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HIGHLIGHTS FOR SEPTEMBER

- ♣ Several stations in six parishes received above-normal rainfall in September.
- ♣ Significant reduction in dry conditions were observed in eastern and central parishes.
- ♣ Near-normal to above-normal rainfall is forecast for Jamaica for October through to December
- ♣ Above normal but, comfortable temperatures are forecast for the next 3 months.

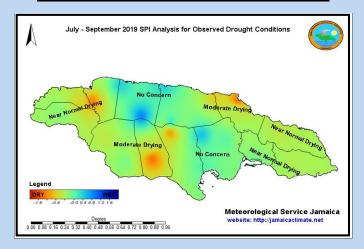
SUMMARY

Several stations in six of 13 parishes received above-normal rainfall in September. Varying levels of dryness were evident across the island, except for Trelawny and St. Catherine where wet conditions were observed. Moderately dry conditions were observed in coastal St. Mary, Manchester, northwestern Clarendon and bordering areas of Hanover and St. James. No parish recorded meteorological drought conditions as, sections of the island received sufficient rainfall in August/September to bring some relief.

What Happened: July-September 2019

From analyses (image to the right) moderately dry conditions were experienced in coastal St. Mary, Manchester and into northwestern Clarendon. Nearnormal drying was experienced over western and extreme eastern parishes. No parish recorded meteorological drought conditions. There was no concerns about dry conditions for farming communities in Trelawny, especially in the south of the parish, as well as for St. Catherine as, mildly wet conditions were observed. Warmer temperatures, between 1-3 °C were recorded in some areas across the island for this September, when compared to September 2018.

Wet and Dry Conditions, July-September 2019



Read more by visiting our website: https://www.jamaicaclimate.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.



Seasonal Forecast: October-December 2019

The projection for October to December, which marks the transition from the wet season to the dry season, is for near-normal to above-normal rainfall across Jamaica. The expected rainfall could bring some relief from the dry conditions that is still affecting sections of western parishes. Near-normal drying could however, return to sections of KSA, St. Catherine and Clarendon, while continuing in other parishes. Farming communities in the east and south of the island should monitor rainfall activities and be prepared for any eventualities.

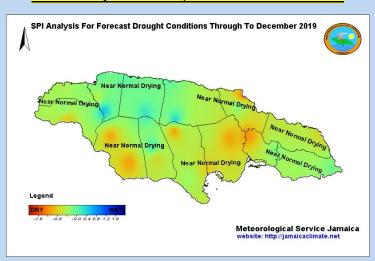
Temperatures for the next three months are likely to be above normal but, should be comfortable, especially where cooler nights should be expected.

Possible Impacts

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

The rainfall received in August and September has brought some relief from the dry conditions. Not all areas across the island will benefit from the expected rainfall over the next 3 months. Therefore, farmers should store as much water as is possible and monitor conditions in their areas, just in case they do not receive sufficient rainfall over the next 3 months. The forecast for warmer than normal temperatures may not cause heat stress during the day time, however, cooler nights could have an impact on livestock.

Wet and Dry Conditions, October-December 2019



Seasonal Outlook, October-December 2019

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

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