CariCOF Drought Outlook

By the end of November 2026

Coordination: Caribbean Institute for Meteorology & Hydrology
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Participating territories

Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haïti, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, St. Barts, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten/St. Martin, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago and the US Virgin Islands

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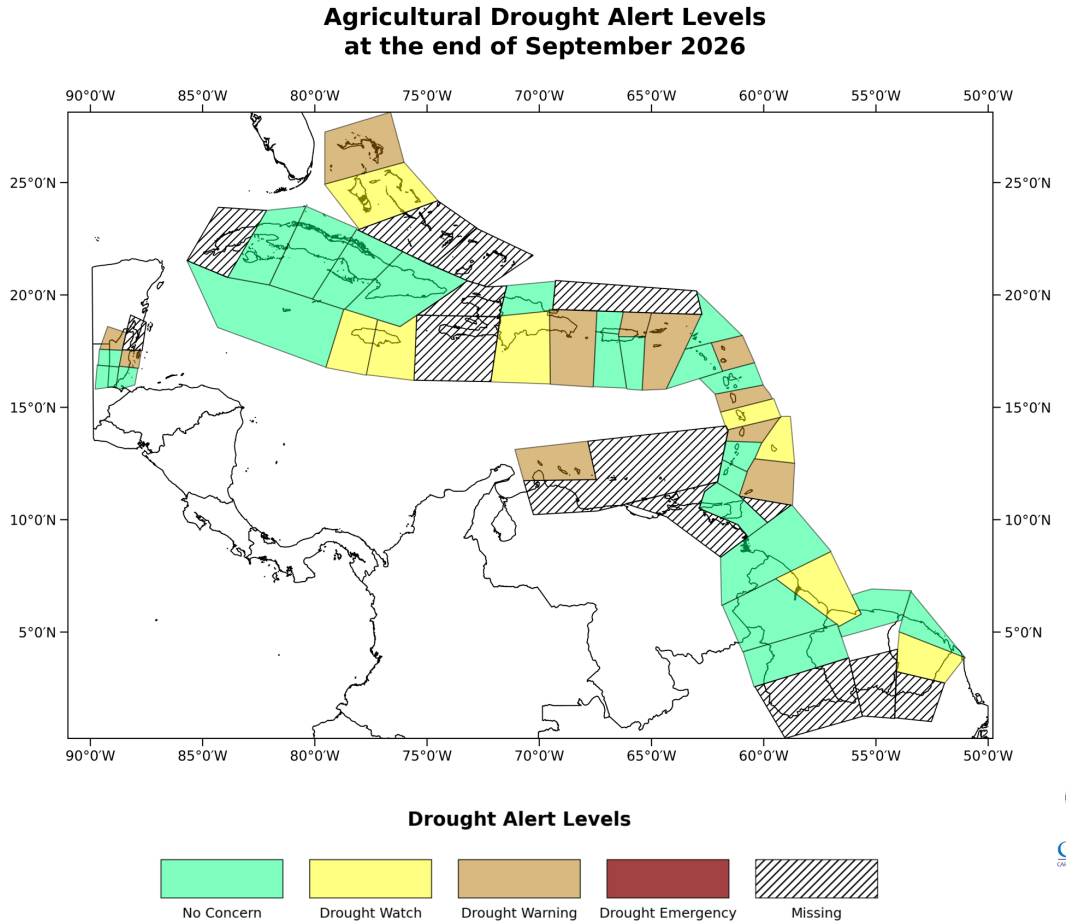
What is the predicted *agricultural drought* concern at the end of September 2026?



Current update (August 2026)

- During the Caribbean Wet Season, rainfall totals are usually higher. Nevertheless, whenever rainfall deficits lead to *severely dry* conditions (SPI ≤-1.3; ref.: CDPMN), impacts to surface and soil moisture leading to negative impacts on rainfed crop agriculture.
- **Drought warning** should be considered for the ABC Islands, Antigua, northwest & central coastal Belize, Northern Bahamas, Dominica, easternmost Dominican Republic, northeast Puerto Rico, Saint Lucia, Tobago, USVI.
- **Drought watch** should be considered for Barbados, Northwest Bahamas, southern Dominican Republic, interior French Guiana, coastal Guyana, Jamaica, Martinique.

