

CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

September 2018 | Volume V | ISSUE 4

Announcement

Parts of the Caribbean continued to experience below normal rainfall in July. Concerns over short term drought that can impact cropping, and small rivers and lakes, continues over northwest Belize. Other locations are recommended to monitor water resources for short term drought. Such locations include northeast Belize, Cayman Islands, Jamaica, Haiti south-western Puerto Rico, Dominica and the southern portion of the eastern Caribbean. There is some chance that long term drought, which can impact large water resources and groundwater reserves, can impacts Antigua and Cayman Islands by the end of the wet season. This situation should be monitored.

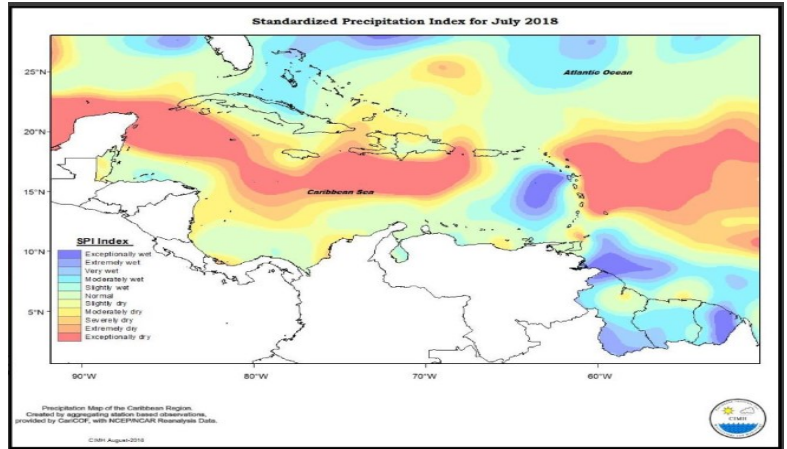
Month at a Glance

Apart from Guadeloupe that ranged from severely dry to moderately wet, normal to below normal rainfall dominated the in the islands of the eastern Caribbean, Trinidad, St. Kitts, and St. Thomas were normal; Tobago was normal to extremely dry; Grenada slightly dry in the south but normal elsewhere; Barbados severe to exceptionally dry; St. Vincent normal; Saint Lucia and Martinique moderate to severely dry; Dominica slight to moderately dry; Antigua moderately dry; St. Maarten slightly dry. Conditions in the Guiana's ranged from moderately dry in northern portions of Guyana and Suriname to exceptionally wet in northern parts of Guyana and eastern French Guiana. Aruba and Curacao were normal. Conditions in Puerto Rico ranged from severely dry in the west to normal in the east; while Hispaniola ranged from exceptionally dry to normal. Jamaica ranged from slight to severely dry, while Grand Cayman was exceptionally dry. Cuba ranged from exceptionally dry in the extreme west to moderately wet in north-central areas, but Belize ranged from normal to moderately dry.

Latest News

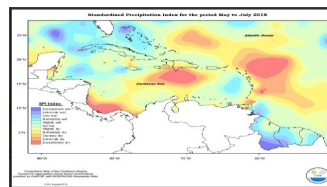
In Jamaica, Government allocates \$30 million to alleviate drought conditions; read more <https://jis.gov.jm/govt-allocates-30-million-to-alleviate-drought-conditions/>

Driest June in over a generation for Antigua, droughts continue; read more; <https://anumetservice.wordpress.com/2018/07/23/driest-june-in-over-a-generation-for-antigua-droughts->

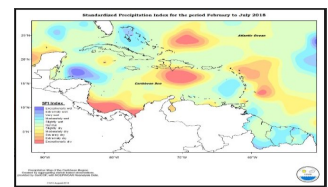


May-June-July

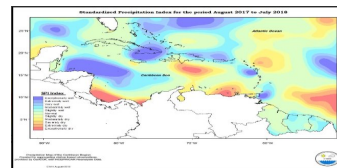
For the three month period, normal to below normal rainfall dominated the islands of the eastern Caribbean. Trinidad was normal to severely dry; Tobago normal to extremely dry; Grenada slight to moderately dry; Barbados extreme to exceptionally dry; St. Vincent normal to slightly dry; Saint Lucia normal to severely dry; Martinique normal to slightly dry; Dominica normal to slightly dry; Guadeloupe normal to moderately dry; Antigua moderate to severely dry; St. Kitts normal; St. Maarten and St. Thomas moderately dry. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from slightly dry in Georgetown Guyana to exceptionally wet in southern Guyana. Aruba was moderately dry while Curacao was normal. Puerto Rico was predominantly normal, but Hispaniola ranged from extremely dry in the south to normal in the north. Conditions in Jamaica ranged from moderately dry in the north-west to moderately wet in the west and slightly wet in the east; but Grand Cayman was slightly dry. In Cuba, conditions ranged from predominantly normal in the eastern two thirds to very wet in the extreme west; but contrastingly, Belize ranged from normal in the southeast to extremely dry to the north.



