



MONTHLY AGRO-METEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

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OVERVIEW OF CONDITIONS FOR JUNE

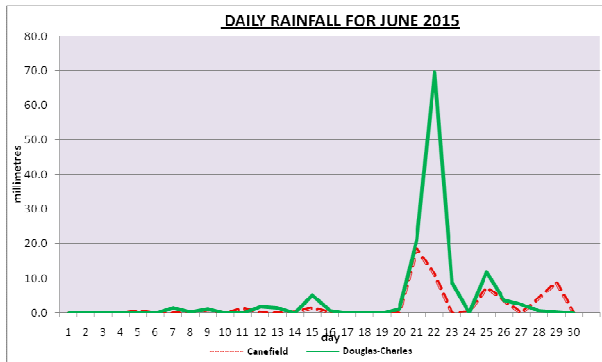


Figure 1 Daily rainfall at Canefield and Douglas-Charles Airports

Parameter	Canefield Airport	Douglas-Charles Airport
Rainfall Total	59.8mm	132.4mm
30 year normal	106.6 to 198.8mm	132.0 to 229.0mm
Wet Days ($\geq 1.0\text{mm}$)	9	12
Temperature	29.5°C	28.1°C
30 year average	29.1°C	28.5°C
Maximum Temperature	33.8°C (2 nd)	31.7°C (2 nd)
Minimum Temperature	22.6°C (10 th)	22.0°C (22 nd)
Relative Humidity	61%	73%
Maximum wind gust	74km/h	67km/h
Average daily sunshine hours	-	7hrs 12mins

Table 1 Monthly weather parameters

Canefield Airport recorded 59.8mm of rainfall which is way below-normal. The month's highest daily rainfall total was 18.6mm recorded on the 21st during the passage of a tropical wave from the 21st to 22nd. This is the 3rd consecutive month of below-normal rainfall. Impactful drought conditions exist in the area. This can be extended to communities northwards on the west coast.

Just about normal rainfall, 132.4mm, was recorded at **Douglas-Charles**. The highest rainfall total recorded was

69.6mm on the 22nd. Similar to Canefield, the first 2 weeks of the month was relatively dry.

Farmers reported much drier conditions during the first two weeks than the last two. During the dry period, water availability on farms was low and a number of farmers, especially on lower elevations, carried water to their farms for irrigation and livestock husbandry.

Many crops that were transplanted during the early part of the month showed signs of wilting. There were reports of farmers losing their entire crop. An acre of dasheen was completely lost on one such farm in the lower elevations of the central region.

From qualitative data on tree crops production, mango flowering and fruit set were higher than average. Melon and passion fruit production were also prolific. Vegetable production was below average and farmers reported aphids and fungal problems.

Open grazing animals pasture was limited and in some cases these animals faced stressful conditions. Cut and carry pasture was the method employed by livestock farmers attempting to minimize the stress levels on their cattle, goats and sheep. An upsurge in tick population in animals was observed as weather conditions favored their life cycle.

There was a reduction in infestation levels of *Black Sigatoka* for the period.

2015 HURRICANE NAMES: Ana, Bill, Claudette, Danny, Erika, Fred, Grace, Henri, Ida, Joaquin, Kate, Larry, Mindy, Nicholas, Odette, Peter, Rose, Sam, Teresa, Victor, Wanda

CLIMATE SUMMARY FOR JULY

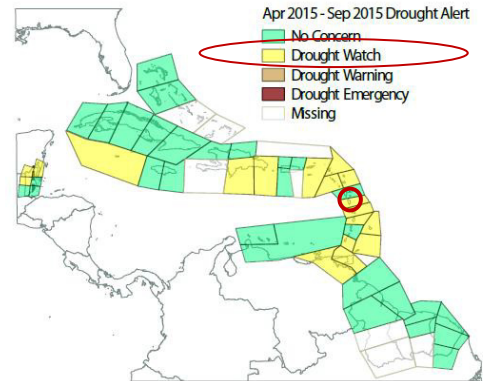
Parameter	Canefield Airport	Douglas-Charles Airport
Rainfall	251.4mm	237.2mm
-highest total	393.3mm (2010)	406.6mm (2010)
-lowest total	45.1mm (1994)	57.2mm (1975)
Temperature	28.9°C	28.6°C
-maximum	34.5°C (1995)	33.2°C (1995)
-minimum	20.5°C (1989)	20.7°C (1989/1993)
Chance of 5 day dry spell	30%	20%
Chance of 10 day dry spell	0%	3%

Table 2 Climate summary for July

DROUGHT OUTLOOK

Impactful drought concerns exist by the end of September. Protect your resources, conserve water.

El Nino intensifying; usually results in late start and early end of wet season.



REGIONAL OVERVIEW ON SEASONAL FORECASTS

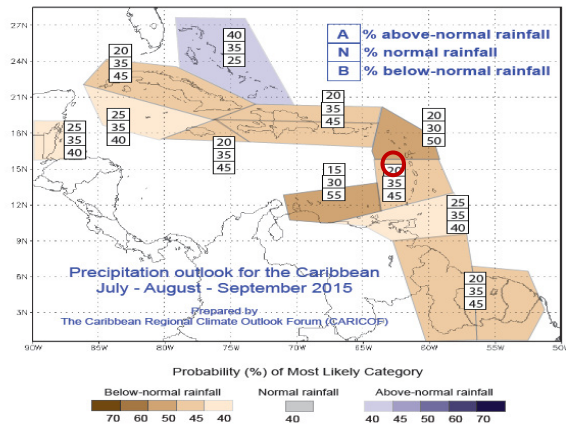


Figure 2 Precipitation outlook for the Caribbean: Jul-Aug-Sep 2015

- Dry conditions are expected to continue towards the end of September. There is 20% chance of above normal, 35% normal and 45% below normal rainfall amounts
- Fewer wet days and wet spells are expected
- Air temperature expected to be above normal.

OUTLOOK FOR THE FARMING COMMUNITY

Based on the forecast for the dry conditions to persist in some areas:

Practice rainwater harvesting, mulching and composting.

Livestock farmers are asked to treat their animals for ticks and other pests and diseases. Ensure a good supply of water for animals and all water containers must remain mosquito proof.

Tomatoes and peppers should be staked and passion fruit and yams trellises should be firm and reinforced to improve their resilience against strong winds.

Green house farmers should be skilled in removing and replacing their plastic coverings and shade nettings to prevent them from being destroyed in strong wind events. Bolts on the steel frame should be tightened and fittings on irrigation systems be put in a safe place to prevent loss or damage in case of flooding. **Ensure that you know how to safeguard your investment.**

FM: 2nd LQ: 8th NM: 16th FQ: 24th

Agromet bulletins from across the region can be accessed via http://63.175.159.26/cami/regional_bulletin.html. Farmers' Forum was held in the north-east region on the 18th. IICA provided capacity building in climate smart agriculture to staff of Agriculture Division.

This bulletin is prepared by the Dominica Meteorological Service with support from the CAMI project and the Ministry of Agriculture. Feedback on this bulletin should be forwarded to metoffice@cwdom.dm or actudoa@gmail.com

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