

Agro-meteorological Bulletin and Assessment for Farmers and Livestock Producers of Trinidad and Tobago for the First Dekad (1st -10th) of April, 2017.

| Term | | Meaning |
|------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Dekad | | 10 day rainfall measuring period |
| Rain Day | | A day with 1.0 mm or more of rainfall amount |
| Wet Day | | A day with 10.0 mm or more of rainfall amount |
| Extremely Wet Day | | A day with 25.0 mm or more of rainfall amount |
| Normal Rainfall | | Between 75% and 125% of the average |
| Below Normal Rainfall | | Rainfall below 75% of the average |
| Above Normal Rainfall | | Rainfall in excess of 125 % of the average |
| Much below Normal Rainfall | | Rainfall below 50% of the average |
| Much above Normal Rainfall | | Rainfall above 150% of the average |
| Scanty Rainfall | | Less than 1 mm |
| Moderate Rainfall | | 1-10 mm |
| Heavy Rainfall | | 10-50 mm |
| Very heavy Rainfall | | Greater than 50 mm |
| Probability of 1-30 % | | Low Chance |
| Probability of 30-70 % | | Moderate Chance |
| Probability greater than 70% | | High Chance |
| Term | Amount of Rain | Type of day |
| Scanty Rainfall | Less than 1 mm | Relatively dry day |
| Moderate Rainfall | 1-10 mm | Relatively wet day |
| Heavy Rainfall | 10-50 mm | Wet day |
| Very heavy Rainfall | Greater than 50 mm | Excessively wet day |

Definitions used in the forecast and bulletin:

Weather Assessment for the Third Dakad (21st -31st) of March, 2017.

A mixture of fairly wet and dry conditions dominated Trinidad and Tobago over the first half of the dekad where both islands experienced patchy cloudiness to intermittent cloudy periods with some light to moderate rainfall over most areas. On days 21st, 22th, 23rd and 24th, Trinidad experienced some light to moderate rainfall over most areas with ten-day rainfall totals ranging between 5.0 mm to 25.0 mm. Tobago experienced mostly light to moderate rainfall over most areas during days 21st, 23rd and 24th of the dekad. Tobago had light to moderate rainfall mostly in northeastern and southeastern areas, with ten-day rainfall totals ranging between 7.3 mm to 13.5 mm. Accompanying these conditions maximum temperatures in Trinidad got up to 34.5°C and minimum temperatures of 21.7°C. Whereas, Tobago's temperatures went up to a maximum of 30.5°C and minimum temperature

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of 22.4°C. On mornings that followed clear and cool nights, patches of low-lying mist were observed in rural areas.

Expected Weather for Third Dekad (1st – 10th) of April, 2017 and Likely Impact on Agriculture.

On days excluding 1st, 7th and 8th, farmers in both Trinidad and Tobago should expect sporadic cloudy patches and a 20% chance of a brief light shower at times, producing scanty rainfall amounts. The cloud patches will disperse to give breezy and sunny conditions with high temperatures of 34.0°C in Trinidad and 32.3 °C in Tobago. Generally clear nights will give low temperatures of 21.1°C in Trinidad and 22.3 °C in Tobago. On mornings following clear and cool nights, expect patches of low lying mist mostly in rural areas that will disintegrate just after dawn.

On the 1st day of the dekad, there is a 60% chance of a low level moist southeasterly wind flow establishing itself over both islands producing patchy cloudy periods and mostly light occasionally moderate showers at times. On days; 7th and 8th, there is 55% chance that low level moist convergent bands, in the northeasterly wind flow, will establish itself upon both islands and resulting in cloudy patches with possible few light showers and the occasional moderate shower. Over the ten-day period, both islands highest possible daily rainfall totals will range between 2.0 mm and 8.0 mm.

During days: 1st, 7th and 8th, forecast maximum temperatures in Trinidad will be near 33.2 °C while Tobago forecast maximum will near 31.3°C with forecast minimums of 22.0 °C in Trinidad and 23.3 °C in Tobago. The fairly wet and humid conditions during those days may lend itself to greening-up of pastures for livestock and reducing chances of bush fires in few areas.

Trinidad's Mean Daily Rainfall Forecast for the First Dekad of April (1st -10th) 2017.

Northern & Northwestern areas:

Moderate chance of (62%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.1mm.

North-Eastern and Eastern areas:

Moderate chance of (65%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.5 mm.

