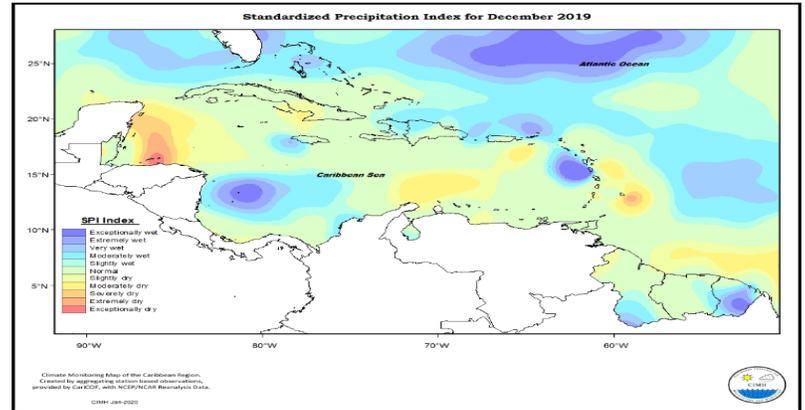


CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

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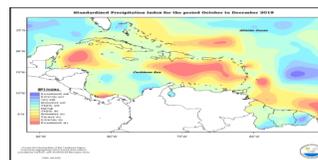
Announcement

With rainfall varying across the Caribbean during December 2019, the impacts of the current dry season are likely to play out differently across the region. With record low rainfall in Barbados for 2019 at its two main stations, there is much concern that long term drought can again impact its ground water supply by the end of the dry season in May. Similar water availability concerns exist over other islands of the southern and south-eastern Caribbean, Antigua, Cayman Islands, and parts of the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Belize by the end of May. The entire Caribbean basin should monitor their water supply and adopt conservation measures as much as possible.

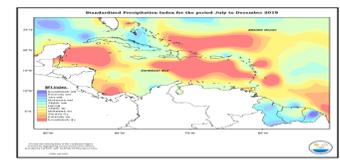


October-November-December

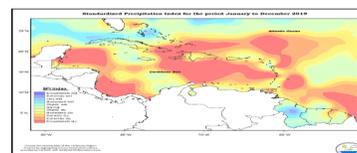
Over the three month period, conditions in the eastern Caribbean were normal to below normal. Trinidad was normal to moderately dry from the south west to the north east; Tobago, Anguilla, St Maarten, and Dominica normal; Grenada, Martinique and St. Thomas normal to slightly dry; St Vincent and St. Croix severely dry; Barbados, St Lucia and Guadeloupe moderate to extremely dry; St Kitts slight to moderately dry from south to north, Conditions in the Guianas ranged from severely dry in the northern extreme of Guyana to extremely wet in the southern extreme of Guyana and central French Guiana. Curacao was moderately dry. Puerto Rico was normal in the extreme north west to moderately dry in the south east, whereas Hispaniola was moderately dry in central Dominican Republic to normal in eastern Dominican Republic and most of Haiti. Jamaica was moderately dry in the northwest to normal in the west and east, whereas Grand Cayman normal. Cuba ranged from moderately dry in west central areas to slightly wet in the west and normal in the east. Northern Bahamas was normal to very wet from south to north. In Belize, conditions ranged from moderately wet in the south to slightly dry in the north and west.



OCT 2019- DEC 2019
SPI 3 MONTHS



JUL 2019- DEC 2019
SPI 6 MONTHS



JAN 2019- DEC 2019
SPI 12 MONTHS

Month at a Glance

Mixed conditions were seen throughout the islands of the eastern Caribbean in the month of December. Trinidad, Tobago, Grenada and Antigua were normal; St Vincent slightly dry; St Lucia and St Croix normal to slightly dry; Barbados slight to moderately dry from north to south; Martinique predominantly normal with the exception of the extreme northern border which was slight to moderately wet; Dominica slight to exceptionally wet from the north east to the south west; Guadeloupe normal to very wet from east to west; St Kitts and St Maarten slight to moderately wet; and St Thomas very wet. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from slightly dry in northwest and northeast Guyana to extremely wet in southern Guyana and to exceptionally wet in south-eastern French Guiana. Curacao was normal. Puerto Rico, Hispaniola and Jamaica were normal to moderately wet, Grand Cayman was normal, while Cuba was predominantly normal with the exception of the extreme northwest that was slightly wet and some east central areas which were slight to moderately dry. Northern Bahamas was moderate to very wet. Belize, though mostly normal, was slightly wet in the east and slight to severely dry on the western border.