MAY 2018- JULY 2018
SPI 3 MONTHS



FEB 2018- JULY 2018
SPI 6 MONTHS



AUG 2017- JULY 2018
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.....](#)

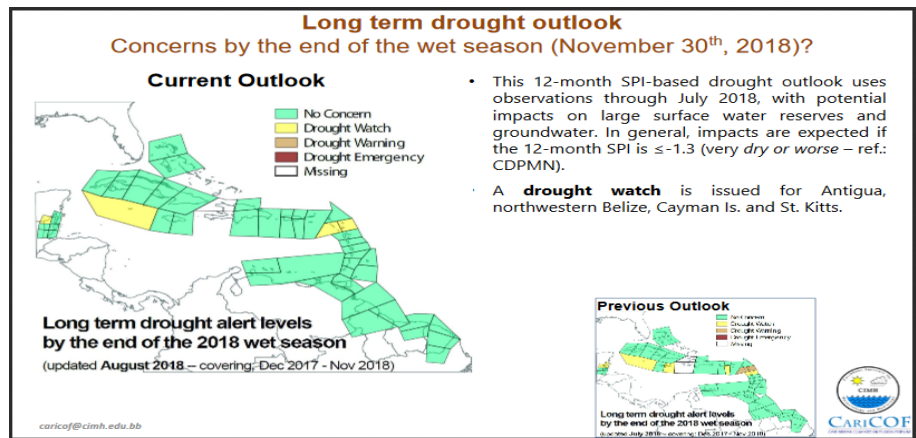
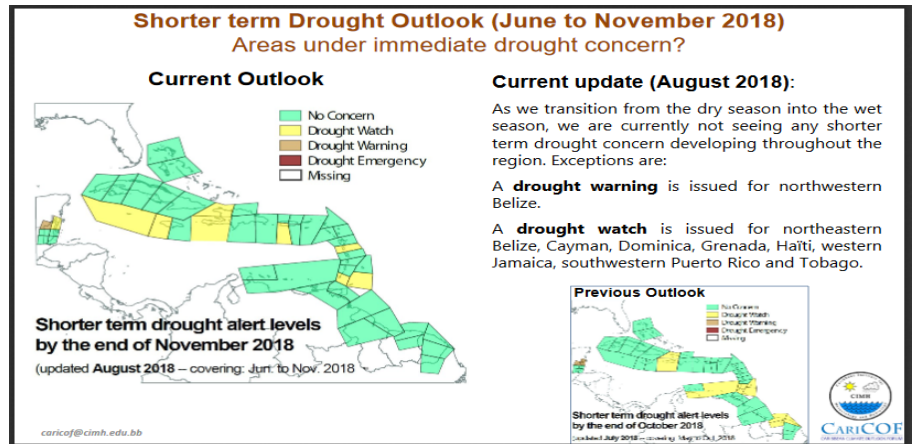
For more information contact:

Mr. Adrian Trotman:
atrotman@cimh.edu.bb

Mrs. Lisa Kirton-Reed
lkreed@cimh.edu.bb

Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#)

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



Current Drought Situation

- **Current drought situation (up to the end of July 2018):**
 - In parts of Barbados and the Leewards, as well as in southern-most Hispaniola The period may to July has been severely dry or worse, meaning short term Drought has manifested there.
 - Long-term drought conditions are seen in Antigua

Shorter term drought situation (by end of November 2018):

- Shorter term drought is evolving in north-western Belize and might possibly develop in north-eastern Belize, Cayman, Dominica, Grenada, Haiti, western Jamaica, South-western Puerto Rico and Tobago.
- **Long term drought situation (by end of November 2018)**
 - Long term drought might possibly develop in Antigua, northwestern Belize, Cayman Is and St. Kitts.

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

Drought outlook available for download [here](#)