

CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

August 2023 | Volume X | ISSUE 3

Announcement

With below normal rainfall likely until October in the southern portion of the eastern chain into the Guianas, some concerns over short term drought by October and long term drought by November are emerging. Impacts on streams, small rivers and ponds are likely in that southern area (particularly French Guiana) and possibly Belize by October. Conditions could translate to impacts on groundwater, larger rivers and reservoirs by November in the southeastern Caribbean and parts of Belize (particularly central areas). Interests in these areas should closely monitor their water reserves.

Month at a Glance

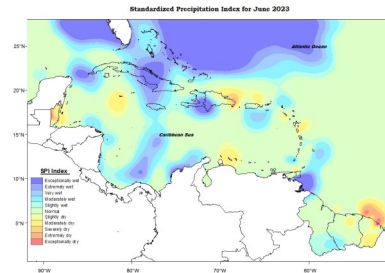
Mixed conditions were seen throughout the islands of the eastern Caribbean during the month of June. Trinidad was exceptionally wet to moderately dry; Grenada very to moderately wet; Barbados and St Maarten moderately wet to normal; St Vincent, Antigua and St Thomas normal; Saint Lucia slightly wet in the south to predominantly normal; Martinique slightly wet to slightly dry; Dominica and St Kitts slight to moderately dry; Guadeloupe predominantly normal to slightly dry; Anguilla slight to predominantly moderately wet and St Croix moderately wet. In the Guianas, conditions were mostly normal ranging to extremely wet extreme north of Guyana and to exceptionally dry in northeastern French Guiana. Aruba was slight to moderately dry and Curacao was moderately dry. Puerto Rico ranged from moderately wet in the southwest to moderately dry on the northeastern coastline. Hispaniola ranged from exceptionally wet in the south to severely dry in the extreme east. Jamaica ranged from extremely wet in the northwest to slightly wet in the east. Grand Cayman was moderately dry. Northern Bahamas ranged from exceptional to moderately wet and Belize was normal in the south ranging to moderately dry in the north and to exceptionally dry in the west.

Latest News

FAO and the Government of Mexico offer critical support to farmers affected by drought in Antigua and Barbuda; [Read More:](#)

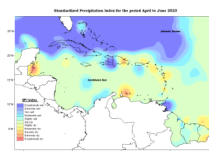
Livestock farmers in Antigua downsizing as drought conditions persist; [Read More:](#)

Havana suffers water shortages as cracks show in aging Cuban infrastructure; [Read More:](#)

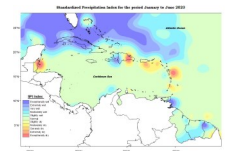


April-May-June

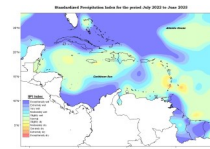
During the three month period, conditions throughout the eastern Caribbean were predominantly normal to below normal. Trinidad ranged from exceptionally wet to normal; Grenada moderately wet to normal; Barbados, Saint Lucia and Antigua normal; St Vincent moderate to slightly dry; Martinique and Guadeloupe normal to moderately dry; Dominica moderately dry; St Kitts and St Thomas moderate to slightly dry; St Maarten and St Croix slightly dry to normal and Anguilla normal to slightly wet. In the Guianas, mostly normal conditions prevailed with very wet conditions experienced in the extreme northeastern coast of Guyana and severely dry conditions in southeastern French Guiana. Aruba ranged from moderate to severely dry and Curacao was extremely dry. Puerto Rico was moderately wet in the south ranging to slightly dry in the northeast. Hispaniola ranged from exceptionally wet in areas spanning from central and southern areas of Haiti to southwestern areas of the Dominican Republic, and to extremely dry in east central Dominican Republic. Jamaica ranged from slightly wet to normal west to east. Grand Cayman was predominantly slightly dry to normal south to north. Northern Bahamas was exceptional to moderately wet and Belize normal in the south ranging to moderately dry in the north and to exceptionally dry along the eastern coastline.



APR 2023 - JUNE 2023
SPI 3 MONTHS



JAN 2023 - JUNE 2023
SPI 6 MONTHS



JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023
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:

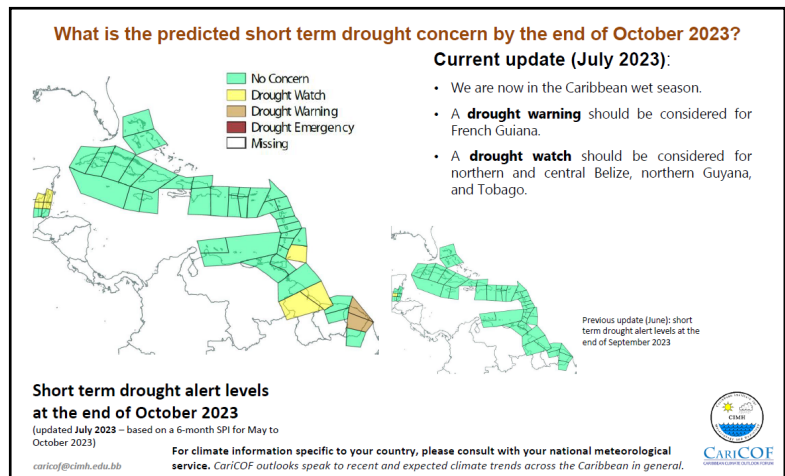
Mr. Adrian Trotman:
atrotman@cimh.edu.bb

Mrs. Lisa Kirton-Reed
lkreed@cimh.edu.bb

Website: [CDPMN Drought Monitor](#)

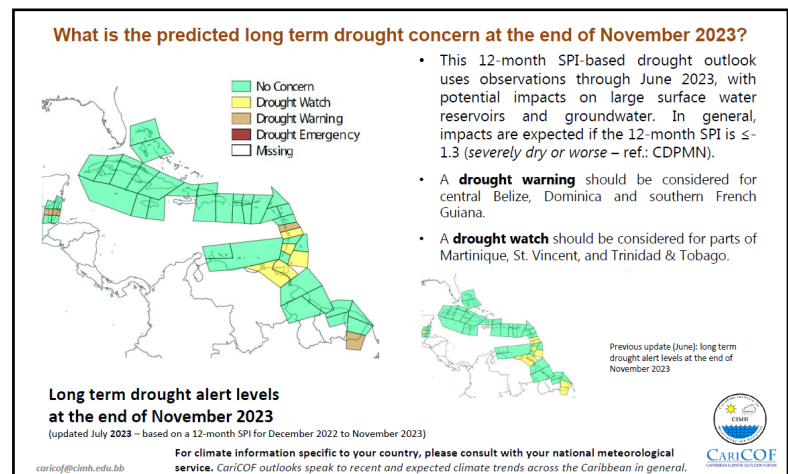
CariCOF Drought Alert Maps

Map of short-term drought by the end of October 2023



- Short-term drought situation (by the end of October 2023):
 - Short-term drought is evolving in French Guiana.
 - Short-term drought might possibly develop in northern and central Belize, Guyana, and Tobago.

Map of long-term drought by the end of November 2023



- Long-term drought situation (by the end of November 2023):
 - Long-term drought is evolving central Belize, Dominica and southern French Guiana.
 - Long-term drought might possibly develop or continue in Martinique, St. Vincent, and Trinidad & Tobago.
 - 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.

"We advise all stakeholders to keep monitoring their environment for signs of drought, and look out for our monthly updates"

Drought outlook available for download [here](#)