

### Agromet Bulletin

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Issue date: 2021-03-21

### Weather Forecast/Bulletin for Farmers and Livestock Producers of Trinidad and Tobago for the 15-day period $(16^{th}-31^{st})$ of March 2024.

Date	Weather		Temperature	Heat Real Feel	Day Moisture (Relative (Humidity)	Wind	
16 <sup>th</sup>	20% chance of showers	Less than 1.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Mostly sunny with a light shower	Max/Min Temperatures °C 33.0/24.0	Feels like 39-43 °C	59-70%	Moderate Easterly 20 km/h Gust 40 km/h
17 <sup>th</sup>	40% chance of showers	Less than 6.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Partly cloudy with few showers	Max/Min Temperatures °C 33.0/24.0	Feels like 36-40 °C	55-80%	Moderate Easterly 20 km/h Gust 40 km/h
18 <sup>th</sup>	40% chance of showers	Less than 6.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Partly cloudy with few showers	Max/Min Temperatures °C 32.0/24.0	Feels like 37-40 °C	60-70%	Moderate southeasterly 20 km/h Gust 40 km/h
19 <sup>th</sup>	20% chance of showers	Less than 1.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Partly cloudy with few showers	Max/Min Temperatures °C 33.0/25.0	Feels like 35-39 °C	45-60%	Moderate southeasterly 20 km/h Gust 40 km/h
20 <sup>th</sup>	20% chance of showers	Less than 1.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Mostly sunny with a light shower	Hot Max/Min	Feels like 40-46 °C	55-75%	Moderate Easterly 20 km/h Gust 40 km/h

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				Temperatures °C 34.0/24.0			
21 <sup>st</sup>	40% chance of showers	Less than 3.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with light showers	Very Warm  Max/Min  Temperatures °C  33.0/23.0	Feels like 38-48 °C	55-80%	Moderate northeasterly 20 km/h Gust 40 km/h
22 <sup>nd</sup>	60% chance of showers	Less than 10.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Partly cloudy with few showers	Max/Min Temperatures °C 32.0/23.0	Feels like 36-44 °C	55-80%	Gentle easterly 10-20 km/h Gust 40 km/h
23 <sup>rd</sup>	20% chance of showers	Less than 1.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Mostly sunny with a light shower	Max/Min Temperatures °C 34.0/24.0	Feels like 37-47 °C	45-70%	Moderate easterly 20 km/h Gust 40 km/h
24 <sup>th</sup>	20% chance of showers	Less than 1.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Mostly sunny with a light shower	Max/Min Temperatures °C 34.0/25.0	Feels like 37-47 °C	45-70%	Moderate southeasterly 20 km/h Gust 40 km/h
25 <sup>th</sup>	20% chance of showers	Less than 1.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Mostly sunny with a light shower	Max/Min Temperatures °C 33.0/24.0	Feels like 35-43°C	45-70%	Fresh easterly 30 km/h Gust 40 km/h
26 <sup>th</sup>	40% chance of showers	Less than 6.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Partly cloudy with few showers	Warm  Max/Min	Feels like 33-44 °C	45-80%	Moderate northeasterly 30 km/h Gust

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				Temperatures °C			40 km/h
				32/23			
27 <sup>th</sup>	60% chance of showers	Less than 10.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Partly cloudy with few showers	Max/Min Temperatures °C 32.0/23.0	Feels like 34-42 °C	50-75%	Gentle northeasterly 15-20 km/h Gust 40 km/h
28 <sup>th</sup>	20% chance of showers	Less than 1.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Mostly sunny with a light shower	Max/Min Temperatures °C 31.0/23.0	Feels like 34-39 °C	55-75%	Gentle northeasterly 15-20 km/h Gust 40 km/h
29 <sup>th</sup>	60% chance of showers	Less than 10.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with showers	Max/Min Temperatures °C 31.0/24.0	Feels like 33-36 °C	46-62%	Gentle northeasterly 20 km/h Gust 40 km/h
30 <sup>th</sup>	40% chance of showers	Less than 10.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with showers	Max/Min Temperatures °C 31.0/24.0	Feels like 34-39 °C	55-75%	Moderate easterly 20 km/h Gust 40 km/h
31 <sup>st</sup>	20% chance of showers	Less than 1.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Mostly sunny with a light shower	Max/Min Temperatures °C 33.0/24.0	Feels like 38-46 °C	55-75%	Moderate northeasterly 20 km/h Gust 40 km/h

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#### Trinidad Rainfall Forecast for the 15-Day period of March (16<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>) 2024.

