

CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

August 2019 | Volume V | | ISSUE 3

Announcement

Rainfall will continue to increase across the region augmenting water resources. It is likely that parts of Belize, particularly in the northwest, can still have concerns over short term drought that can impact agricultural production and small rivers, streams and ponds. With rainfall deficits still possible despite the increasing rainfall, concerns exist for parts of the eastern Caribbean and Belize over long term drought that can impact rivers and reservoirs by the end of the wet season at the end of November. This raises some initial concerns over water availability entering the 2019/2020 dry season.

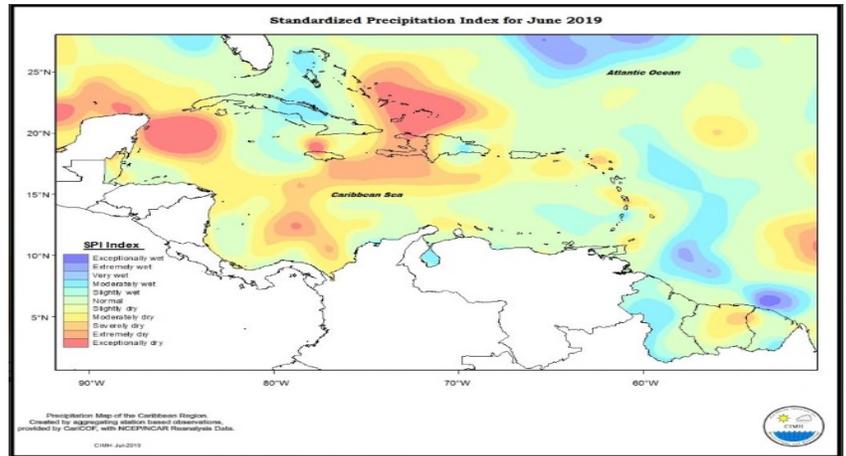
Month at a Glance

Apart from St. Vincent that was moderately wet, rainfall in the islands of the eastern Caribbean was normal to below normal. Trinidad, St. Lucia and Dominica were normal to moderately dry; Tobago and St. Croix moderately dry; Grenada and Guadeloupe normal; Barbados, Antigua and St. Kitts slight to moderately dry; Martinique slight to severely dry;; St. Maarten normal to slightly dry; and St. Thomas slightly dry. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from moderately wet in west and southwestern Guyana and northern and southeast French Guiana to moderately dry at the northern Suriname/French Guiana border. Curacao was slight to moderately dry. Puerto Rico was normal to slightly dry, but Hispaniola ranged from exceptionally dry in northern Haiti to moderately wet in east central Dominican Republic. Jamaica ranged from exceptionally dry in the northwest to normal in the extreme west and to slightly dry in the northeast; but Grand Cayman was normal. In Cuba, conditions ranged from severely dry in the extreme west and east to moderately wet in central areas, while the northern Bahamas was normal to moderately wet. Belize ranged from normal in the south to severely dry in the north.

Latest News

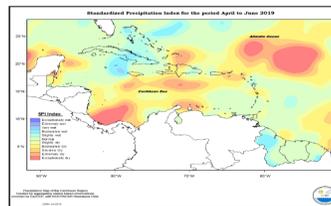
Drought still affecting water supply in Kingston; Read More; [http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Drought still affecting water supply in Kingston and St Andrew NWC?profile=1228](http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Drought%20still%20affecting%20water%20supply%20in%20Kingston%20and%20St%20Andrew%20NWC?profile=1228)

Assistance for farmers affected by drought; Read more; <https://jis.gov.jm/assistance-for-farmers-affected-by-drought/>

