

CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

April 2024 | Volume X | ISSUE 11

Announcement

With rainfall typically increasing as the region moves away from its dry season into its wet season approaching June, and with normal to above rainfall forecasted for most of the region except in the west, short term drought at the end of June is only a major concern for southern French Guiana. However, cautioning interests in the western Caribbean to monitor their water resources for drought that can impact streams, small rivers and ponds. On the other hand, long term drought that can impact large rivers and reservoirs, and groundwater is likely in the Guianas (particularly so in southern French Guiana), southwestern Puerto Rico, Cayman Islands and parts of Cuba and Belize. Interests in Trinidad and Tobago, Dominica, ABC Islands and Jamaica should monitor their water resources for long term drought.

Month at a Glance

Mixed conditions were seen throughout the islands of the eastern Caribbean during the month of February, with a normal to below south and a normal to above normal north of the chain. Trinidad was severe to exceptionally dry; Tobago exceptional to predominantly extremely dry; Grenada and St Croix moderately dry; Barbados extreme to severely dry; St Vincent normal; Saint Lucia predominantly normal to slightly dry in the extreme north; Martinique moderately dry to normal; Dominica moderate to extremely wet; Guadeloupe very to extremely wet; Antigua, St Kitts, St Maarten and Anguilla exceptionally wet and St Thomas slight to moderately dry. [Read More;](#)

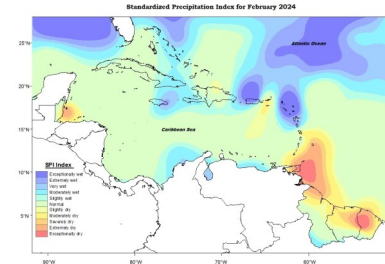
Latest News

Severe drought in Suriname reduces its crop yield;

[Read more;](#)

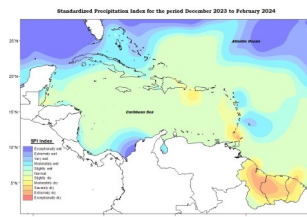
Trinidad and Tobago: Worst Drought in Years, WASA ;[Read more;](#)

Dry season relief: Chance of early wet season, says Met Office; [Read more;](#)

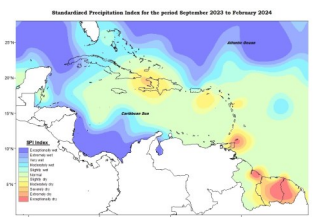


December-January-February

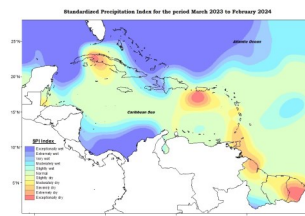
Mixed conditions were experienced over the three month period throughout the eastern Caribbean. Trinidad was predominantly normal to moderately dry; Tobago severe to slightly dry; Grenada severely dry; Barbados moderately wet in the extreme south to predominantly very wet; St Vincent, St Kitts, St Maarten, Anguilla, St Croix and St Thomas normal; Saint Lucia, Dominica and Guadeloupe moderately wet to normal; Martinique normal to moderately dry and Antigua slight to moderately wet. The Guianas were predominantly drier than usual, ranging from normal to extremely dry. Aruba and curacao were normal. Puerto Rico was mostly normal ranging to moderately dry in the extreme southwest. The Dominican Republic ranged from mostly normal to slightly dry in the east. Jamaica and Grand cayman were normal. Cuba ranged from extremely wet in the west to normal in the extreme southeast. Northern Bahamas ranged from slight to very wet and Belize was slightly dry in the southeast ranging to very wet in the northwest.



DEC 2023 - FEB 2024
SPI 3 MONTHS



SEP 2023 - FEB 2024
SPI 6 MONTHS



MAR 2023 - FEB 2024
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:

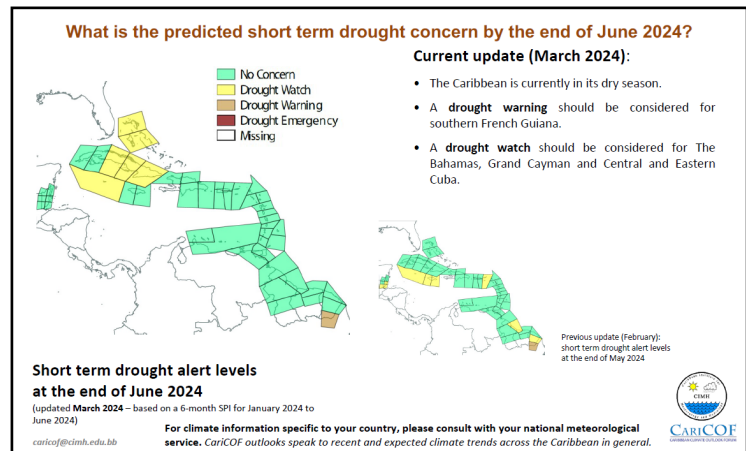
Mr. Adrian Trotman:
atrotman@cimh.edu.bb

Mrs. Lisa Kirton-Reed
lkreed@cimh.edu.bb

Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#)

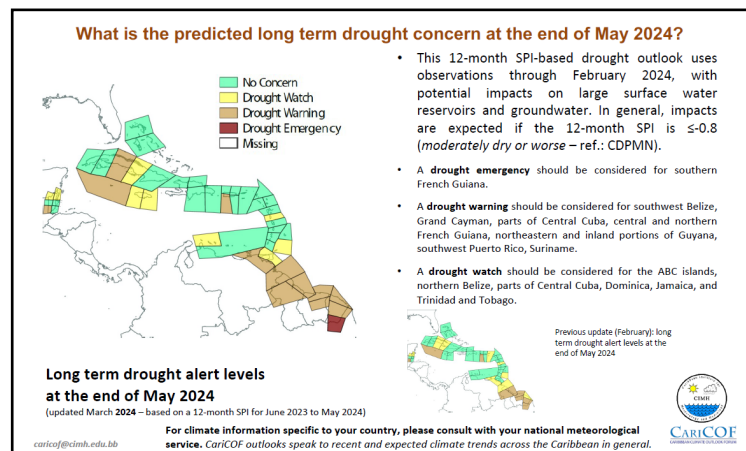
CariCOF Drought Alert Maps

Map of short-term drought by the end of June 2024



- Short-term drought situation (by the end of June 2024):
 - Short-term drought is evolving in southern French Guiana.
 - Short-term drought might possibly develop or continue in The Bahamas, Grand Cayman and Central and Eastern Cuba.

Map of long-term drought by the end of May 2024



- Long-term drought situation (by the end of May 2024):
 - Long-term drought is of immediate concern in southern French Guiana.
 - Long-term drought is evolving in southwest Belize, Grand Cayman, parts of Central Cuba, central and northern French Guiana, northeastern and inland portions of Guyana, southwest Puerto Rico, Suriname.
 - Long-term drought might possibly develop or continue in ABC islands, northern Belize, parts of Central Cuba, Dominica, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago.

"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](#)