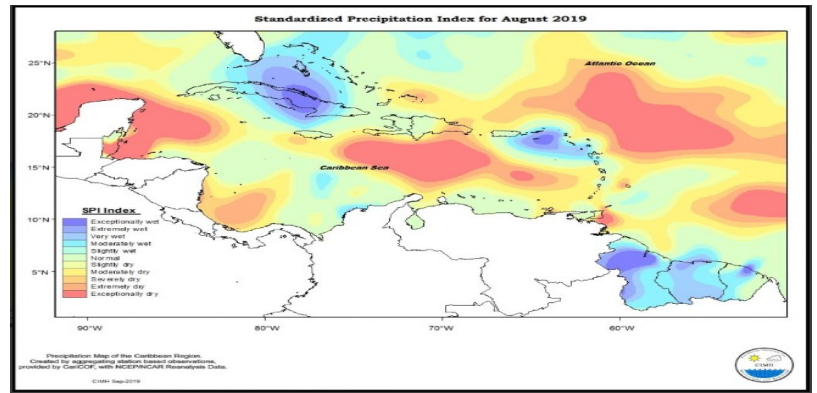


# CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

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## Announcement

Though apart from Belize there is less concern over short term drought, there remains much concern over long term drought as the end of the year approaches, and more importantly, the end of the wet season. This enhances concerns related to water availability moving into the dry season. In particular, underground water sources and large rivers could continue to be depleted, particularly in portions of the eastern Caribbean, French Guiana and Belize.



## Month at a Glance

Mixed conditions were seen throughout the islands of the eastern Caribbean in August. Trinidad ranged from normal to exceptionally dry from northwest to southeast; Tobago normal to severely dry; Grenada moderately dry; ; Barbados slight to extremely dry; St. Vincent, St Lucia and Martinique normal to slightly dry; Dominica, St. Kitts, St Maarten and Anguilla normal to moderately wet; Guadeloupe moderately wet to moderately dry from west to east; Antigua and St Thomas moderately wet; St. Croix was extreme to exceptionally wet.; In the Guiana's, conditions ranged from normal to exceptionally wet -the north eastern portion of Guyana, eastern portions of Suriname, north and southeast French Guiana were normal, whereas the north central areas were exceptionally wet. Curacao was normal. [Read more;](#)

## Latest News

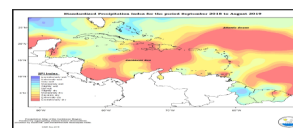
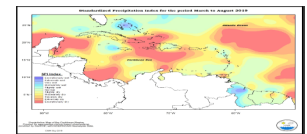
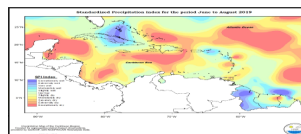
Drought conditions continue in Barbados, read more; <http://www.loopnewsbarbados.com/content/drought-conditions-continue-low-rainfall-totals-barbados>

GOB declares state of emergency in Belize, read more; <https://www.sanpedrosun.com/environment/2019/09/27/drought-costs-farmers-50-million-gob-declares-state-of-emergency/>

Food prices expected to increase in Belize due to drought, Read more; <https://www.breakingbelizenews.com/2019/09/19/price-of-corn-and-rice-expected-to-increase-drought-to-impact-belizes-food-security/>

## June-July-August

Conditions in the eastern Caribbean ranged from very wet to exceptionally dry over the three month period. Trinidad ranged from moderately dry in the south and northeast to severely dry in central, north and north western areas; Tobago and Barbados predominantly moderately dry; Grenada slightly dry; St. Vincent normal to slightly dry; St Lucia normal to extremely dry; Martinique slight to moderately dry; Dominica normal to moderately dry; Guadeloupe moderately wet to extremely dry from west to east; Antigua normal to slightly wet; St. Kitts normal; St Maarten slight to moderately wet; St Croix moderate to very wet; and St. Thomas slight to moderately wet. In the Guiana's, conditions ranged from exceptionally wet, with eastern Guyana and most of Suriname and French Guiana normal to exceptionally wet in north and southwest Guyana, to exceptionally dry at the northern Suriname/French Guiana border. Curacao was moderately dry. Puerto Rico ranged from slightly wet to severely dry from east to west. Hispaniola ranged from normal in central Dominican Republic to extremely dry in eastern and southern areas of the portions of the DR and to severely dry in south-western Haiti. In Jamaica, with the exception of the extreme west which was normal, conditions ranged from slightly dry in the north to extremely dry in the south, while Grand Cayman was normal in the east and slightly dry in the west. Cuba ranged from normal in the eastern and western areas to exceptionally wet in central areas. Northern Bahamas ranged from normal to exceptionally wet. Apart from the extreme south which was normal, Belize ranged from slightly dry to exceptionally dry from west to east.



