

# **Agromet Bulletin**

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# Weather Forecast Bulletin for Farmers and Livestock Producers of Trinidad and Tobago for the Fifteen Days February 21<sup>st</sup> to March 07<sup>th</sup>, 2022

# 15-day Weather Forecast for Farming from February 21st to March 07th, 2022

		Weather		Temperature	Heat Real Feel	Moisture (Relative) (Humidity)	Wind
21 <sup>st</sup>	*		Mostly sunny and dry	Hot  Max Temp 32.0°C	Feels like 38°C	50s %	Moderate Northeasterly 20-22 km/h Gust 27 km/h
22 <sup>nd</sup>	20% chance of brief brisk showers	Up to 1.0 mm of rain is possible	Partly cloudy but dry	Very Warm  Max Temp 31.8°C	Feels like 37°C	60s%	Moderate Northeasterly 20-22 km/h Gust 27 km/h
23 <sup>rd</sup>	60% chance scattered showers	Up to 5.0 mm rainfall possible	Partly to variably cloudy	Max Temp 31.0°C	Feels like 34°C	70s%	Moderate Northeasterly 20-22 km/h Gust 27 km/h
24 <sup>th</sup>	80% chance occasional showers	5-20 mm of rainfall is possible	Partly to occasionally cloudy	Warm  Max Temp 30.0°C	Feels like 33°C	70s%	Moderate Northeasterly 20-22 km/h Gust 27 km/h
25 <sup>th</sup>	60% Isolated showers	3 -10 mm rainfall is possible	Partly to variably cloudy	Warm  Max Temp 30.5°C	Feels like 33°C	70s%	Moderate Northeasterly 20-22 km/h Gust 27 km/h

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41.	1	ı	T		1		
26 <sup>th</sup>	80% chance occasional showers	10-20 mm rainfall is possible	Partly to occasionally cloudy	Max Temp 30.2°C	Feels like 33°C	70s%	Moderate Northeasterly 20-22 km/h Gust 27 km/h
27 <sup>th</sup>	20% chance of isolated showers	1-3 mm of rainfall is possible	Partly cloudy	Max Temp 30.8°C	Feels like 33°C	60s%	Moderate Easterly at 20 km/h Gust 28 km/h
28 <sup>th</sup>	10-20% chance of brief brisk showers	Up to 1.0 mm of rain is possible	Partly cloudy but dry	Max Temp 31.2°C	Feels like 34°C	70s%	Moderate Easterly at 20 km/h Gust 28 km/h
1 <sup>st</sup>	20% chance of isolated showers	Up to 2.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Partly cloudy	Max Temp 31.5°C	Feels like 35°C	60s%	Moderate Easterly at 20 km/h Gust 28 km/h
2 <sup>nd</sup>	20% chance of isolated showers	Up to 1.0 mm rainfall is possible	Partly cloudy	Very Warm  Max Temp 31.8°C	Feels like 36°C	60s%	Moderate Easterly at 20 km/h Gust 28 km/h
3rd	*		Mostly bright and sunny	Hot  Max Temp 32.0°C	Feels like 37°C	50s%	Moderate Easterly at 20 km/h Gust 28 km/h

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4 <sup>th</sup>	**		Mostly bright and sunny	Hot  Max Temp 32.0°C	Feels like 37°C	50s%	Moderate Northeasterly 20-22 km/h Gust 27 km/h
5 <sup>th</sup>	10-20% chance of brisk brief showers	Up to 1.0 mm of rain is possible	Partly cloudy but dry	Max Temp 31.9°C	Feels like 37°C	50s%	Moderate Northeasterly 20-22 km/h Gust 27 km/h
6 <sup>th</sup>	20% chance of isolated showers	Up to 1.0 mm of rain is possible	Partly cloudy but dry	Hot  Max Temp 32.0°C	Feels like 37°C	50s%	Moderate Northeasterly 20-22 km/h Gust 27 km/h
7 <sup>th</sup>	20% chance of isolated showers	Up to 1.0 mm of rain is possible	Partly cloudy but dry	Max Temp 31.7°C	Feels like 36°C	50s%	Moderate Northeasterly 20-22 km/h Gust 27 km/h

Sun and Moon Positions in the Sky February 21st to 28th, 2022

The sun is presently at a latitude of approximately  $10^{\circ}$  41' South, and with this position, the daylength in Trinidad and Tobago will be 11 hours and 51 minutes.

