

SAINT LUCIA AGROMET REPORT – NOVEMBER 2021

The monthly averages for the Hewanorra and George F L Charles airport stations for November 2021 are shown in the table below:

AVERAGE MONTHLY DATA FOR HEWANORRA (Hew) and GEORGE F L CHARLES (GFLC)											
Stn	Cloud Cover (oktas)	Wind Dir (o from N)	Wind Speed (kt)	Air Temp. (°C)	RH (%)	Rainfall Long-Term Mean (mm)	Rainfall Total (mm)	Max Temp (°C)	Min Temp (°C)	Daily Sunshine (Hrs)	Daily Evap (mm)
Hew	5	80	14	28.0	77	182.5	64.3	30.7	25.2	9.5	7.3
GFLC	4	90	7	27.5	75	223.9	85.8	30.4	24.5		

The end of November brought the 2021 Atlantic Hurricane season to a close. Despite climatology highlighting November as the second wettest for both stations, rainfall recorded for the month was drier than usual. At Hewanorra, 64.3 mm was recorded and this was 65 percent below the long term mean (*based on 49 years of data*). At George F. L. Charles, 85.8 mm was recorded and this was 62 percent below the long term mean (*based on 55 years of data*). There were 16 and 18 rainy days at Hewanorra and George F. L. Charles, respectively, with no significant dry spells at either station.

The transition into the dry season occurs in December which has climatological means of 99.1 mm at Hewanorra and 129.4 mm at George F. L. Charles (*using base period 1991 – 2020*). Surface and upper level troughs, isolated moisture surges brought on by the easterly trade winds and occasional shearlines from decaying cold fronts contribute to the precipitation recorded during this time of year. Thus, the seasonal outlook for December to February (**DJF**) 2021/22 suggests **climatology** and as such normal rainfall totals could range from 200.1 mm to 265.7 mm at Hewanorra and 244.0 mm to 351.0 mm at George F. L. Charles. The extended precipitation outlook for March to May (**MAM**) however, indicates **wetter than normal** rainfall totals which could range from 212.5 mm to 354.3 mm at Hewanorra (south) and at George F. L. Charles (north), 289.6 mm to 455.5 mm.

The maximum and minimum temperatures for November were mostly warmer than normal with the exception of the maximum temperature at George F. L. Charles which was as expected. In this regard, the maximum and minimum temperatures are expected to be generally **warmer than normal** for the DJF and MAM season, however, the minimum temperature for MAM is expected to be **cooler than normal** to the south of the island.

The 1-month drought index was **extremely dry** and the 3, 6 and 12-month were **moderately dry** at Hewanorra. At George F. L. Charles, these were **extremely dry** for 1 and 3-month and **moderately dry** for the 6 and 12-month. Despite this, there is no

concern for drought in the short and long-term both regionally and nationally, even though current trends indicate an evolving short-term drought. Regardless, water resources should be closely monitored and conservation measures practiced with the start of the dry season.