

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

Increased severe weather activity through December (January in the Guianas), resulting in high to extremely high potential for flooding, flash floods, cascading hazards and associated impacts.

Short dry spells are set to increase in frequency, particularly in the northwest of the region.

Milder, more comfortable temperatures throughout this Cool Season.

Drought impacts are likely by the end of February in the Windward Islands and potential for development of drought in southern Belize, Cuba and Grand Cayman.

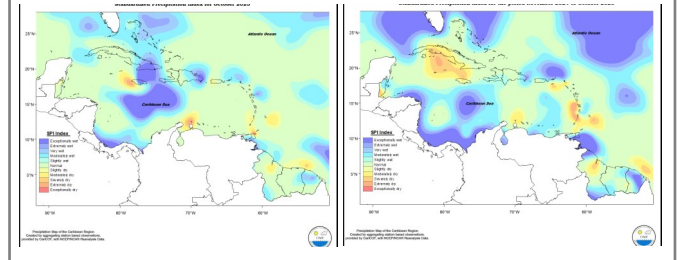
OCTOBER IN REVIEW

Mixed conditions were experienced throughout the islands of the eastern Caribbean during the month of October. Trinidad was extremely wet to exceptionally dry; Tobago and Barbados moderately dry to mostly normal; Grenada slightly dry; St Vincent slightly dry to normal; Saint Lucia, Martinique, Dominica, Antigua, St Kitts and St Croix were normal; Guadeloupe normal to very wet; St Maarten normal to moderately wet; Anguilla moderate to very wet and St Thomas predominantly slight to moderately wet. In the Guianas, conditions were mostly normal ranging to moderately dry in north central Guyana and in the vicinity of the northern Suriname/French Guiana border to extremely wet in northcentral French Guiana. Aruba was severely dry and Curaçao slightly dry to mostly normal.

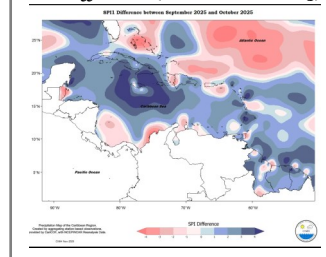
Puerto Rico moderately dry to slightly wet. The Dominican Republic ranged from normal to exceptionally wet from west to east. Jamaica was extremely dry in the west ranging to exceptionally wet in northern and central areas. Grand Cayman was normal. Cuba was mostly normal ranging to moderately wet in the west and to exceptionally wet in the east. Northern Bahamas ranged from slight to very wet and Belize was predominantly normal ranging to slightly dry in western and northern areas.

During the 12-month period (November 2024 to October 2025), mixed conditions exist across the region. However notably, south-eastern Trinidad was exceptionally wet and St. Vincent was ex-

OCT 2025 SPI (left) and 12-mth SPI NOV 2024–OCT 2025 (right)



SPI Difference (SEP and OCT 2025)



The month of October was wetter than September across most of the region.

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

AGRI-NEWS

Barbados: Sugar output set to fall due to poor rainfall. Read more <https://barbadostoday.bb/2025/11/15/sugar-output-set-to-fall-due-to-poor-rainfall-growers-rep/>

Jamaica: Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Mining, Hon. Floyd Green, has announced an allocation of \$30 million to provide on-farm infrastructure to assist farmers, as the agricultural sector embarks on its Hurricane Melissa recovery plan. Read more <https://jis.gov.jm/farmers-to-get-help-with-water-tanks-drip-irrigation-systems-and-water-pumps/>

ABOUT CariSAM

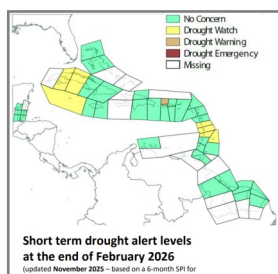
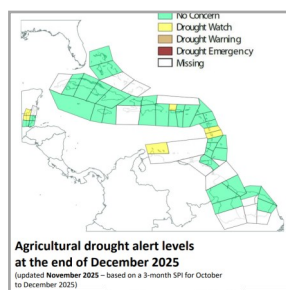
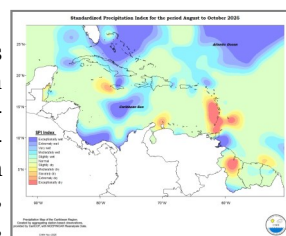
The Caribbean Society for Agricultural Meteorology (CariSAM) is an online platform that hosts forums, provided online weather and climate information for agro-meteorologists, and much more. Agricultural interests can register and access relevant information and be a part of future capacity building exercises,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

REGIONAL OUTLOOKS

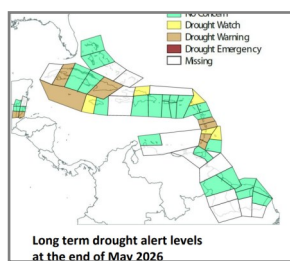
DROUGHT

Moderate (or worse) short-term drought has developed in Aruba, Barbados, far northern Belize, Dominica, Grenada, northern Guyana, Martinique, Saint Lucia, and St. Vincent. – Moderate (or worse) long-term drought has developed in Aruba, Barbados, southwest Belize, Cuba, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Martinique and St. Vincent.