The moon has begun its darkening phase as it moves from the full moon four days ago, to enter the third quarter on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, which by tradition, is considered a good time to sow or plant belowground crops, especially root crops, as well as, fertilize, transplant, and harvest crops.

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Trinidad Areal Rainfall Forecast for the Period February 21st to February 28th, 2022.

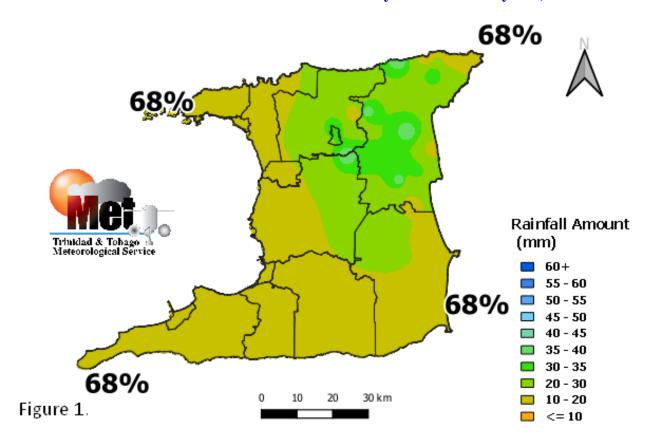


Figure 1. Rainfall Map of Trinidad showing expected mean rainfall totals for districts across Trinidad during the period February 21 - 28, 2022 and percentage probability of occurrence.

#### **Eastern and North-Eastern areas**

Moderate chance (68 %) of mean daily rainfall up to 4.0 mm.

#### **South-Eastern areas**

Moderate chance (68 %) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.0 mm.

#### Southern areas

Moderate chance (68 %) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.0 mm.

#### **South-Western areas**

Moderate chance (68 %) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.0 mm.

#### Northern, North-Western areas

Moderate chance (68 %) of mean daily rainfall up to 3.0 mm.

#### **Central, West-Central, and inland areas**

Moderate chance (68 %) of mean daily rainfall up to 3.0 mm.

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## Tobago Rainfall Forecast for the Period February 21st to February 28th, 2022.

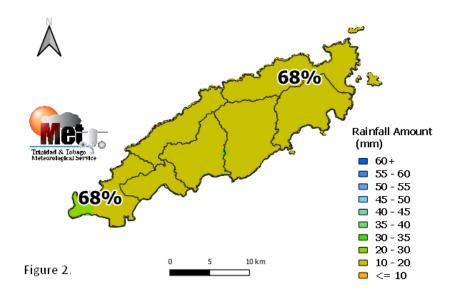


Figure 2. Rainfall Map of Tobago showing expected mean rainfall totals for districts across Tobago during the period February 21 - 28, 2022 and percentage probability of occurrence.

### North-Eastern areas

Moderate chance (68%) of mean daily rainfall up to 3.0 mm.

#### **South-Western** areas

Moderate chance (68%) of mean daily rainfall up to 3.0 mm.

**Expected Weather:** The last 8 days of February are expected to bring beneficial rainfall for farming on most days. Mostly dry weather with lots of sunshine is expected on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> in Trinidad, but Tobago is likely to be wet on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Following the 22<sup>nd</sup> partly to occasionally cloudy conditions will occur for various periods on most days as a plume of moisture is expected to move over the islands, bringing perhaps the wettest conditions for the year, to date. Farms are likely to get between 10.0 mm and 20.0 mm of rainfall on the wettest days, which are likely to be the 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>. There is a 68% chance that 8-day rainfall total could range between 20.0 mm and 40.0 mm.

