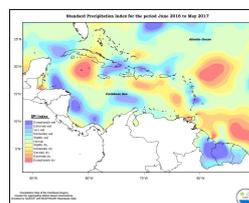
For the three month period, apart from in Trinidad that was normal to slightly dry, rainfall in the islands of the eastern Caribbean was normal to above normal. Tobago, Grenada, Barbados, St. Lucia and St. Kitts were normal; St. Vincent, Anguilla and St. Croix moderately wet; Martinique normal to moderately wet; Dominican moderate to extremely wet; Guadeloupe moderate to very wet; Antigua, St. Thomas and St. Maarten slightly wet. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from moderately dry in eastern Coastal Guyana to very wet in northwestern Suriname. Aruba was normal while Curacao was slightly wet. Conditions in Puerto Rico ranged from normal in the west to moderately wet in the east, while in the Dominican Republic they ranged from moderately dry in the southwest to slightly wet in the north. Conditions in Jamaica ranged from extremely wet in the west to moderately wet in the east, but Grand Cayman was normal. In Cuba, central areas were normal to slightly dry, western areas normal to extremely wet and eastern areas normal to slightly wet. Conditions in Belize ranged from severely dry in the west to moderately wet further north. [Read more...](#)



**MARCH - MAY 2017
SPI 3 MONTHS**



**DEC 2016 - MAY 2017
SPI 6 MONTHS**



**JUNE 2016 - MAY 2017
SPI 12 MONTHS**

The Caribbean Drought & Precipitation and Monitoring Network (CDPMN)

The Caribbean Drought and Precipitation Monitoring Network was launched in January 2009 under the Caribbean Water Initiative (CARIWIN). The goal of CARIWIN 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 in demonstration phase, coordinates the CariCOF process. [Read more...](#)

For more information contact:

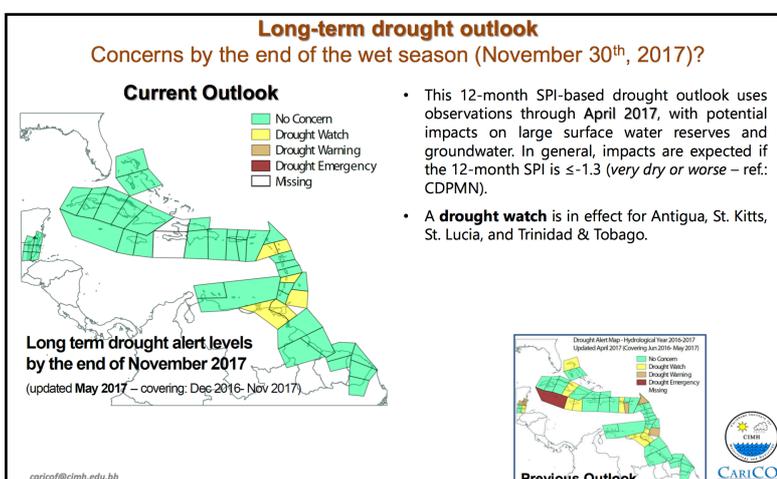
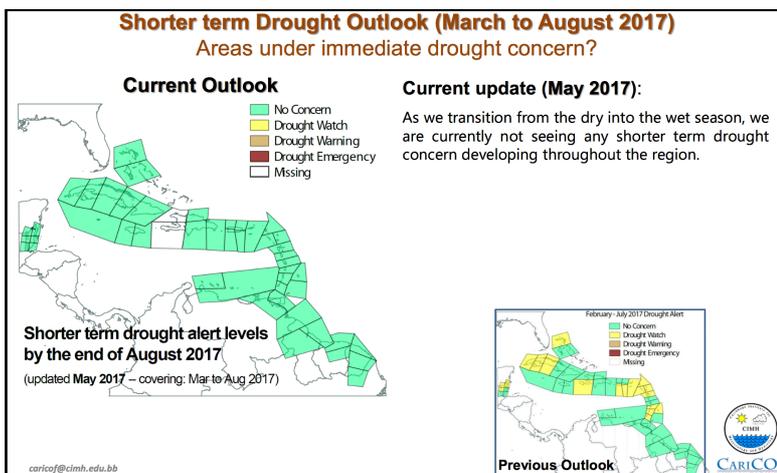
Mr. Adrian Trotman:
[atrotman\(at\)cimh.edu.bb](mailto:atrotman(at)cimh.edu.bb)

Mr. Anthony Moore:
[amoore\(at\)cimh.edu.bb](mailto:amoore(at)cimh.edu.bb)

Dr. Shelly-Ann Cox:
[scox\(at\)cimh.edu.bb](mailto:scox(at)cimh.edu.bb)

Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#) (Click here)

Drought Outlook for the End of August CariCOF's Drought Alert Map



Current Drought Situation

After an exceptionally wet month of April, a substantial improvement in short and mid term drought conditions were seen in Grand Cayman. Nevertheless, it remains in long term drought.

– Some other areas in the Caribbean are also facing short term drought concerns, including N Bahamas, St. Barth's, as well as potentially Belize and Trinidad & Tobago, which are also in long term drought.

• Shorter term drought situation (by the end of August 2017):

– We expect the shorter term drought situation to continue to improve in all areas affected as we are transitioning into the wet season.

• Long term drought situation (by the end of November 2017):

– Long term drought is likely to continue to improve in Cayman and improve in Belize. It remains possible in Trinidad & Tobago, and is also possible in Antigua, St. Kitts and St. Lucia.

– Though the potential long term drought concerns are region-wide at its lowest since at least 2014, we advise all stakeholders to keep monitoring drought and look for our monthly updates.

– One definite reason to keep monitoring the situation is the possibility of an El Niño by August. If a moderate or strong El Niño manifests, that may once again raise drought concerns when we will go into the next dry season by the end of 2017.

[Available for download]