Agricultural drought alert levels at the end of September 2026

(updated **August 2026** – based on a 3-month SPI for July to September 2026)

For climate information specific to your country, please consult with your national meteorological service. *CariCOF outlooks speak to recent and expected climate trends across the Caribbean in general.*

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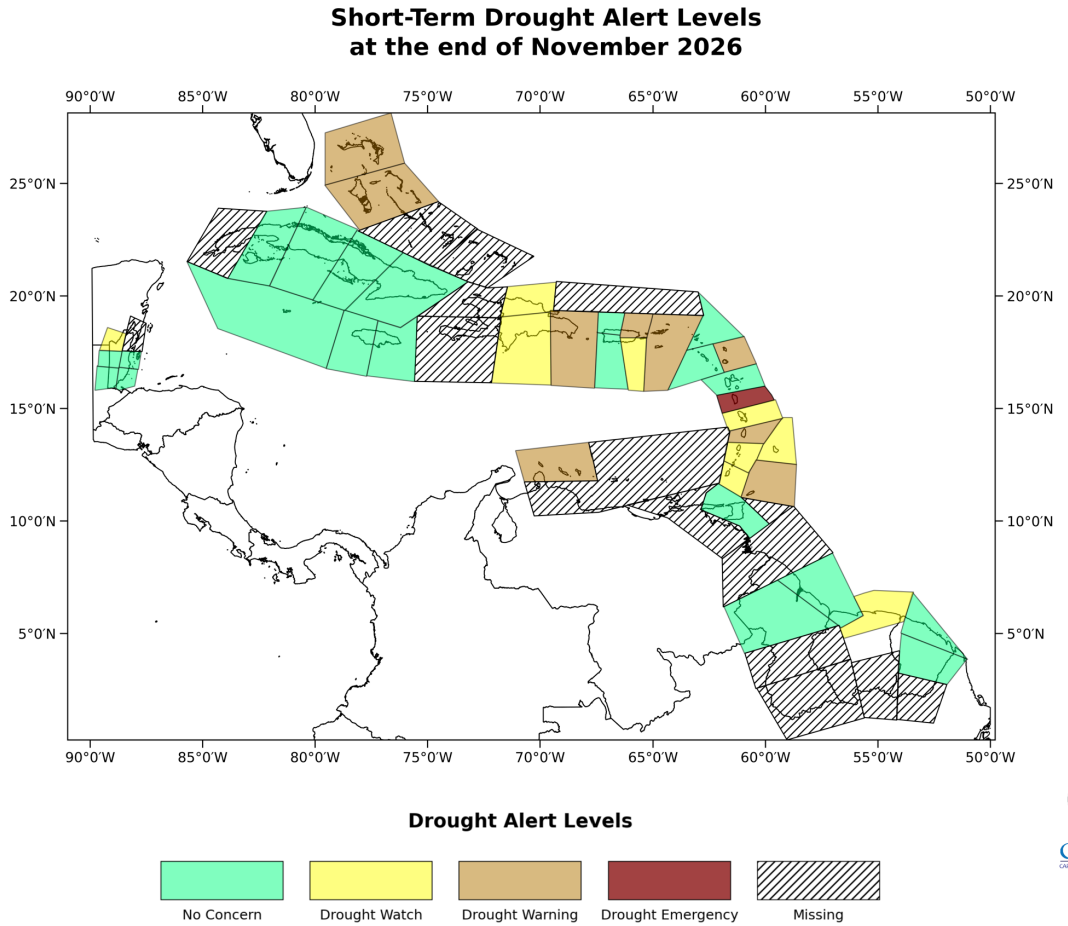
What is the predicted short-term drought concern at the end of November 2026?