Maximum temperatures are expected to be relatively warm (30.5°C) to hot (32.0°C) during the period but are likely to have a real-feel or feels-like between 33.0°C to 38.0°C on most days, even with moderate winds at times. Moisture levels are expected to be moderate to high on most days, with average daytime relative humidity values in the 60s to 70s, in terms of percentage. Overall, winds are expected to be light to moderate easterly to northeasterly with speeds between 15-22 km/h, gusting more than 28 km/h at times.

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A combination of occasional rainfall, moderately high temperatures, high feels-like values, moderate daytime humidity values, and relatively moderate winds will maintain moderate evapotranspiration rates in crops and decrease drying and heat stress. On most days, this will reduce the amount of water needed for irrigation. Farmers should practice water conservation and use only the amount of water needed. Farmers should also pay attention to the daily forecast and watch out for any major change.

#### **Highlighted Expected Impacts**

The anticipated rainfall, moist and warm conditions are expected to improve soil moisture across Trinidad and Tobago and would be sufficient for crop needs, especially during the wettest period,  $23^{rd}$  to  $26^{th}$ . This is likely to reduce the amount of water needed for rain-fed agriculture and also reduce heat stress in young crops and livestock, but farmers should conserve water. With warm and hot temperatures at this time and occasional moist crops and vegetation, there are increased chances for fungi spread, insect pests, and moist weather diseases to develop. Given the forecast conditions, farmers should aim to keep moisture in crop root areas for a longer time after rainy periods and wetting, by covering crops root areas with grass (mulching).

### Weather Assessment for the period March (01st -10th) 2021.

During the period February 11<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>, beneficial rainfall overnight on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> and during the day on the 16<sup>th</sup> dampened the effects of mostly hot and dry days in Trinidad. Across Tobago, moderate to heavy rainfall on the 19<sup>th</sup> produced close to two (2) inches of rainfall that reduced the hot and dry conditions experienced over the previous eight (8) days.

Temperatures remained mostly warm during the period in Trinidad, with maximum temperatures ranging between 30.5°C, and 32.5°C. Tobago's, temperatures were less warm, with maximum daytime temperatures ranging between 29.7°C and 31.2°C.

Based on the rainfall, temperature, and wind speeds, evaporation rates were mild to moderate in both Trinidad and Tobago. These conditions would have assisted with removing good amounts of soil moisture and keeping crops' roots warm and would have increased crop evaporation. The warm temperatures at this time and occasional moist vegetation would have increased the chance for agriculture fungi to spread and for insect pests and warm weather diseases to increase in occurrence.



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#### Definitions used in the forecast and bulletin:

Term		Meaning		
Dekad		10 day rainfall measuring period		
Rain Day		A day with 1.0 mm or more of rainfall amount		
Wet Day		A day with 10.0 mm or more of rainfall amount		
<b>Extremely Wet Day</b>		A day with 25.0 mm or more of rainfall amount		
Normal Rainfall		Between 75% and 125 % of the average		
Below Normal Rainfall		Rainfall below 75% of the average		
Above Normal Rainfal	l	Rainfall above 125 % of the average		
Much below Normal Rainfall		Rainfall below 50% of the average		
Much above Normal Rainfall		Rainfall above 150% of the average		
Scanty Rainfall		Less than 1 mm		
Moderate Rainfall		1-10 mm		
Heavy Rainfall		10-50 mm		
Very heavy Rainfall		Greater than 50 mm		
Probability of 1-30 %		Low Chance		
Probability of 30-70 %		Moderate Chance		
Probability greater than 70%		High Chance		
Term	<b>Amount of Rain</b>	Type of day		
Scanty Rainfall	Less than 1 mm	Relatively dry day		
<b>Moderate Rainfall</b>	1-10 mm	Relatively wet day		
Heavy Rainfall	10-50 mm	Wet day		
Very heavy Rainfall Greater than 50 mm		Excessively wet day		