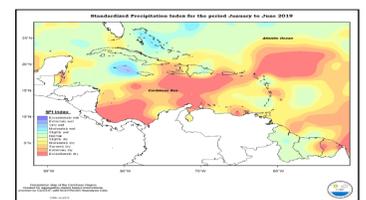


April-May-June

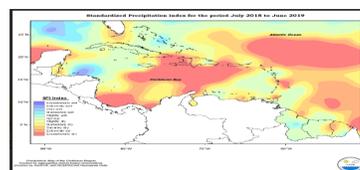
For the three month period, apart from Antigua and Guadeloupe that were normal to slightly wet, rainfall in the islands of the eastern Caribbean was normal to below normal. Trinidad was normal to moderately dry; Tobago and St. Lucia normal to slightly dry; Grenada and St. Vincent normal; Martinique moderately dry; Dominica slight to moderately dry; St. Kitts moderate to severely dry; St. Maarten, St. Thomas and St. Croix severely dry; Conditions in the Guianas ranged from moderately wet in northwestern and southwestern Guyana and southeastern French Guiana to moderately dry in northeastern Guyana and parts of northern French Guiana. Curacao was extremely dry. Puerto Rico was normal to severely dry from west to east, while Hispaniola ranged from extremely dry in the north to moderately wet in east-central Dominican Republic. Jamaica ranged from moderately dry in central areas to moderately wet in the west and normal in the east, but Grand Cayman was slightly wet. Cuba and northern Bahamas ranged from normal to moderately wet. Conditions in Belize ranged from slightly wet in the south to extremely dry in the north.



APR 2019- JUN 2019
SPI 3 MONTHS



JAN 2019- JUN 2019
SPI 6 MONTHS



JULY 2018- JUN 2019
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.....](#)

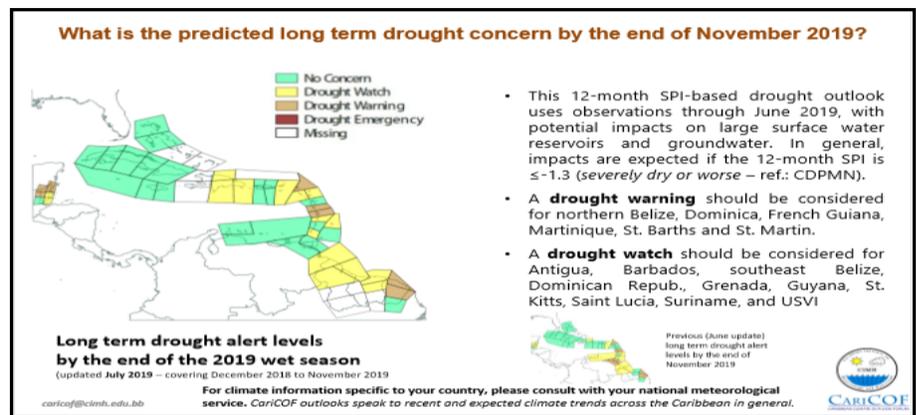
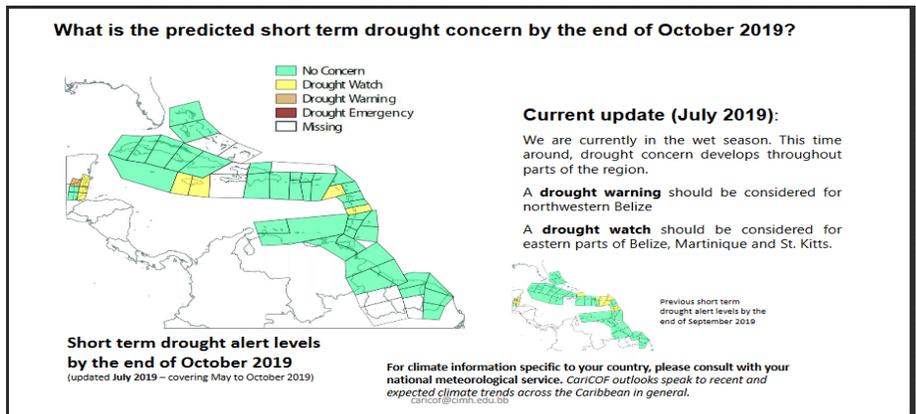
For more information contact:

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 October CariCOF's Drought Alert Map



Current Drought Situation

- **Current drought situation (up to the end of June 2019):**
 - Severe (or worse) shorter term drought has developed in northern Belize, northernmost Dominican Republic, the northern leewards, St. Kitts, USVI
 - Severe (or worse) long term drought has developed in Barbados, southern Belize, Easternmost Cuba, southern and easternmost Dominican Republic, parts of French Guiana, Haiti, the northern leewards, Martinique, Tobago, US Caribbean Territories.
- **Shorter term drought situation (by end of October 2019):**
 - Shorter term drought is evolving in northwestern Belize.
 - Shorter term drought might possibly develop in eastern Belize, Martinique and St. Kitts
- **Long term drought situation (by end of November 2019):**
 - Long term drought is evolving in northern Belize, Dominica, French Guiana, Martinique, St. Barths, and St. Martin.
 - Long term drought might possibly develop in Antigua, Barbados, Southeast Belize, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, St. Kitts, Saint Lucia, Suriname and USVI.

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

Drought outlook available for download [here](#)