



**Agro-meteorological Bulletin and Assessment for Farmers and Livestock
Producers of Trinidad and Tobago for the Third Dekad (21st -31st) of March,
2017.**

Definitions used in the forecast and bulletin:

| 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 |

Weather Assessment for the Second Dakad (11st -20th) of March, 2017.

A mixture of wet and dry conditions dominated Trinidad and Tobago, the first half of the dekad both islands experienced intermittent cloudy periods and some light to moderate rainfall over most areas. On days 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th and 20th. Trinidad experienced some light to moderate rainfall over most areas. The ten-day rainfall totals for Trinidad range between 5.0 mm to 22.0 mm. Tobago experienced mostly light to moderate rainfall over most areas during days 11th, 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th of the dekad, but significantly on the 11th, Tobago had heavy rainfall mostly in northeastern and southeastern areas, where its ten-day rainfall totals ranging between 8.5 mm to 43.6 mm. Accompanying these conditions maximum temperatures in Trinidad got up to 33.5°C and minimum temperatures of 20.0°C. Whereas, Tobago's temperatures went up to a maximum of 30.4°C and

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

Expected Weather for Third Dekad (21st - 31st) of March, 2017 and Likely Impact on Agriculture.

On days excluding 21st, 22nd, 26th, 27th and 29th, farmers in both Trinidad and Tobago should expect sporadic cloudy patches and a 20% chance of a brief light shower at times, producing scanty to moderate rainfall amounts. The cloud patches will disperse to give breezy and sunny conditions with high temperatures of 33.8°C in Trinidad and 31.8°C in Tobago. Generally clear nights will give low temperatures of 20.4°C in Trinidad and 22.5°C in Tobago. On mornings that following clear and cool nights, expect patches of low lying mist mostly in rural areas that will disintegrate just after dawn.

On days 21st and 22nd, there is a 65% chance of a low level moist southeasterly wind flow establishing itself over both islands producing cloudy periods and mostly light occasionally moderate showers at times. On days; 26th, 27th and 29th 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 5.0 mm and 13.0 mm.

During days: 21st, 22nd, 26th, 27th and 29th, forecast maximum temperatures in Trinidad will be near 32.1 °C while Tobago forecast maximum will near 30.3°C with forecast minimums of 22.6 °C in Trinidad and 23.5 °C in Tobago. The fairly wet and humid conditions during those days will lend itself to greening-up of pastures for livestock, improve water flow in streams, rivers and ponds. It will also support healthier looking crops and newly transplanted seedling may have a good chance at survival.

Trinidad's Mean Daily Rainfall Forecast for Third Dekad of March (21st -31st) 2017.

Northern & Northwestern areas:

Moderate chance of (63%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.7 mm.

North-Eastern and Eastern areas:

Moderate chance of (65%) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.0 mm.

Central, West-Central and inland areas:

Moderate chance of (63%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.6 mm.

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South-Eastern areas:

Moderate chance of (65%) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.0 mm.

Southern areas:

Moderate chance of (63%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.5 mm.

South-Western areas:

Moderate chance of (60%) of mean daily rainfall up to 0.9 mm.