Agricultural drought might possibly develop or continue in ABC Islands, western Belize, Dominica, Martinique, and north-west Puerto Rico by the end of December.

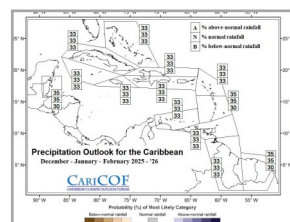


There may be some concern over short term drought that can impact small rivers, streams and ponds by the end of February 2026 across northwest Puerto Rico and possibly ABC Islands, Dominica, Martinique, Saint Lucia, and Tobago.



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 May 2026 across southwest Belize, Grand Cayman, Dominica, Grenada, Martinique, and Saint Lucia and possibly across ABC islands, southeast Belize, and St. Vincent. Interests in these territories should monitor their water resources.

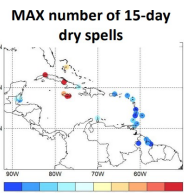
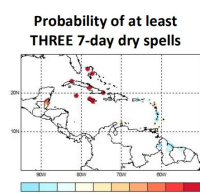
RAINFALL, WET/DRY SPELLS, TEMPERATURE and HEATWAVE DAYS (DECEMBER 2025 – FEBRUARY 2026)



Rainfall totals from December through February are likely to be the usual across the region.

High potential for long-term flooding, flash floods and related hazards across the Caribbean Islands and Belize in December, decreasing to limited in February; high potential in the Guianas. Surface wetness

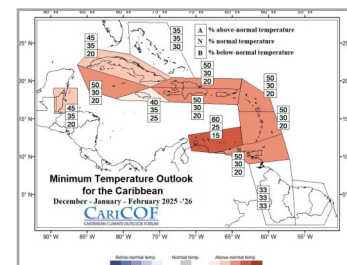
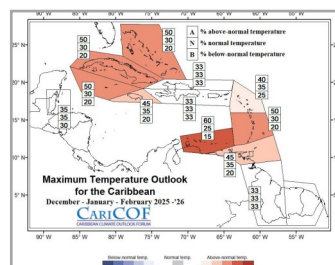
makes environmental conditions more conducive to moisture-related pests and diseases.



High potential for the occurrence of at least three 7-day dry spells across northern Belize, Jamaica, Cayman Islands, Cuba and northwestern Bahamas during December to February.

At least four 15-day dry spells are possible during December to February across Jamaica and Cuba.

This period marks the Caribbean Cool Season. Day-time (maximum) and night-time (minimum) temperatures will likely be the usual or higher throughout the islands and Belize. Comfortable temperatures should prevail throughout the period, though humidity will often be high in the northeastern two-thirds of the Guianas.



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

CLIMATE-SMART ADVISORIES

Drought (Short- and long-term) Affecting: Aruba, Barbados, northern & southwest Belize, Dominica, Cuba, Grenada, northern Guyana, Jamaica, Martinique, Saint Lucia, and St. Vincent.

- ◆ Install drip irrigation with low-flow emitters and water during cooler hours, using soil-moisture checks (tensiometer or feel method) to conserve water.
- ◆ Capture and store rainfall before Feb 2026, when small streams and ponds may decline.
- ◆ Use mulches to conserve moisture and avoid transplanting during prolonged dry spells.
- ◆ Provide shade and extra water storage for livestock (drums, tanks, flexibladders).
- ◆ Conserve forage (hay, silage, chopped grass) early before drought conditions worsen.

Rainfall, Wet/Dry Spells & Flooding (High flash flood risk in December across the Caribbean and Belize)

- ◆ Maintain drains and raised beds to improve drainage, and apply preventive fungicides in wet areas prone to fungal disease.
- ◆ Improve field airflow through pruning and proper spacing; monitor for moisture-related pests (mites, slugs) and use traps (e.g., yellow sticky traps).
- ◆ Avoid fertilizer application before heavy rainfall and monitor crops for early disease control.
- ◆ Install grassed waterways, or vetiver strips on slopes to reduce runoff.
- ◆ Relocate animals to higher ground in flood-prone areas and provide protective structures

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.

CONTACT US:

Adrian Trotman

Agro-meteorologist/ Chief of Applied Meteorology and Climatology, CIMH
Email: atrotman@cimh.edu.bb

Shontelle Stoute

Technical Officer, CIMH
Email: ssoute@cimh.edu.bb

Gem Thomas Barry

Agronmist, CARDI
Email: gthomas-barry@cardi.org