

CARIBBEAN AGRO-CLIMATIC BULLETIN OF THE CARISAM



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A joint bulletin of the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) and the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH).

KEY MESSAGES

Progressive decrease of tropical cyclone activity.

Progressive decrease of excessively hot and humid days, though recurrent heatwaves are still likely in the Guianas and possibly in the islands from Dominica southwards.

Peak in rainfall intensity and shower frequency in Belize and the islands, resulting in high to extremely high potential for flooding, flash floods, cascading hazards and associated impacts.

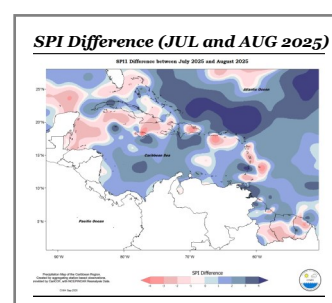
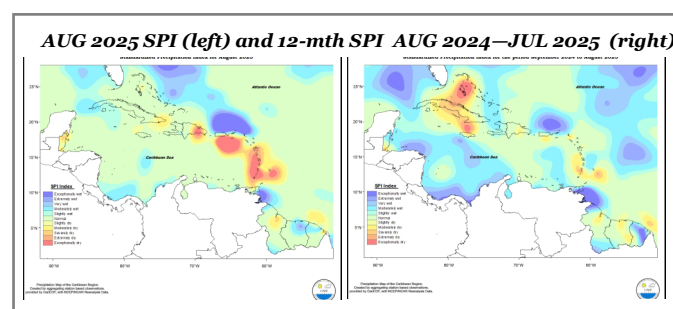
Long-term drought concerns, by the end of November 2025, exist across northwestern Bahamas and possibly across northern Bahamas, southwest Belize, parts of central Cuba, and St. Vincent.

AUGUST IN REVIEW

During the month of August, conditions were mostly normal to below normal throughout the eastern Caribbean. Trinidad was exceptionally wet to moderately dry southeast to northwest; Tobago normal to moderately dry; Grenada, St Vincent exceptionally dry; Barbados extreme to moderately dry; Saint Lucia moderate to exceptionally dry; Martinique and Dominica exceptional to extremely dry; Guadeloupe predominantly extreme to severely dry; Antigua and St Kitts slightly dry to mostly normal; St Maarten normal to moderately wet; Anguilla moderate to exceptionally wet and St Thomas mostly normal to slightly wet. In the Guianas, conditions were mostly normal ranging to severely dry in northeastern Guyana and French Guiana and to extremely wet in northeastern Suriname. Curacao was normal.

Puerto Rico ranged from exceptionally dry in the south to exceptionally wet in the north. The Dominican Republic ranged from normal to exceptionally dry west to east. Jamaica was mostly normal, but slightly dry in the west. Grand cayman was slightly wet. Cuba was mostly normal ranging to moderately wet in the west and to moderately dry in the east. Northern Bahamas was predominantly normal ranging to slightly dry and Belize was normal to severely dry.

During the 12-month period (September 2024 to August 2025), extremely dry conditions exist across central Cuba, northern tip of Jamaica, and exceptionally dry across northwestern Bahamas. In contrast, most of French Guiana and Trinidad and Tobago was slightly to exceptionally wet.



The month of August was relatively drier than July across most of the eastern territories, much of the Guianas, Belize, Jamaica, eastern Cuba, much of the Dominican Republic and southern Puerto Rico.

Read more at <https://rcc.cimh.edu.bb/spi-monitor/>

AGRI-NEWS

Belize: Ministry of Agriculture hosts protected Agriculture training to advance climate-smart farming in Belize River Valley. Read more <https://www.breakingbelizenews.com/2025/09/26/ministry-of-agriculture-hosts-protected-agriculture-training-to-advance-climate-smart-farming-in-belize-river-valley/>

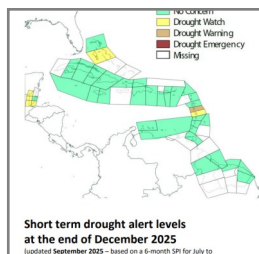
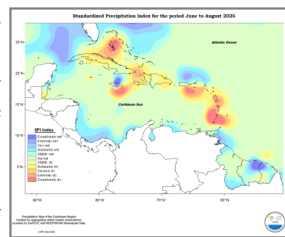
ABOUT CariSAM

The Caribbean Society for Agricultural Meteorology (CariSAM) is an online platform that hosts forums, provided online weather and climate information for agro-meteorologists, and much more. Agricultural interests can register and access relevant information and be a part of future capacity building exercises, and more. Visit us at: www.carisam.cimh.edu.bb

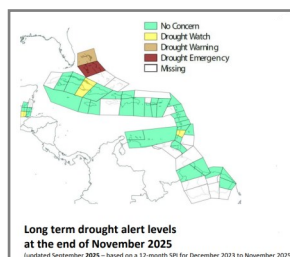
REGIONAL OUTLOOKS

DROUGHT

Severe (or worse) short-term drought has developed in the Northwestern Bahamas, Dominica, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Saint Lucia and St. Vincent. Severe (or worse) long-term drought has developed in the Northwestern Bahamas, southwest Belize, Cuba, northern Jamaica and St. Vincent.