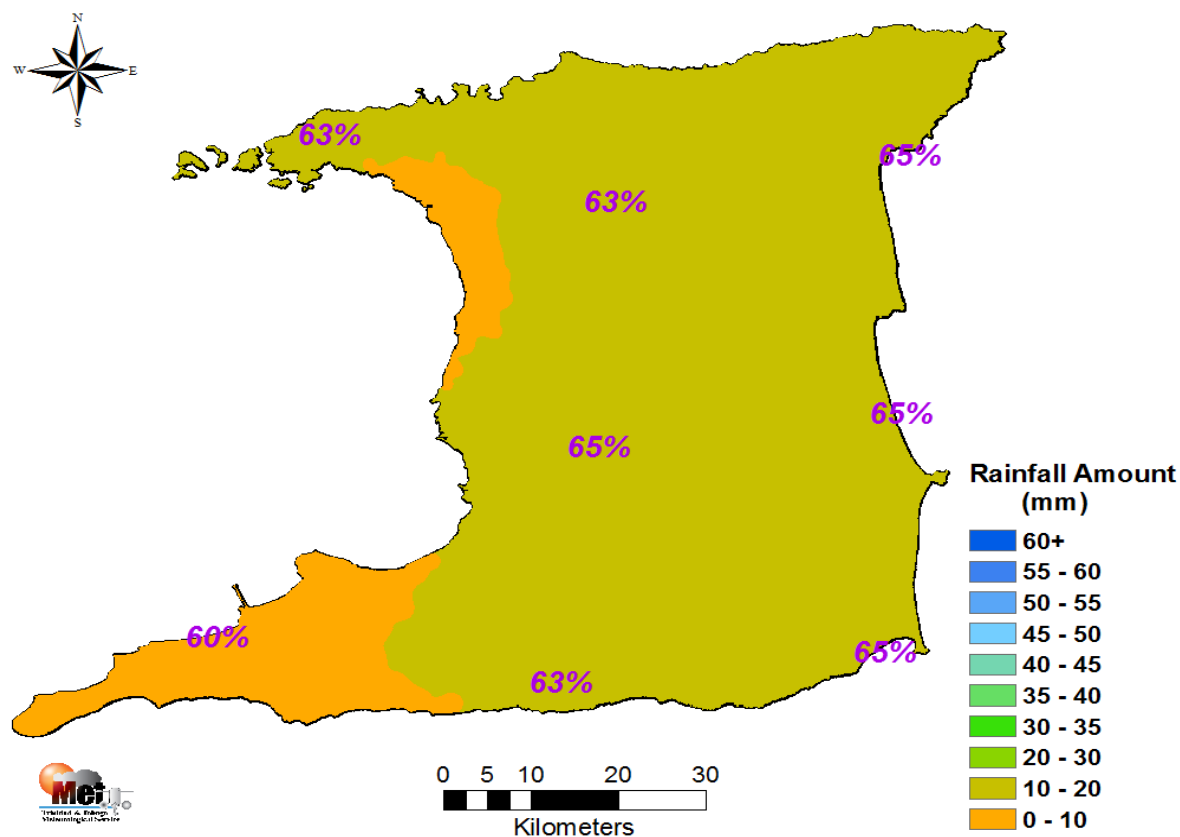


Figure 1. Rainfall Map of Trinidad showing possible rainfall totals for varying districts during Third dekad of March, 2017 and percentage probability of occurrence.

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Tobago’s Mean Daily Rainfall Forecast for Third Dekad of March (21st -31st) 2017.

Northeastern areas:

Moderate chance (64%) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.4 mm.

South-Western areas:

Moderate chance (62%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.9 mm.

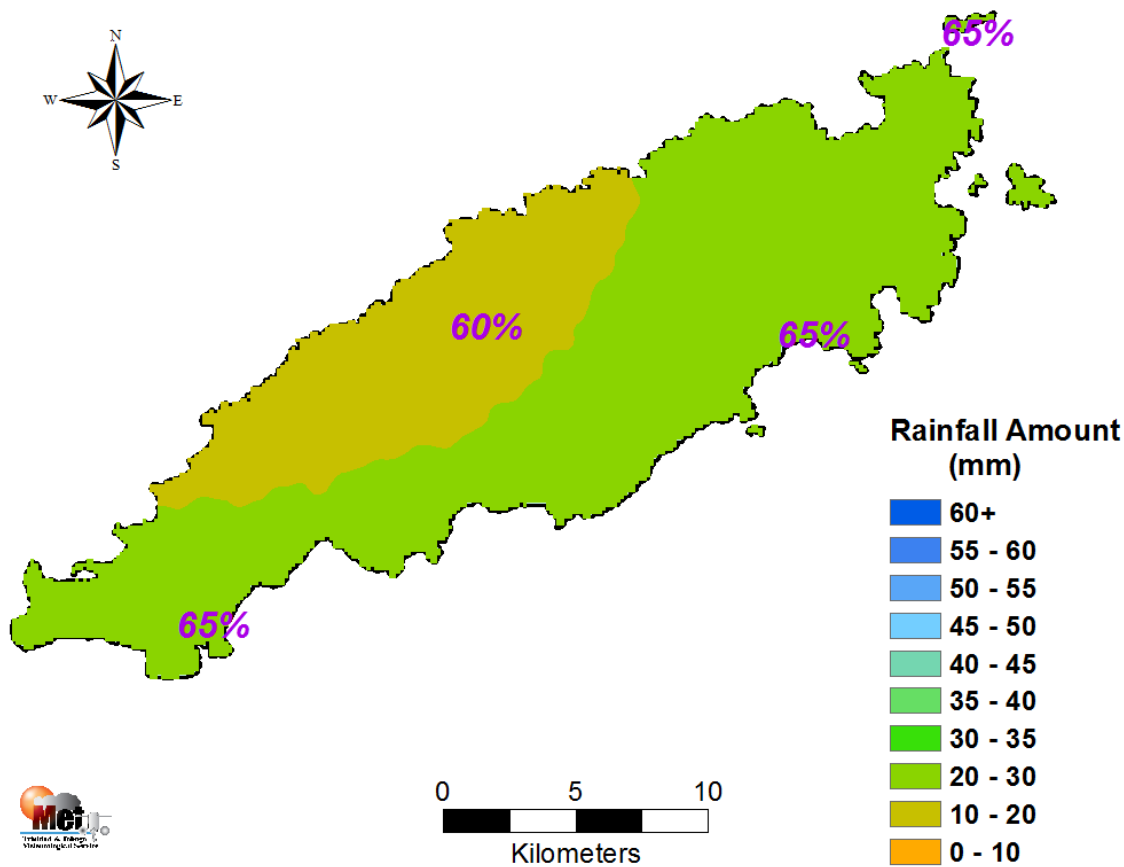


Figure 2. Rainfall Map of Tobago showing possible rainfall totals for varying districts during Third dekad of March, 2017 and percentage probability of occurrence.

Temperatures:

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Trinidad's Temperature Forecast for Third Dekad of March (21st -31st) 2017.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily maximum temperatures to exceed 32.1⁰C, peaking near 33.8⁰C.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily minimum temperatures to be below 22.6⁰C, dropping as low as 20.4⁰C.

Tobago's Temperature Forecast for Third Dekad of March (21st -31st) 2017.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily maximum temperatures to exceed 30.6⁰C, peaking near 31.8⁰C.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily minimum temperatures to be below 23.5⁰C, dropping as low as 22.5⁰C.

Summary:

The forecast for the Third Dekad of March (21st-31st) 2017, favours mix weather, rain day followed by dry/breezy conditions. However, days 21st, 22nd, 26th, 27th and 29th there is a moderate probability of weather favouring mostly light occasional moderate rainfall with daily amounts ranging from 5.0 mm to 13.0 mm. There is a 63% chance that the possible ten-day rainfall totals be between 12.0 mm and 25.0 mm across Tobago and a 63% chance the possible ten-day rainfall totals be between 8.0 mm and 20.0 mm across Trinidad. Temperatures are set to peak near 33.8⁰C in Trinidad and near 31.8⁰C in Tobago. 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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