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### Agro-meteorological Bulletin and Assessment for Farmers and Livestock Producers of Trinidad and Tobago for the First 15-Day Period (1st-15th) of March, 2024

#### 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 rainfall amount				
Extremely Wet Day		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 Rainfall		Rainfall in excess of 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 Amount of Rain		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				

# Weather Bulletin for Farmers and Livestock Producers of Trinidad and Tobago for the 15-day period (1<sup>st</sup> -15<sup>th</sup>) of March 2024.

Date Weather Temperature Real Wind (Relative	Heat Day Moisture
----------------------------------------------	----------------------

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		1			Feel	(Humidity)	
1 <sup>st</sup>	45% chance of showers	Less than 3.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Partly cloudy with a shower or two	Warm  Max/Min  Temperatures °C  31.2/22.4	Feels like 31-37°C	48-55%	Moderate northeasterly 20 km/h Gust 30 km/h
2 <sup>nd</sup>	20% chance of showers	Less than 1.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with a light shower	Warm  Max/Min  Temperatures °C  32.0/22.5	Feels like 32-38°C	41-51%	Moderate northeasterly 20 km/h Gust 30 km/h
3 <sup>rd</sup>	20% chance of showers	Less than 1.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with a light shower	Warm  Max/Min  Temperatures °C  31.2/20.5	Feels like 31-38°C	47-66%	Moderate northeasterly 20 km/h Gust 30 km/h
4 <sup>th</sup>	20% chance of showers	Less than 1.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with a light shower	Warm  Max/Min  Temperatures °C  31.1/22.5  Disclaimer	Feels like 32-36°C	48-60%	Moderate easterly 20 km/h Gust 30 km/h



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5 <sup>th</sup>	20% chance of showers	Less than 1.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with a light shower	Warm  Max/Min  Temperatures °C  31.0/25.0	Feels like 31-36°C	52-61%	Moderate easterly 20 km/h Gust 30 km/h
6 <sup>th</sup>	20% chance of showers	Less than 1.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with a light shower	Warm  Max/Min  Temperatures °C  31.0/25.5	Feels like 31-36°C	52-61%	Moderate easterly 20 km/h Gust 30 km/h
7 <sup>th</sup>	40% chance of showers	Less than 3.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with light showers	Warm  Max/Min  Temperatures °C  33.0/25.5	Feels like 33-40°C	55-64%	Moderate southeasterly 20 km/h Gust 30 km/h
8 <sup>th</sup>	40% chance of showers	Less than 2.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with light showers	Warm  Max/Min  Temperatures °C  32.0/25.5	Feels like 32-40°C	46-61%	Moderate southeasterly 20 km/h Gust 30 km/h

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9 <sup>th</sup>	40% chance of showers	Less than 2.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with light showers	Warm  Max/Min  Temperatures °C  33.0/25.5	Feels like 33-42°C	66-78%	Moderate southeasterly 20 km/h Gust 30 km/h
10 <sup>th</sup>	40% chance of showers	Less than 3.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with light showers	Warm  Max/Min  Temperatures °C  33.0/2.0	Feels like 33-42°C	57-74%	Moderate southeasterly 20 km/h Gust 30 km/h
11 <sup>th</sup>	20% chance of showers	Less than 1.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with a light shower	Warm  Max/Min  Temperatures °C  33.0/24.5	Feels like 33-36°C	55-65%	Moderate easterly 20 km/h Gust 30 km/h
12 <sup>th</sup>	40% chance of showers	Less than 3.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with light showers	Warm  Max/Min  Temperatures °C 32.5/23.5	Feels like 33-35°C	53-65%	Moderate easterly 20 km/h Gust 30 km/h

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13 <sup>th</sup>	40% chance of showers	Less than 3.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with light showers	Max/Min Temperatures °C 33.0/25.0	Feels like 33-42°C	46-64%	Moderate northeasterly 20 km/h Gust 30 km/h
14 <sup>th</sup>	60% chance of showers	Less than 4.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with light showers	Warm  Max/Min  Temperatures °C  33.0/25.0	Feels like 33-42°C	49-63%	Moderate easterly 20 km/h Gust 30 km/h
15 <sup>th</sup>	60% chance of showers	Less than 5.0 mm of rainfall is possible	Patchy cloudiness with light showers	Warm  Max/Min  Temperatures °C  32.0/25.0	Feels like 33-42°C	55-66%	Moderate northeasterly 20 km/h Gust 30 km/h

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#### Trinidad Rainfall Forecast for the 15-Day period of March (1st -15th) 2024.

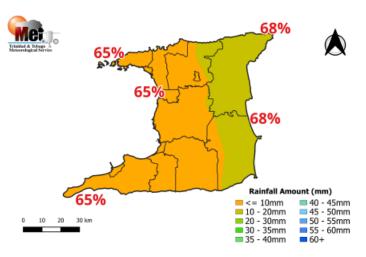


Figure 1. Rainfall map of Trinidad showing expected mean rainfall totals for districts across Trinidad during the 15-day period (1<sup>st</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>) March 2024 and percentage probability of occurrence.

#### Eastern, and North-Eastern areas

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

#### South-Eastern areas

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

#### Southern areas

Moderate chance (65%) of mean daily rainfall up to 0.6 mm.

#### South-Western areas

Moderate chance (65%) of mean daily rainfall up to 0.6 mm.