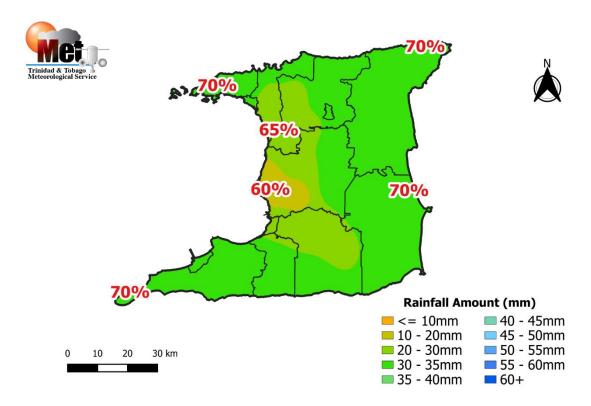


Figure 1. Rainfall map of Trinidad showing expected mean rainfall totals for districts across Trinidad during the 15-day period (16<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>) March 2024 and percentage probability of occurrence.

#### Eastern, and North-Eastern areas

Moderate chance (70%) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.3 mm.

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

Moderate chance (70%) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.3 mm.

#### Southern areas

Moderate chance (70%) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.3 mm.

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

Moderate chance (70%) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.3 mm.

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

Moderate chance (63%) of mean daily rainfall up to 0.6 mm.

#### Northern, North-Western areas

Moderate chance (70%) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.3 mm.

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#### Tobago Rainfall Forecast for the 15-Day period of March (16th-31st) 2024.

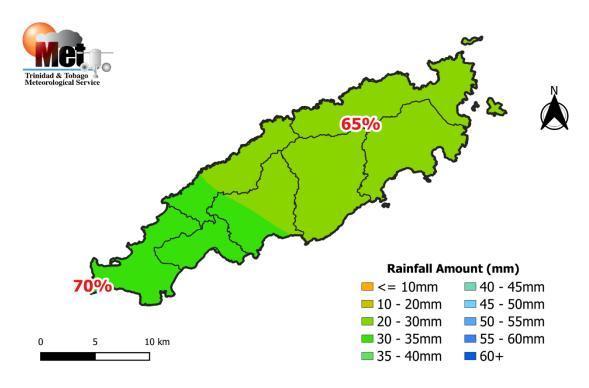


Figure 2. Rainfall map of Tobago showing expected mean rainfall totals for districts across Tobago during the 15-day period (16<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>) March 2024 and percentage probability of occurrence.

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

Moderate chance (65%) of mean daily rainfall up to 0.7 mm.

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

Moderate chance (70%) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.3 mm.

#### Sun and Moon Positions in the Sky March (16<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>) 2024.

The sun is presently at 1.4 degrees South latitude and with this position, the day-length or number of sunlight hours in Trinidad and Tobago from March 16<sup>th</sup> will be 12 hours and 4 minutes, increasing slightly to 12 hours and 13 minutes by 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2024. According to the moon's phases, the (First Quarter Moon Phase) 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup> of March are good days for planting aboveground crops, while the 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> are good days for planting below ground crops. However, the 19<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup> of March are poor planting days. These days should be used for removing weeds, clearing land and ploughing fields.



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#### **Summary of Expected Weather:**

#### Mainly Low rainfall amounts are expected during the fifteen days.

March is typically the driest month of the Dry Season however relatively wet days are expected. However, relatively wet days are possible on 18<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> with less than 10.0 mm of rainfall, while on other days less than 1.0 mm is expected.

#### Trinidad and Tobago:

Relatively wet days are possible on 18<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> with less than 10.0 mm of rainfall, while on other days less than 1.0 mm is expected. The daily rainfall totals are forecast to range between 1.0 mm to 6.0 mm across different farmlands across the islands, favouring the northeastern coastal areas of Trinidad and the southwestern coast of Tobago. The 15-day rainfall totals range between 12.0 mm and 35.0 mm in Trinidad, and range between 25.0 mm and 35.0 mm in Tobago.

#### **Temperatures & Winds:**

The maximum temperatures are expected to become very warm to occasionally hot. Daily temperatures ranging between 31.0°C to 34.0°C throughout the period. However, temperatures are expected to have a real-feel or feels-like between 33.0°C to 48.0°C on most days. The minimum temperatures will range between 23.0 °C to 24.0 °C during most nights/early mornings, dropping lower in rural areas and valleys.