## 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.....](#)

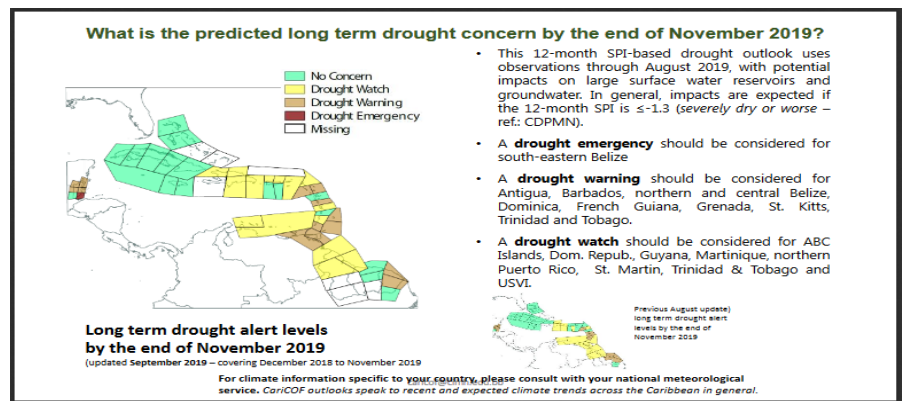
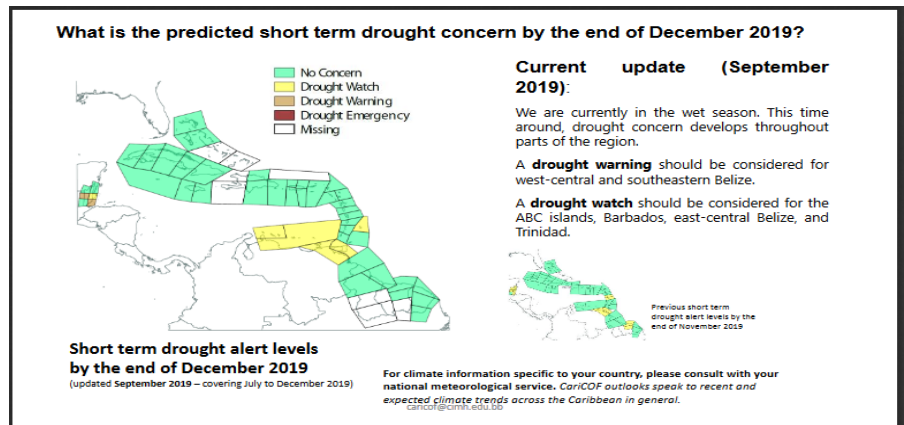
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Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#)

## Drought Outlook for the End of November CariCOF's Drought Alert Map



## Current Drought Situation

- **Current drought situation (up to the end of August 2019):**
  - Severe (or worse ) shorter term drought has developed in Aruba, much of Belize, north-Western French Guiana, easternmost and southernmost Hispaniola, southernmost Jamaica, parts of Martinique, northern saint Lucia, parts of Trinidad & Tobago, Turks & Caicos.
  - Severe (or worse) long term drought has developed in Aruba, Barbados ,eastern & Northern Belize, eastern Cuba, southwestern Dominica , southern and eastern Dom. Repub, northwestern and northeastern French Guiana, Haiti, Martinique, much of Puerto Rico, northern saint Lucia, Trinidad.
- **Shorter term drought situation (by end of December 2019):**
  - Shorter term drought is evolving in west central and southeastern Belize.
  - Shorter term drought might possibly continue in Aruba, Barbados, other parts of Belize And Trinidad and might develop in Curacao.
- **Long term drought situation (by end of November 2019):**
  - Long term drought is of immediate concern in southeastern Belize.
  - Long term drought is evolving in Antigua , Barbados, northern and central Belize, Dominica, French Guiana, Grenada, St. Kitts and Trinidad & Tobago.
  - Long term drought might possibly continue in Hispaniola and Martinique, and might Develop in northern Puerto Rico, St. Martin, St. Vincent, USVI.
  - Areas ending up in long term drought may experience significantly reduced water levels In large reservoirs, large rivers and groundwater during the upcoming dry season.

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

**Drought outlook available for download [here](#)**