

HIGHLIGHTS FOR JULY

- ✚ Selected stations in seven parishes received below-normal rainfall in July.
- ✚ Sections of eastern and central parishes continue to experience very dry conditions.
- ✚ Below-normal to near-normal rainfall is forecast for Jamaica for August through to October.
- ✚ Warmer than normal temperatures are forecast for the next 3 months.

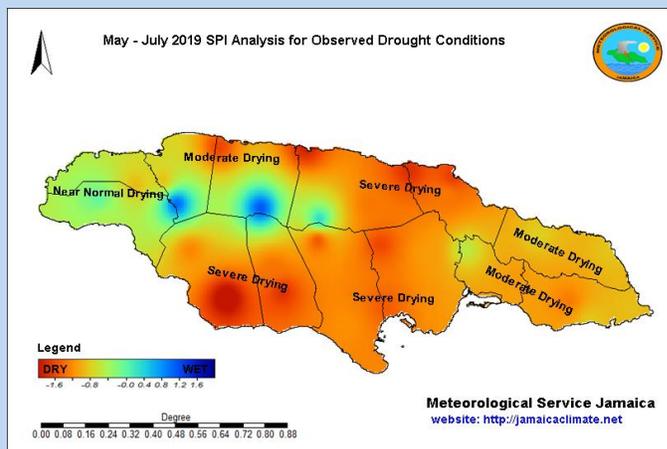
SUMMARY

Selected stations in seven of 13 parishes received below-normal rainfall in July. Varying levels of dryness were evident across the island, except for extreme western parishes. Severely dry conditions were observed in St. Ann, St. Mary, St. Catherine, Clarendon, Manchester, St. Elizabeth and northern Trelawny. Moderately dry conditions impacted Portland, St. Thomas and KSA. Meteorological drought conditions for St. Mary, Portland and St. Thomas;

What Happened: May-July 2019

From analyses (image to the right) varying levels of dryness were experienced over sections of eastern and central parishes, with meteorological drought conditions been recorded for St. Mary, Portland and St. Thomas. Severely dry conditions were observed over most areas from St. Elizabeth to St. Catherine along with St. Ann. Moderately dry conditions affected KSA and northern Trelawny. These parishes were however, above the drought classification. In contrast, there was no concerns for farming communities in sections of Westmoreland, Hanover and the Cockpit Country region where, mildly wet conditions were experienced. Hotter temperatures, up to 1.3 °C were recorded in some areas across the island for this July, when compared to July 2018.

Wet and Dry Conditions, May-July 2019



Read more by visiting our website:
<https://www.jamaicacclimate.net/farmers-bulletin>

ABOUT US: This report provides short term precipitation forecasts, as well as drought monitoring products that will assist in making critical decisions about the growing season for crops, as well as irrigation scheduling and water management.

AGROMET BULLETIN



Seasonal Forecast: August-October 2019

The projection for the next 3 months (August to October), which includes the peak of the hurricane season, is for below-normal to near-normal rainfall across Jamaica. The continuation of a drying trend was observed across the island in July due to the below-normal rainfall received. Farming communities should therefore, expect this trend to continue for August. The outlook for September to October is not encouraging and therefore, dry conditions could continue over eastern and central parishes. Temperatures for the next three months are likely to be warmer than normal.

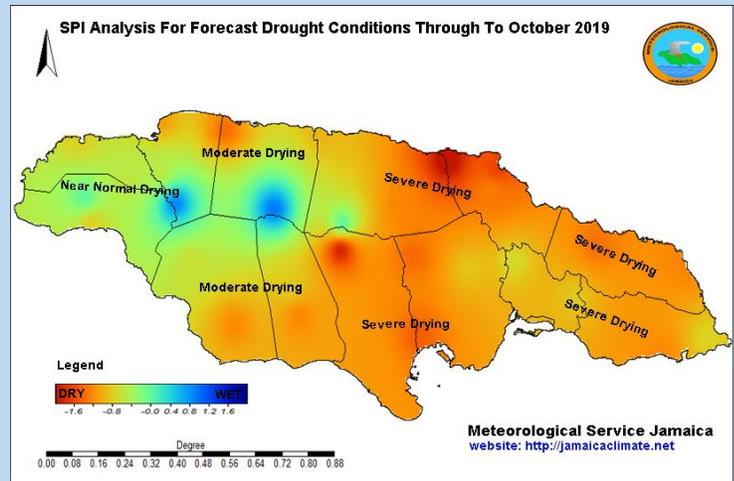
Possible Impacts

The forecast for below-normal to near-normal rainfall should not have an immediate impact in farming communities in Westmoreland, Hanover and the Cockpit Country region.

However, for all other parishes, farming communities should continue drought alleviation activities to lessen the impacts on crops and livestock as, we transition from summer to the traditional primary wet season.

The expected warmer than normal temperatures could lead to more heat stress and other related impacts and therefore, preventative measures should be continued to minimize these impacts.

Wet and Dry Conditions, August-October 2019



Seasonal Outlook, August-October 2019

JAMAICA	Below (B) %	Normal (N) %	Above (A) %
Rainfall Outlook	40	35	25
Temperature Outlook	20	30	50

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