

CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

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Announcement

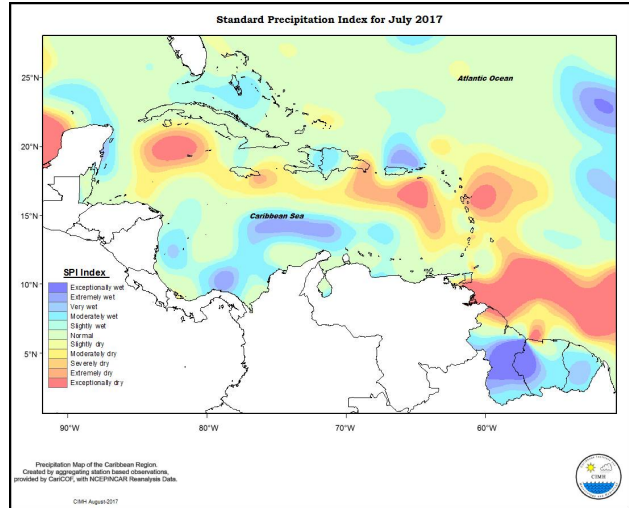
Despite a drier than normal July over many parts of the Caribbean, there is relatively little concern regarding short or long term drought in the region. However, some focus should be placed on Haïti regarding short term drought that can impact streams and small rivers and ponds by the end of October, and on The Bahamas where long term drought may develop by the end of November. Should these countries be impacted, it is possible for these impacts to spill over into the 2017-2018 Dry Season. So conditions should be closely monitored in these two countries.

Month at a Glance

Conditions were predominantly normal to below in the islands of the eastern Caribbean. Conditions in Trinidad ranged from slightly wet in the north to extremely dry in the south; Tobago from severely dry in the west to normal in the east; Grenada, St. Kitts and St. Maarten normal; Barbados slight to moderately dry; St Vincent, Martinique and Antigua moderately dry; St. Lucia from normal in the north to moderately dry in the south; Dominica normal to severely dry; Anguilla slightly wet; St. Croix extremely dry; and St. Thomas moderately wet. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from exceptionally dry to exceptionally wet. Aruba was slightly wet while Curacao was normal. Conditions in Puerto Rico ranged from normal in the south to moderately wet in the north. Conditions in Hispaniola ranged from moderately wet in the regions around the Haiti-Dominican Republic border, to extremely dry in the east and normal to slightly dry in the west. In Jamaica conditions ranged from normal in the west to severely dry in the east, while Cuba was predominantly normal.

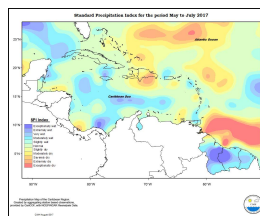
Latest News

Cornell atmospheric scientists have developed the first-of-its-kind, high-resolution Caribbean drought atlas, with data going back to 1950...[read more](#)

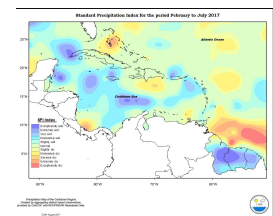


May - June - July Rainfall Summary

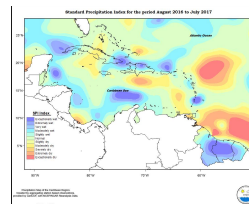
For the three month period, normal to above normal rainfall predominated the eastern Caribbean islands. Trinidad was normal in the south to moderately dry in the north; Tobago slight to moderately dry; Grenada, St. Kitts and Anguilla moderately wet; Barbados, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Martinique, Antigua, St. Thomas normal; St. Maarten slightly wet; and St. Croix slightly dry. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from exceptionally dry to exceptionally wet. Aruba was slightly wet, but Curacao normal. Conditions in Puerto Rico ranged from moderately wet in the west to normal in the east; while Hispaniola ranged from normal in the south west to extremely dry in the south east. In Jamaica, conditions ranged from extremely wet in central areas to normal to the east and west. Cuba was predominantly normal but slight to moderately wet conditions were experienced in parts of the west and southeast. Central Belize was normal but conditions ranged to moderately wet to the north and south.