Short-term drought alert levels at the end of November 2026

(updated **August 2026** – based on a 6-month SPI for June to November 2026)

Current update (August 2026):

- During the Caribbean Wet Season, rainfall totals are usually higher. Nevertheless, whenever rainfall deficits lead to *severely dry* conditions (SPI ≤-1.3; ref.: CDPMN), impacts to soil moisture, stream and small river flow, as well as surface water reservoirs are expected, with implications for agriculture and hydrology.
- **Drought emergency** should be considered for Dominica.
- **Drought warning** should be considered for the ABC Islands, Antigua, Northern & Northwest Bahamas, easternmost Dominican Republic, northeast Puerto Rico, Saint Lucia, Tobago, USVI.
- **Drought watch** should be considered for Barbados, northern & southern Dominican Republic, SE Puerto Rico, coastal Suriname, elsewhere in the Windward Islands.

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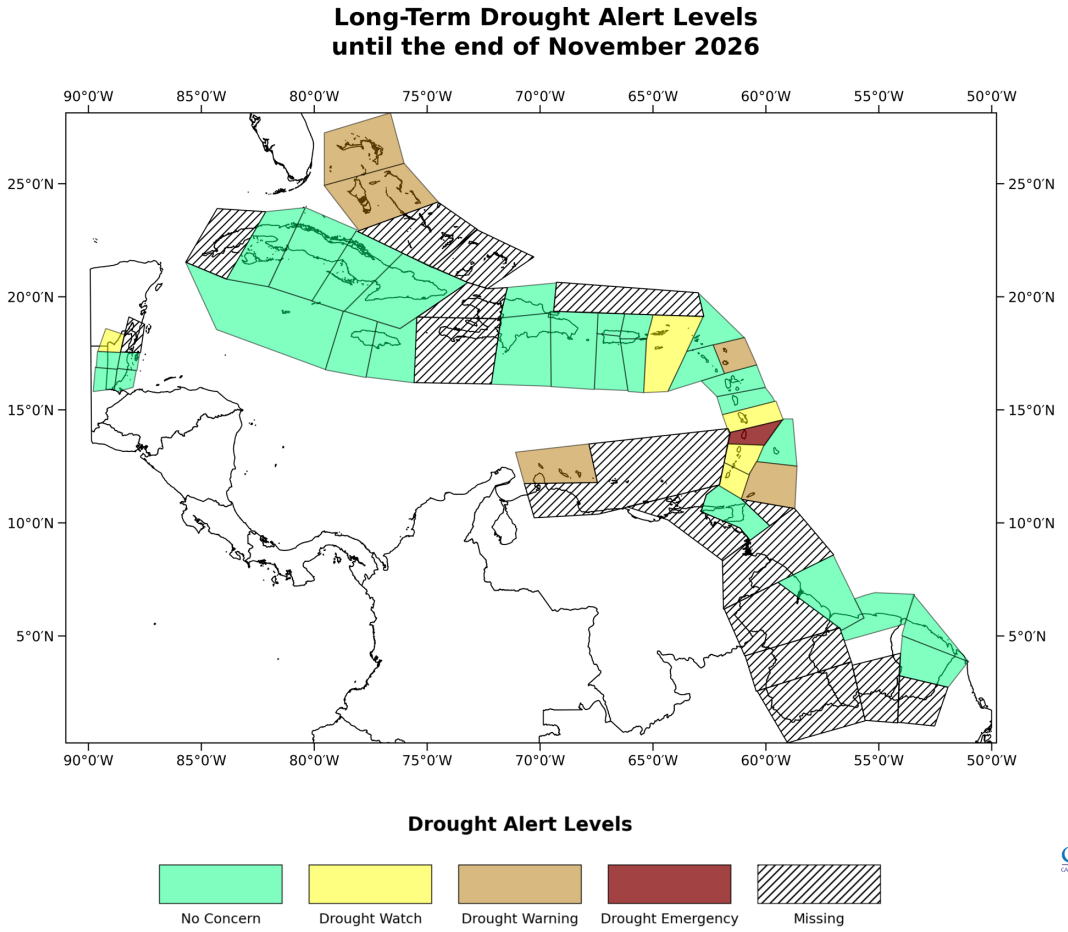
What is the predicted long-term drought concern at the end of November 2026?