Central, West-Central and inland areas:

Moderate chance of (63%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.2 mm.

South-Eastern areas:

Moderate chance of (65%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.5 mm.

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Southern areas:

Moderate chance of (62%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.1 mm.

South-Western areas:

Moderate chance of (60%) of mean daily rainfall up to 0.8 mm.

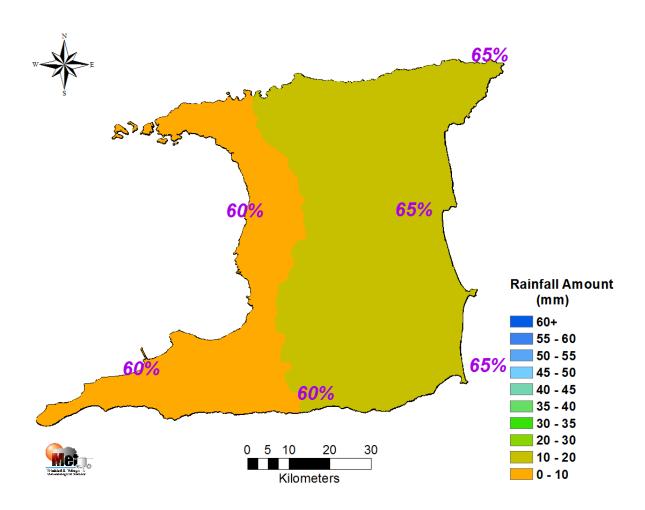


Figure 1. Rainfall Map of Trinidad showing possible rainfall totals for varying districts during First dekad of April, 2017 and percentage probability of occurrence.

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Tobago's Mean Daily Rainfall Forecast for the First Dekad of April (1st -10th) 2017.

Northeastern areas:

Moderate chance (65%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.5 mm.

South-Western areas:

Moderate chance (63%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.2 mm.

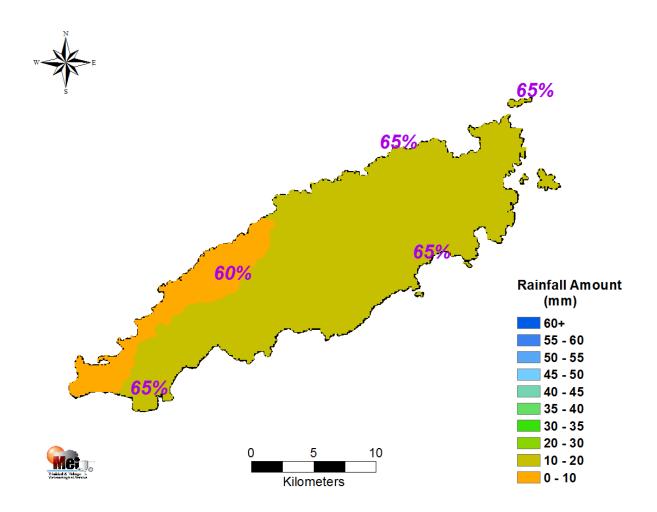


Figure 2. Rainfall Map of Tobago showing possible rainfall totals for varying districts during First dekad of April, 2017 and percentage probability of occurrence.

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Temperatures:

Trinidad's Temperature Forecast for the First Dekad of April (1st -10th) 2017.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily maximum temperatures to exceed 32.5^oC, peaking near 34.0 ^oC.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily minimum temperatures to be below 23.1 ^oC, dropping as low as 21.1 ^oC.

Tobago's Temperature Forecast for the First Dekad of April (1st -10th) 2017.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily maximum temperatures to exceed 30.9^oC, peaking near 32.3^oC.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily minimum temperatures to be below 24.0^oC, dropping as low as 22.3^oC.

Summary:

The forecast for the First Dekad of April (1st-10th) 2017, favours mostly dry weather with light early morning showers followed by dry/breezy conditions. However, days 1st, 7th and 8th there is a moderate probability of weather favouring mostly light, occasionally moderate rainfall with daily amounts ranging between 2.0 mm to 8.0 mm. There is a 63% chance that the possible ten-day rainfall totals be between 8.0 mm and 15.0 mm across Trinidad and Tobago. Temperatures are set to peak near 34.0 °C in Trinidad and near 32.3°C in Tobago. If possible, farmers are encouraged to practice mulching after wet days to retain the moisture gained for longer periods and improve irrigation practices for drier days.

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