**MAY - JUL 2017
SPI 3 MONTHS**



**FEB - JUL 2017
SPI 6 MONTHS**



**AUG 2016 - JUL 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:

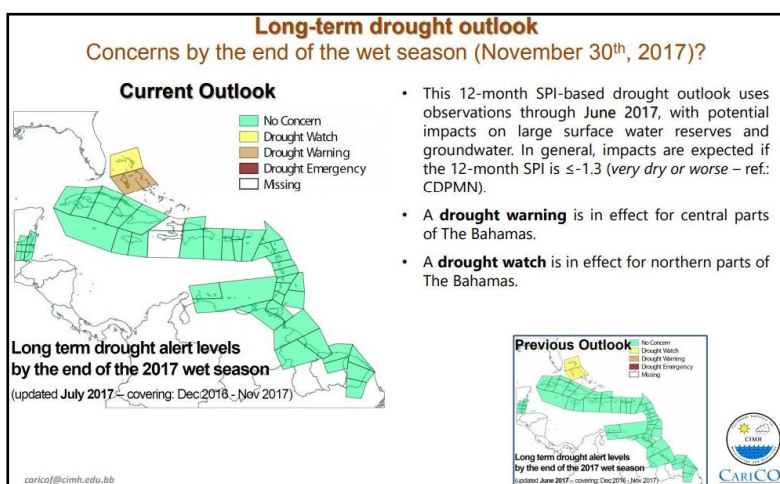
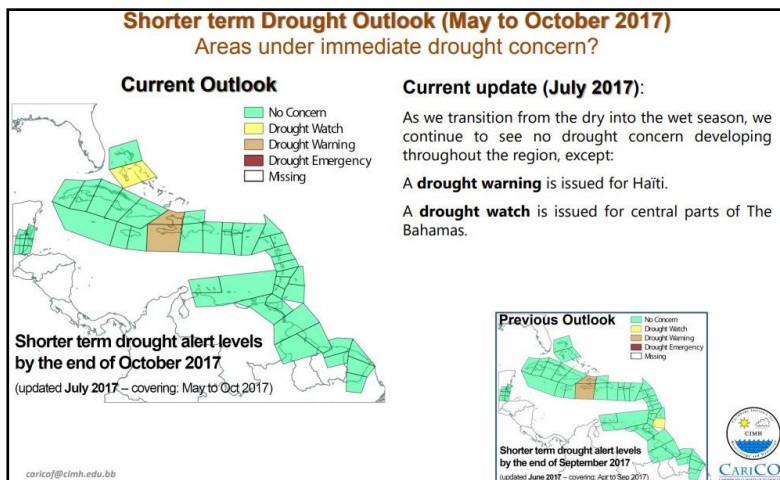
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Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#)

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



Current Drought Situation

Current drought situation (up to the end of June 2017): (more information [here](#))

- Central parts of the Bahamas as well as Turks & Caicos have seen short term and long term drought developing. Short term drought is also seen in central and western Hispaniola.
- An area spanning from the Cayman Islands over central Cuba to central Bahamas, as well as the extreme south and north-west of Belize and the Turks and Caicos Islands are in long-term drought.

Shorter

- Due to a marked rainfall deficit in Haiti in May and June, we expect a shorter term drought situation to evolve there by the end of October 2017. Short term drought might also persist in central parts of the Bahamas.

Long

- Long term drought is evolving in central parts of the Bahamas and will possibly develop in N. Bahamas.
- Though the potential long term drought concerns are very few region-wide at this time, 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 developing this year (with a chance of 35%). If a strong enough El Niño manifests, that may raise drought concerns when we will go into the next dry season by the end of 2017.