

CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

January 2023 | Volume IX | ISSUE 8

Announcement

As the region moves deeper into its dry season, rainfall will continue to decrease. With the likelihood of normal to below normal rainfall in the northwest Caribbean during January to March 2023, the likelihood for below normal rainfall in Cuba can result in short and long term drought, by the end of March and May respectively, particularly in western areas. Like Cuba, the other countries in the northwest (including Belize and Cayman Islands, should closely monitor their water resources. Puerto Rico and Guadeloupe in the eastern portion of the Caribbean, should also monitor their resources for short term drought that can impact streams and small rivers, irrigation ponds and other small reservoirs.

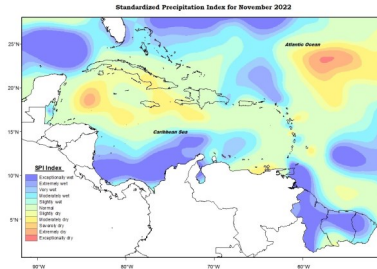
Month at a Glance

Predominantly normal to above normal conditions prevailed throughout the islands of the eastern Caribbean during the month of November. Trinidad ranged from normal to predominantly exceptionally wet; Tobago exceptional to very wet; Grenada and Saint Lucia moderate to slightly wet; Barbados slightly dry in the south to predominantly normal; St Vincent, St Kitts and St Croix normal; Martinique and Guadeloupe moderately wet to moderately dry; Dominica and St Maarten normal to moderately wet; Antigua and St Thomas normal to slightly wet and Anguilla moderate to very wet. In the Guianas, conditions ranged from slightly dry to exceptionally wet. Aruba was normal to slightly wet and Curacao was moderate to predominantly very wet. Puerto Rico was normal. [Read More;](#)

Latest News

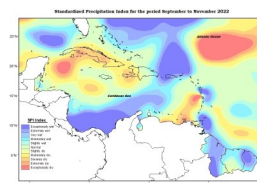
Drought and water scarcity, a fundamental concern for societies worldwide (WMO); [Read More;](#)

Caribbean Regional Conference, Water Loss 2023; Trinidad and Tobago (IWA) [Read More;](#)

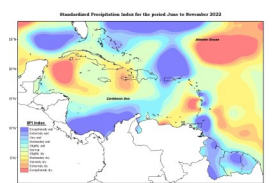


September-October-November

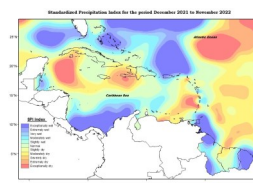
Mixed conditions were seen throughout the islands of the eastern Caribbean over the three month period. Trinidad slightly dry to predominantly exceptionally wet southwest to northeast; Tobago exceptionally wet; Grenada and St Maarten slightly wet to normal; Barbados predominantly normal to slightly wet; St Vincent slightly dry to normal; Saint Lucia normal to very wet; Martinique moderately wet to extremely dry; Dominica moderately dry to exceptionally wet; Guadeloupe exceptional to slightly wet; Antigua and St Kitts normal; Anguilla slight to moderately wet; St Croix moderately wet and St Thomas very to extremely wet. In the Guianas, conditions ranged from slightly dry to exceptionally wet. Aruba was slightly wet and Curacao was moderately wet. Puerto Rico ranged from exceptional to very wet from west to east. Hispaniola ranged from severely dry in southern areas of Haiti to exceptionally wet in the extreme east of the Dominican Republic. Jamaica and Grand Cayman were normal. Cuba ranged from normal in the west to extremely dry in west and east central areas. Northern Bahamas ranged from normal to very wet and Belize was mostly normal ranging to moderately dry in the south and to moderately wet in central and southeastern areas.



SEP 2022 - NOV 2022
SPI 3 MONTHS



JUN 2022 - NOV 2022
SPI 6 MONTHS



DEC 2021 - NOV 2022
SPI 12 MONTHS

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:

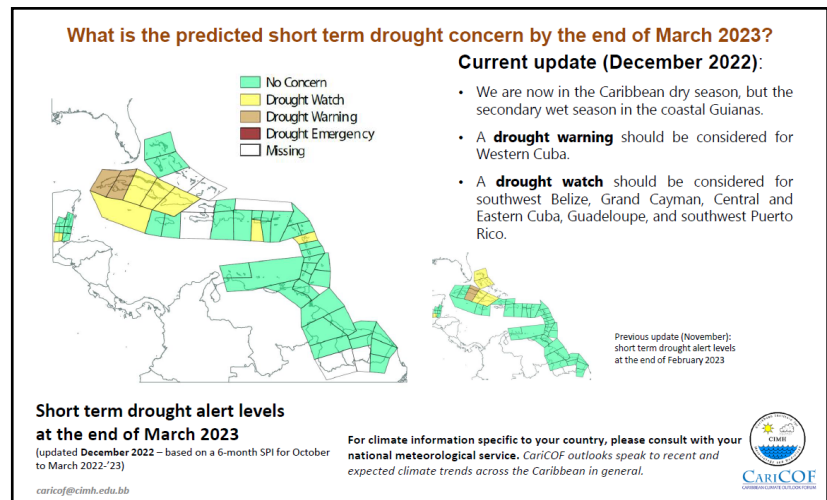
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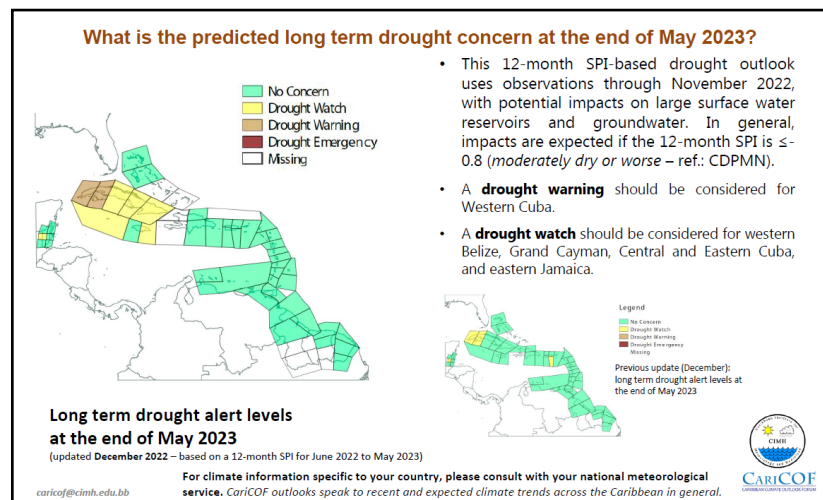
CariCOF Drought Alert Maps

Map of short-term drought by the end of March 2023



- Short-term drought situation (by the end of March 2023):
 - Short term drought is evolving across Western Cuba.
 - Short term drought might possibly develop in southwest Belize, Grand Cayman, Central and Eastern Cuba, Guadeloupe, and southwest Puerto Rico.

Map of long-term drought by the end of May 2023



- Long-term drought situation (by the end of May 2023):
 - Long term drought is evolving across Western Cuba.
 - Long term drought might possibly develop or continue in western Belize, Grand Cayman, Central and Eastern Cuba, and eastern Jamaica.
 - Areas ending up in long term drought by the end of May are likely to experience lower than usual water levels in large reservoirs, large rivers and groundwater.

"We advise all stakeholders to keep monitoring their environment for signs of drought, and look out for our monthly updates"

Drought outlook available for download [here](#)