Latest News

In Belize, Drought sends sugar production down by 30 Percent; late start for season, Read More; <https://amandala.com.bz/news/drought-sends-sugar-production-down-by-30-percent-late-start-for-season/>

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.....](#)

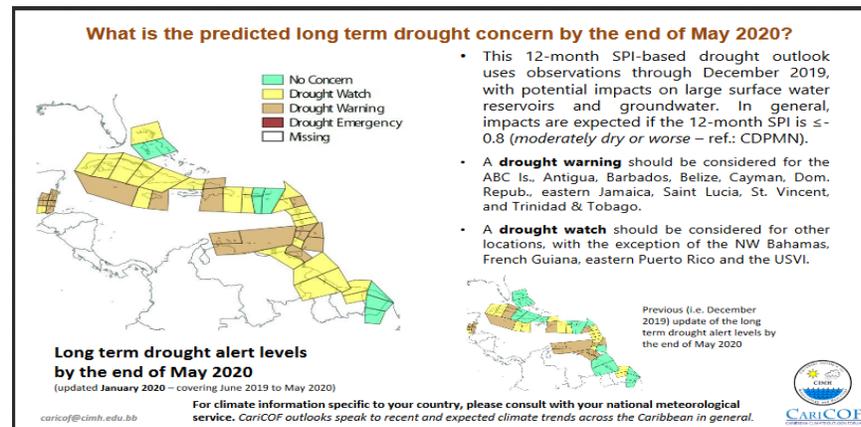
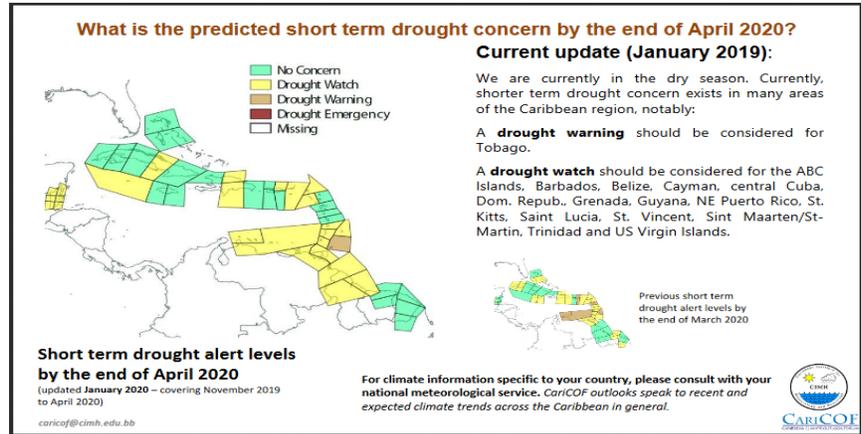
For more information contact:

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lkreed@cimh.edu.bb

Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#)

Drought Outlook for the End of April 2020



Current Drought Situation

- **Current drought situation (up to the end of December 2019):**
 - Moderate or worse shorter term drought has developed in portions of all countries and Territories in the Antilles with the notable exceptions of Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, Martinique, St Martin and Trinidad and Tobago, eastern portions of the Bahamas, and Northernmost Guyana.
 - Moderate or worse long term drought has developed in the Antilles except Antigua, Western Cuba and Grenada, central and southern Belize and northern French Guiana.
- **Shorter term drought situation (by end of April 2020):**
 - Shorter term drought is evolving in Tobago.
 - Shorter term drought might possibly develop or continue in the ABC Islands, Barbados, Belize, Cayman, Grenada, Guyana, NE Puerto Rico, St Kitts, St Lucia, St Vincent, Sint Maarten/St Martin, Trinidad, US Virgin Is.
- **Long term drought situation (by end of May 2020):**
 - Long term drought is evolving in the ABC Islands, Antigua, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Dom Repub, eastern Jamaica, Saint Lucia, St Vincent and Trinidad and Tobago.
 - Long term drought might possibly develop or continue in other locations with the exception of the NW Bahamas, French Guiana, eastern Puerto Rico and the USVI, Where no significant concern is seen.
 - Areas ending up in long term drought by the end of May, may experience significantly Reduced water levels in large reservoirs, large rivers, and groundwater during the dry Season.

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

Drought outlook available for download [here](#)