

# CARIBBEAN DROUGHT BULLETIN

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## Announcement

Drought concerns have emerged, particularly in the southeastern portion of the region. Short term drought that can deplete resources such as ponds, streams and small rivers by the end of December should be a concern in the Guianas and Trinidad, with the islands in the southern portion of the island chain recommended to closely monitor their water supplies. Long term drought that can impact large rivers and reservoirs and ground water is of concern in the southern portion of the eastern chain, French Guiana, southeastern Puerto Rico and western Belize. The ABC Islands, northern Leeward Islands, western Cuba and Cayman Islands should monitor such resources for long term drought.

## Month at a Glance

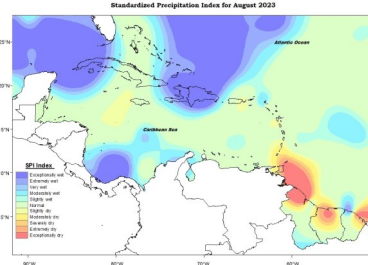
Predominantly normal to below normal conditions were seen throughout the eastern Caribbean during the month of August, except for St Maarten and Anguilla which were moderately wet. Trinidad ranged from moderate to exceptionally dry; Grenada moderately dry; Barbados, Martinique, Antigua, St Kitts and St Croix normal; St Vincent moderate to predominantly slightly dry; Saint Lucia, Dominica, Guadeloupe and St Thomas slightly dry to normal. In the Guianas conditions ranged from mostly normal to exceptionally dry in northern parts of Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana and to extremely wet in northwestern French Guiana, and to moderately wet in southern Guyana. Aruba and Curacao were normal. [Read More;](#)

## Latest News

Drought conditions continue to prevail across the local islands, in particular on St. Thomas and St. Croix. Record heat in most areas has intensified drought impacts.; [Read More;](#)

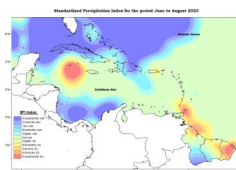
Drought Hurting Jamaican Farmers; [Read More;](#)

THE Civil Defence Commission (CDC) recently conducted an El Niño Preparedness and Drought Awareness workshop in Lethem, Region Nine (Upper Takutu-Upper Essequibo); [Read More;](#)

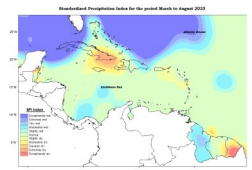


## June-July-August

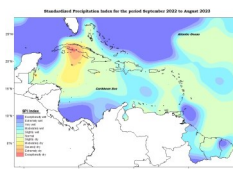
Conditions throughout the eastern Caribbean were predominantly normal ranging to below normal, particularly in the south, during the three month period. Trinidad ranged from normal to exceptionally dry; Grenada ranged from severely dry on the southeastern border to predominantly moderately dry; Barbados, Saint Lucia, Martinique, Guadeloupe, Antigua, St Kitts, St Maarten, Anguilla and St Croix normal; St Vincent moderate to slightly dry; Dominica and St Thomas normal to slightly dry. The Guianas ranged from exceptionally wet in southern Guyana to exceptionally dry on the northern coast of Guyana, as well as central and northeastern areas of French Guiana. Aruba and curacao were normal. Puerto Rico ranged from slightly wet in the extreme west to moderately dry in the east. The Dominican Republic ranged from slight to exceptionally wet. Jamaica ranged from moderately dry in the west to predominantly normal. Grand Cayman was exceptionally dry. Cuba was mostly exceptionally wet ranging to normal in eastern areas. Northern Bahamas was slight to extremely wet and Belize was normal.



JUNE 2023 - AUG 2023  
SPI 3 MONTHS



MAR 2023 - AUG 2023  
SPI 6 MONTHS



SEP 2022 - AUG 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:

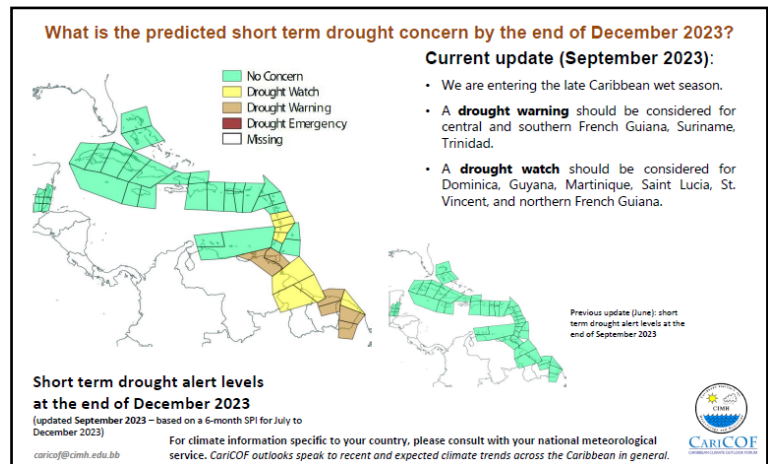
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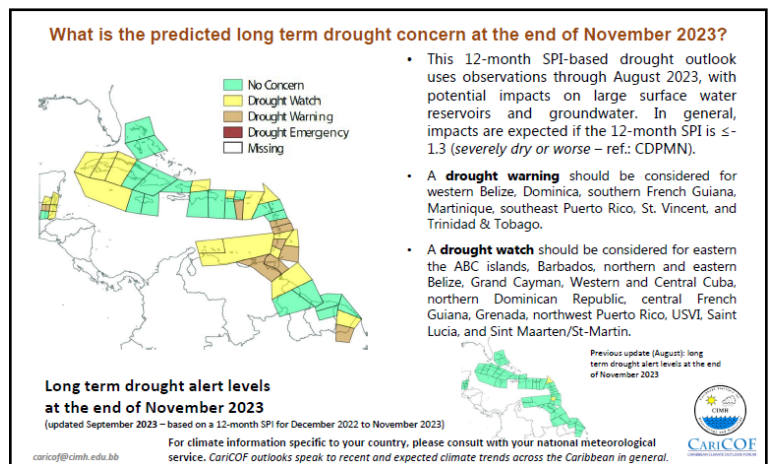
## CariCOF Drought Alert Maps

### Map of short-term drought by the end of December 2023



- Short-term drought situation (by the end of December 2023):
  - Short-term drought is evolving in central and southern French Guiana, Suriname, and Trinidad.
  - Short-term drought might possibly develop in Dominica, Guyana, Martinique, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent, and northern French Guiana.

### 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 in western Belize, Dominica, southern French Guiana, Martinique, southeast Puerto Rico, St. Vincent, and Trinidad & Tobago.
  - Long-term drought might possibly develop or continue in ABC islands, Barbados, northern and eastern Belize, Grand Cayman, Western and Central Cuba, northern Dominican Republic, central French Guiana, Grenada, northwest Puerto Rico, USVI, Saint Lucia, and Sint Maarten/St-Martin.
  - 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](#)**