In general, mostly moderate northeasterly to easterly winds with an average speed of 20-40 km/h are expected. Low rainfall totals, mostly moderate speeds, very warm/hot days, and warm feels-like temperatures will sustain average evapotranspiration rates in crops ranging between 5.0 to 15.0 mm per day.

#### **Moisture levels:**

Over the fifteen-day period across Trinidad and Tobago, moisture levels are expected to be low with average daytime relative humidity values in the upper-40s to lower-80s, in terms of percentage.



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#### **Highlighted Possible Impacts on Agriculture:**

Expect similar conditions to what was experienced during the first 15-day forecast period of March. This second 15-day (16<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>) forecast period of March 2024 is expected mostly sunny, breezy and very warm with partly cloudy spells and few showery episodes.

Therefore, scheduling of irrigation days on fields to maintain optimal soil moisture would be necessary on most days. There remains a moderate (40%) chance of heat stress in young livestock, newly germinated and transplanted seedlings onto fields. There is a moderate probability (40-60%) that strong winds may cause physical damage to young plants and flowering mature plants in exposed areas. There is also a low probability (28%) chance for fungi spread, insect pests and warm/moist weather diseases to develop in crop beds.

#### Weather Assessment for the period March (1st-15th) 2024.

Very low rainfall amounts occurred during the first half of March across Trinidad, while very heavy rainfall amounts occurred in Tobago (1<sup>st</sup> March 26mm and 3<sup>rd</sup> March 43mm). The rainfall totals maps for the period 1st to 15<sup>th</sup> of March for Trinidad and Tobago are located below as figure 1 and figure 2.

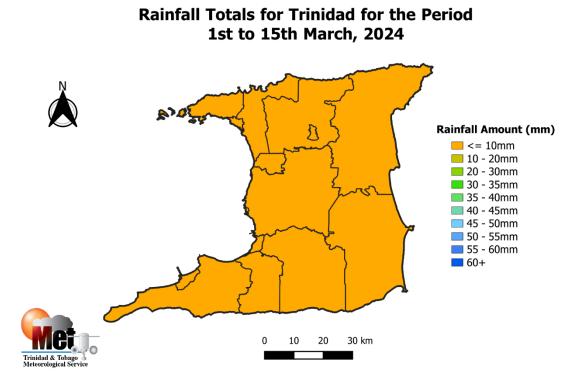


Figure 1. Rainfall map of Trinidad showing measured rainfall totals for varying districts during period 1<sup>st</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2024.

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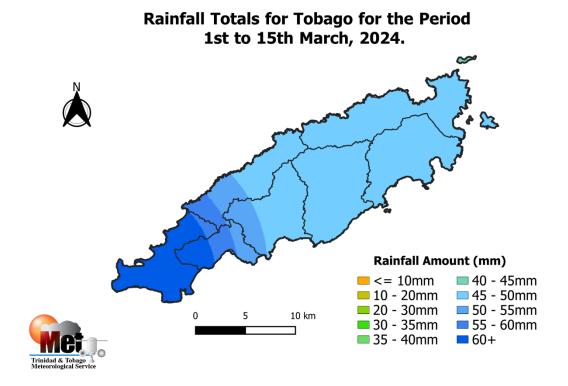


Figure 2. Rainfall map of Tobago showing measured rainfall totals for varying districts during period 1st to 15th of March 2024.

#### **Temperatures:**

Temperatures were cool to warm during the period 1st to 15th of March, with the minimum nighttime temperature falling to 20.8 °C (3<sup>rd</sup> March) and the maximum daytime temperature rising to 34.6 °C (12<sup>th</sup> March), in Trinidad.

Similarly, Tobago temperatures were cool to warm during the period 1st to 15th of March, with the minimum nighttime temperature falling to 22.9 °C (3<sup>rd</sup> March) and the maximum daytime temperature rising to 31.9 °C (12th March).



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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			
<b>Below Normal Rainfall</b>		Rainfall below 75% of the average			
<b>Above Normal Rainfal</b>	l	Rainfall in excess of 125 % of the average			
Much below Normal R	ainfall	Rainfall below 50% of the average			
Much above Normal R	ainfall	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 tha	n 70%	High Chance			
Term	<b>Amount of Rain</b>	Type of day			
Scanty Rainfall Less than 1 mm		Relatively dry day			
Moderate Rainfall 1-10 mm		Relatively wet day			
Heavy Rainfall	10-50 mm	Wet day			
Very heavy Rainfall    Greater than 50 mm		Excessively wet day			