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

Moderate chance (65%) of mean daily rainfall up to 0.6 mm.

#### Northern, North-Western areas

Moderate chance (65%) of mean daily rainfall up to 0.6 mm.

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#### Tobago Rainfall Forecast for the 15-Day period of March (1st-15th) 2024.

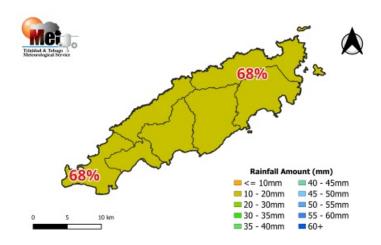


Figure 2. Rainfall map of Tobago showing expected mean rainfall totals for districts across Tobago during the 15-day period (1<sup>st</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>) March 2024 and percentage probability of occurrence.

#### North-Eastern 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.

#### Sun and Moon Positions in the Sky March (1st-15th) 2023.

The sun is presently at 7.5 degrees South latitude and with this position, the day-length or number of sunlight hours in Trinidad and Tobago from March 1 st will be 11 hours and 56 minutes, increasing slightly to 12 hours and 04 minutes by  $15^{th}$  of March 2024. According to the moon's phases, the 1st,  $8^{th}$ -9th, and  $12^{th}$ - $13^{th}$  of March are good days for planting aboveground crops, while the 1st,  $4^{th}$ - $5^{th}$ , and  $8^{th}$ -9th are good days for planting below ground crops. However, the  $2^{nd}$ - $3^{rd}$  (Third Quarter Phase),  $6^{th}$ - $7^{th}$ ,  $10^{th}$  (New Moon Phase) - $11^{th}$  and  $14^{th}$ - $15^{th}$  of March are poor planting days. These days should be used for removing weeds, clearing land and ploughing fields.

#### Highlighted Possible Impacts on Agriculture:

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During this first 15-day (1<sup>st</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>) forecast period of March 2024, expect mostly patchy cloudiness with little showery episodes similar to what was experienced during the last 15-day forecast period of February. Therefore, scheduling of irrigation days on fields to maintain optimal soil moisture would be necessary on most days. There is a moderate (60%) chance of heat stress in young livestock, newly germinated and transplanted seedlings onto fields. There is a moderate probability (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 February (16<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>) 2024.

Very low rainfall amounts occurred during the second half of February across Trinidad and Tobago. Trinidad had 0.4 mm while Tobago had 3.9 mm of rainfall. The rainfall totals maps for the period, 16 th to 28th of February for Trinidad and Tobago are located below as figure 1 and figure 2.

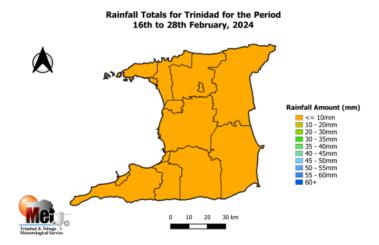


Figure 1. Rainfall map of Trinidad showing measured rainfall totals for varying districts during period 16<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2024.

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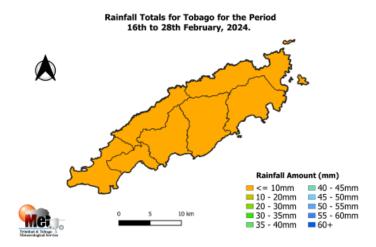


Figure 2. Rainfall map of Tobago showing measured rainfall totals for varying districts during period 16<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> of February 2024.

#### Temperatures:

Temperatures were cool to warm during the period  $16^{th}$  to  $28^{th}$  of February, with the minimum nighttime temperature falling to  $20.6\,^{\circ}$ C and the maximum daytime temperature rising to  $33.9\,^{\circ}$ C, in Trinidad.

Similarly, Tobago temperatures were cool to warm during the period  $16^{th}$  to  $28^{th}$  of February, with the minimum nighttime temperature falling to  $23.5\,^{\circ}$ C and the maximum daytime temperature rising to  $32.7\,^{\circ}$ C.

#### **Summary**

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

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

Relatively wet days are expected on the  $1^{st}$ ,  $7^{th}$ - $10^{th}$ , and  $12^{th}$ - $15^{th}$  with less than 5.0 mm of rainfall, while on other days less than 1.0 mm is expected.

#### **Trinidad and Tobago:**

Relatively wet days are expected on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> with less than 5.0 mm of rainfall, while on other days less than 1.0 mm is expected. The daily rainfall totals are forecast to range between 0.0 mm to 5.0 mm across different farmlands across the islands, especially along the northeastern coastal areas of Trinidad and the southwestern coast of Tobago. The fifteen-day rainfall totals ranged between 6.0 mm and 20.0 mm in Trinidad, and 20.0 mm in Tobago.

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

The maximum temperatures are expected to become warm, with daily temperatures ranging between  $31.0^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $33.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ 

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throughout the period. However, temperatures are expected to have a real-feel or feels-like between 31.0  $^{\circ}$ C to 42.0 $^{\circ}$ C on most days. The minimum temperatures will range between 20.5 $^{\circ}$ C to 25.5 $^{\circ}$ 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 20-30 km/h are expected. Low rainfall totals, mostly moderate speeds, warm days, and warm feels-like temperatures will sustain average evapotranspiration rates in crops ranging between 5.0 to 11.0 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 upper-70s, in terms of percentage.

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