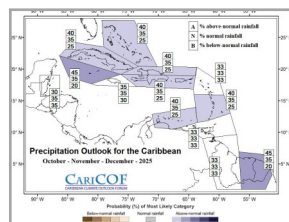


There may be some concern over short term drought that can impact small rivers, streams and ponds by the end of December 2025 across Dominica and possibly the Northwestern Bahamas, western Belize and Martinique.



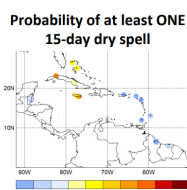
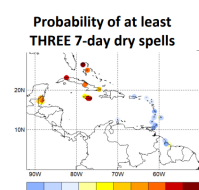
There is concern for long-term drought, that can impact large reservoirs, large rivers or groundwater, to present a challenge in farming by the end of November 2025 across northwestern Bahamas and possibly across northern Bahamas, southwest Belize, parts of central Cuba, and St. Vincent. Interests in these territories should monitor their water resources.

RAINFALL, WET/DRY SPELLS, TEMPERATURE and HEATWAVE DAYS (OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2025)



Rainfall totals from October through December are likely to be the usual or higher in The ABC Islands, The Bahamas, Cayman Islands, Cuba, eastern parts of the Guianas, Hispaniola, the Windward Islands and the US Caribbean Territories.

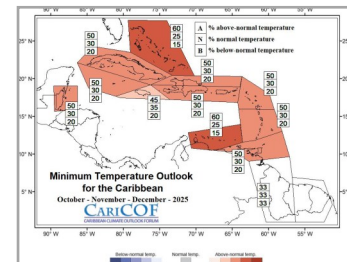
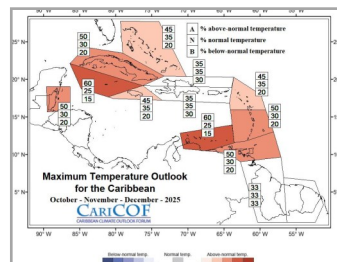
High to extremely high potential for flooding, including flash floods and related hazards across the Caribbean Islands and Belize; moderate potential in the Guianas, increasing to high by late-November in coastal and northern areas. Surface wetness makes environmental conditions more conducive to moisture-related pests in the islands and Belize. Rising wildfire potential after November in the northwestern Caribbean and through mid-November in the Guianas.



Moderate to high potential for the occurrence of at least three 7-day dry spells across Belize, Jamaica, Cuba and northern and northwestern Bahamas during October to December.

Moderate to high potential of at least one 15-day dry spell during October to December across Jamaica and northwestern Cuba.

This period, October through December, marks the transition out of the Heat Season into the Cool Season. Day-time (maximum) and night-time (minimum) temperatures will likely be the usual or higher with spells of hazardous, humid heat expected through October in the ABC Islands, Barbados, the Windward Islands, and through November in the Guianas.



Visit <http://rcc.cimh.edu.bb/climate-outlooks/> to access the latest climate outlooks.

CLIMATE-SMART ADVISORIES

Heat stress and drought (Short- to Long-Term) – Impacting the Bahamas, Dominica, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent, Belize, Cuba, and Jamaica.

- ◆ Selected drought and heat-tolerant cultivars, such as cassava and sweet potato.
- ◆ Monitor and manage water use with drip or micro-irrigation systems, applying water in the morning or evening as needed.
- ◆ Reduce crop heat and drought stress by creating microclimates using shade nets, mulches, or intercropping with taller crops (e.g., plantain).
- ◆ Apply foliar sprays of potassium and calcium to mitigate acute heat stress, particularly fruit crops like tomatoes, peppers, and citrus.
- ◆ Optimize animal housing by ensuring good ventilation and avoiding overcrowding.
- ◆ Feed livestock during cooler periods (early morning or late evening).
- ◆ Ensure animals have access to water and shade.

Rainfall, flooding and wet conditions (Across the Caribbean and Belize)

- ◆ Avoid planting flood-sensitive crops in low-lying areas.
- ◆ Improve drainage with raised beds or contour planting and monitor for moisture-related pests and diseases.
- ◆ Keep animal housing, feed, and bedding elevated, dry, and well-drained.
- ◆ Avoid fertilizing prior to heavy rains and monitor crops for disease to ensure timely interventions.
- ◆ Track weather forecasts to prevent over-irrigation during.
- ◆ Move livestock to higher ground in flood-prone areas and provide protective structures where needed

Maintain records of inputs to aid post-disaster recovery

Please also keep updated and take into consideration your local weather and climate advisories.

Disclaimer

The information contained herein is provided with the understanding that the CARDI, and the CIMH make no warranties, either expressed or implied concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability or suitability of said information. This bulletin provides a broad overview of climate conditions up to 6 months in advance. It is recommended that stakeholders should use this information in combination with nearer term weather forecasts to guide operational decision making. The bulletin may be freely used by the public with appropriate acknowledgement of its source but shall not be modified in content and then presented as original material.

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