Current update (August 2026):

- During the Caribbean Wet Season, rainfall totals are usually higher. Nevertheless, whenever rainfall deficits lead to *severely dry* conditions (SPI ≤-1.3; ref.: CDPMN), impacts to large river flow, very large surface water reservoirs and aquifers are expected, with implications across most climate-sensitive sectors of society.
- A **drought emergency** should be considered for Saint Lucia.
- A **drought warning** should be considered for the ABC Islands, Antigua, Northern & Northwest Bahamas, Tobago.
- A **drought watch** should be considered for Grenada, Martinique, St. Vincent, USVI.

Long-term drought alert levels at the end of November 2026

(updated August **2026** – based on a 12-month SPI for December 2025 to November 2026)

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Outlook – agricultural / short- / long-term drought concern?

- **Current drought situation** (up to the end of July 2026): *(more information here)*
  - Severe (or worse) ***agricultural drought*** has developed in Northern & Northwest Bahamas, coastal northern Belize, Grand Cayman, Central Cuba, northeast Dominica, southwest Dominican Republic, Guadeloupe, central French Guiana, Haiti, far western & southeast Jamaica, Leeward Islands, northeast Puerto Rico, St. Croix, St. Vincent.
  - Severe (or worse) ***short-term drought*** has developed in Antigua, Northern & Northwest Bahamas, Grand Cayman, Martinique, southwest Puerto Rico, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Vincent, Tobago.
  - Severe (or worse) ***long-term drought*** has developed in Grand Cayman, Grenada, southwest Jamaica, Martinique, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent, southwest French Guiana, Tobago, far northern Trinidad.
- **Anticipated *Agricultural drought* situation** (at the end of September 2026):
  - Agricultural drought is *evolving* in the ABC Islands, Antigua, northwest & central coastal Belize, Northern Bahamas, Dominica, easternmost Dominican Republic, northeast Puerto Rico, Saint Lucia, Tobago, USVI.
  - Agricultural drought *might possibly develop or continue* in Barbados, Northwest Bahamas, southern Dominican Republic, interior French Guiana, coastal Guyana, Jamaica, Martinique.
- **Anticipated *Short-term drought* situation** (at the end of November 2026):
  - Short-term drought is *imminent* in Dominica and *evolving* in ABC Islands, Antigua, Northern & Northwest Bahamas, easternmost Dominican Republic, northeast Puerto Rico, Saint Lucia, Tobago, USVI.
  - Short-term drought *might possibly develop or continue* in Barbados, northern & southern Dominican Republic, southeast Puerto Rico, elsewhere in the Windward Islands.
- **Anticipated *Long-term drought* situation** (at the end of November 2026):
  - Long-term drought is *imminent* in Saint Lucia and *evolving* in the ABC Islands, Antigua, Northern & Northwest Bahamas, Tobago.
  - Long-term drought *might possibly develop or continue* in Grenada, Martinique, St. Vincent, USVI.
  - Areas ending up in long-term drought by the end of November are likely to experience lower than usual water levels in large reservoirs, large rivers and groundwater in the ensuing dry season.

** We advise all stakeholders to keep monitoring drought and look for our monthly updates.**

CONTINUE TO MONITOR & CONSERVE WATER !!

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ALERT LEVEL	MEANING	ACTION LEVEL
NO CONCERN	No drought concern	✓ **monitor resources** ✓ update and ratify management plans ✓ public awareness campaigns ✓ upgrade infrastructure
DROUGHT WATCH	Drought possible	✓ **keep updated** ✓ protect resources and conserve water ✓ implement management plans ✓ response training ✓ monitor and repair infrastructure
DROUGHT WARNING	Drought evolving	✓ **protect resources** ✓ conserve and recycle water ✓ implement management plans ✓ release public service announcements ✓ last minute infrastructural repairs and upgrades ✓ report impacts
DROUGHT EMERGENCY	Drought of immediate concern	✓ **release public service announcements** ✓ implement management and response plans ✓ enforce water restrictions and recycling ✓ enforce resource protection ✓ repair infrastructure ✓ report impacts

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Regional climate data, information, tools, experimental and operational products are available at

https://rcc.cimh.edu.bb

Coordination: Caribbean Institute for Meteorology & Hydrology
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