

CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

November 2020 | Volume V II | ISSUE 6

Announcement

With rainfall continuing to increase in the Caribbean, and in many cases being normal to above normal, there are no concerns over short term drought that can impact streams, small rivers and ponds, other than in southern Belize. Interests in the eastern Caribbean and southern Belize in particular, as well as Suriname, should continue to monitor their water resources for long term drought that can impact large reservoirs and groundwater.

Month at a Glance

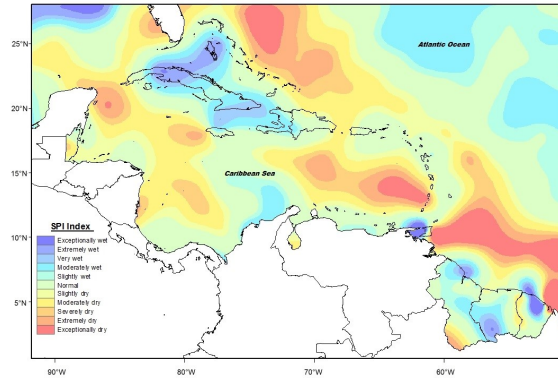
The islands of the eastern Caribbean were predominantly normal to below normal during the month of September. Trinidad ranged from exceptionally dry in the southeast to exceptionally wet in northeastern areas; Tobago, Barbados, Dominica, St Kitts, Antigua, St Maarten, Anguilla, St Croix and St Thomas normal; Grenada slight to severely dry; St Vincent extreme to severely dry south to north; Saint Lucia slight to moderately dry; Martinique predominantly slightly dry with moderately dry areas in the extreme southwest; Guadeloupe was predominantly normal ranging to slightly wet in the extreme east. Conditions in the Guianas ranged from extremely dry in Southern Guyana and exceptionally dry in northeastern French Guiana to exceptionally wet in a small area in southern Suriname and northern French Guiana. Aruba slightly dry; Curacao normal to slightly dry in the north. [Read More;](#)

Latest News

Heavy rains good news amid drought conditions; Read more; <https://barbadostoday.bb/2020/10/07/heavy-rains-good-news-amid-drought-conditions/>

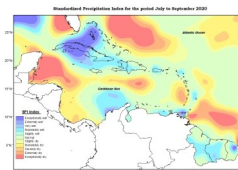
Caribbean Communities building resilience through water harvesting, Read more; <https://www.ipsnews.net/2020/10/caribbean-communities-building-resilience-water-harvesting/>

Standardized Precipitation Index for September 2020

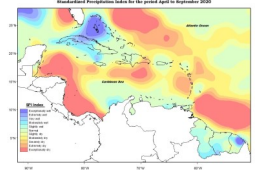


July-August-September

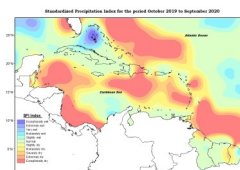
Mixed conditions prevailed throughout the eastern Caribbean over the three month period. Trinidad ranged from extremely dry in the southeast to exceptionally wet in the extreme northwestern tip; Tobago, Antigua, St Maarten, Anguilla, St Croix and St Thomas normal; Grenada moderately dry; Barbados normal to moderately wet south to north; St Vincent severe to moderately dry west to east; Saint Lucia, Martinique and Dominica moderately dry to normal; Guadeloupe slightly dry to normal; St Kitts normal to slightly wet. In the Guianas, conditions ranged from normal to exceptionally wet in north central French Guiana and to extremely dry in the extreme east of French Guiana. Aruba and Curacao were normal. Puerto Rico ranged from moderate to slightly wet west to east. Hispaniola ranged from moderately wet to normal. Jamaica ranged from normal in the south and eastern areas to moderately wet in the northwest. Grand Cayman was slightly wet. Cuba ranged from exceptionally wet in west central areas to normal in the west and moderately wet in the east. Northern Bahamas ranged from exceptionally wet to normal and Belize ranged from exceptionally dry in central areas to moderately dry in the south and north.



JUL 2020- SEP 2020
SPI 3 MONTHS



APR 2020 - SEP 2020
SPI 6 MONTHS



OCT 2019- SEP 2020
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:

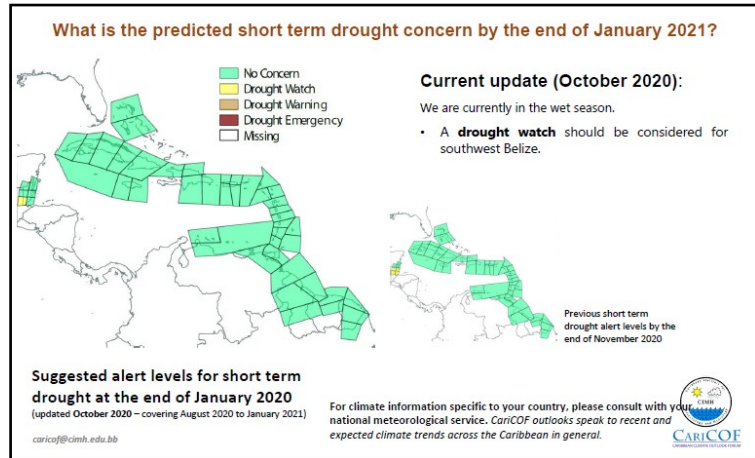
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Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#)

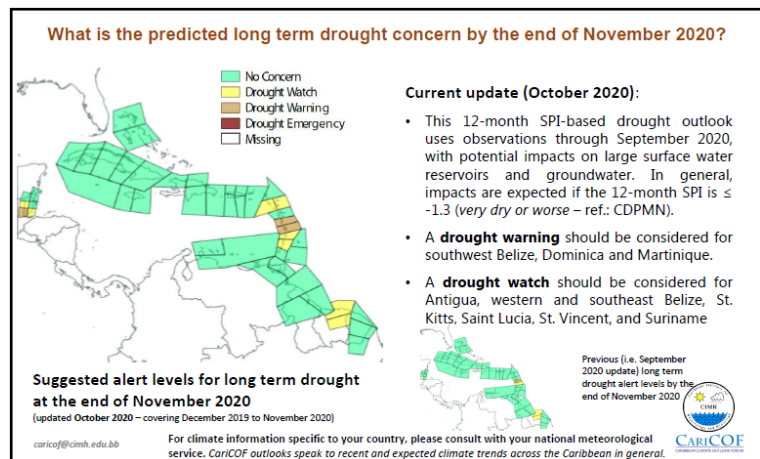
CariCOF Drought Alert Maps

Map of short-term drought by the end of January 2021



- Shorter term drought situation (by the end of January 2021):
 - Short term drought might possibly develop or continue for parts of southwestern Belize.

Map of long-term drought by the end of November 2020



- Long term drought situation (by the end of November 2020):
 - Long term drought is evolving in southwest Belize, Dominica and Martinique.
 - Long term drought might possibly develop or continue in Antigua, southwest Belize, St. Kitts, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent, and Suriname.
 - Areas ending up in long term drought by the end of November may experience water levels in large reservoirs, large rivers and groundwater that are lower than usual, which would become a concern for the 2020-21 dry season.

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

Drought outlook available for download [here](#)