



# MONTHLY AGRO-METEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

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## OVERVIEW OF CONDITIONS FOR OCTOBER

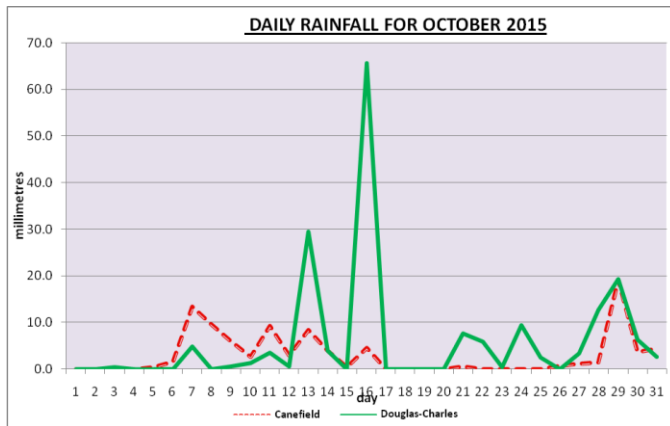


Figure 1 Daily rainfall at Canefield and Douglas-Charles Airports

Parameter	Canefield Airport	Douglas-Charles Airport
Rainfall Total	94.2mm	180.9mm
30 year normal	137.2 to 213.3mm	249.6 to 358.0mm
Wet Days (≥1.0mm)	15	15
Temperature	29.3°C	29.5°C
30 year average	28.5°C	28.2°C
Maximum Temperature	35.5°C (3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> )	33.9°C (1 <sup>st</sup> )
Minimum Temperature	22.3°C (15 <sup>th</sup> )	22.6°C (17 <sup>th</sup> )
Relative Humidity	71	73%
Maximum wind gust	43km/h	49km/h
Average daily sunshine hours	-	7hrs 54mins

Table 1 Monthly weather parameters

Tropical waves affected the island on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> while unstable conditions associated with a series of trough systems dominated the weather conditions for the rest of October. This resulted in a normal to moderately dry pattern across the island.

Rainfall total was below normal while average air temperature was above normal at Canefield and Douglas-Charles. The rainfall total was below normal

with the lowest total for the past 15 years Record temperatures were set on the 1<sup>st</sup> at Douglas-Charles and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at Canefield.

Some farmers still have no access or are experiencing great difficulty accessing their farms following tropical storm Erika which have impacted their livelihoods.

The tissue-cultured banana plantlets which were distributed and established have shown positive growth and development signs thus far.

There has been an increase in *black sigatoka* incidences. A spray cycle has been conducted in parts of the south east agricultural region. However, bad road conditions have restricted the area covered.

Weather conditions were ideal for the establishment of root crops such as yams and dasheen, tomatoes and sweet peppers. Vegetable production on the other hand was low so too was the water melon crop this season.

There were reports of a pest infestation in arrowroot. Diagnostic work is being undertaken to determine the type of pest and how it relates to present weather conditions

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

DLQ: 3<sup>rd</sup> NM: 11<sup>th</sup> FQ: 19<sup>th</sup> FM: 25<sup>th</sup>

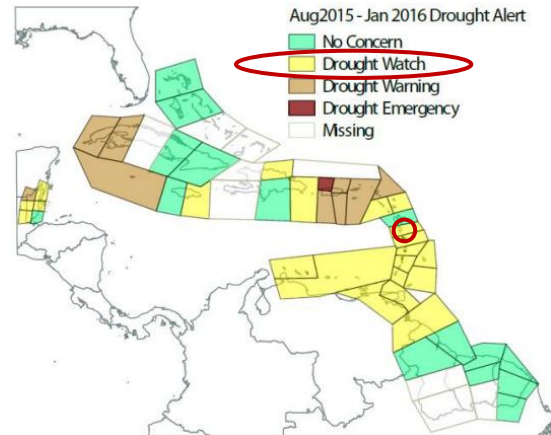
**CLIMATE SUMMARY FOR NOVEMBER**

Parameter	Canefield Airport	Douglas-Charles Airport
Rainfall	194.2mm	348.6mm
-highest total	438.3mm (1984)	912.0mm (2004)
-lowest total	28.4mm (2001)	97.2mm (1983)
Temperature	27.8°C	27.4°C
-maximum	33.8°C (2013)	32.8°C (1999)
-minimum	19.4°C (2008)	18.9°C (2010)
Chance of 5 day dry spell	77%	27%
Chance of 10 day dry spell	20%	0%

Table 2 Climate summary for November

**DROUGHT OUTLOOK**

Drought concerns still exist particularly as we come to the end of the wet season. Raise awareness and conserve water.



**REGIONAL OVERVIEW ON SEASONAL FORECASTS**

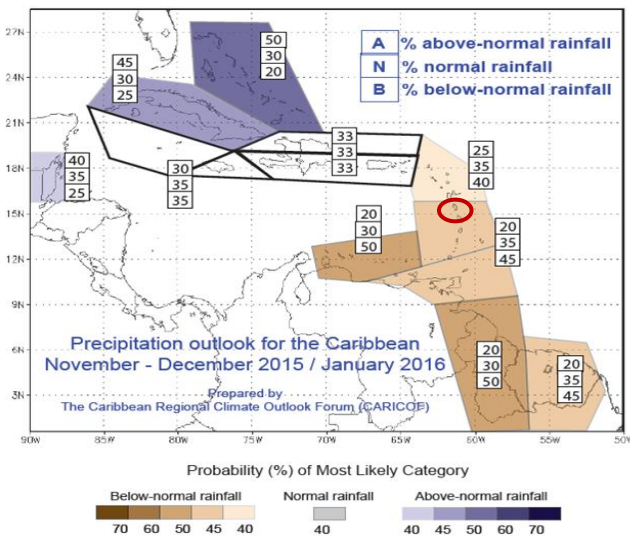


Figure 2 Precipitation outlook for the Caribbean: Nov-Dec-Jan 2015/16

- Number of wet days and wet spells expected to be below normal
- There is 20% chance of above normal, 35% normal and 45% below normal rainfall amounts
- Air temperature expected to be above normal

**OUTLOOK FOR THE FARMING COMMUNITY**

Being mindful that we are still in the hurricane season, farmers should continue their hurricane preparedness plan such as keeping storm drains free from debris.

Farmers are advised to adhere to good agriculture practices that will reduce infestation levels of pest and diseases that thrive in present weather conditions.

Remain vigilant in the fight against the spread of the deadly *black sigatoka* disease. Do apply chemicals at timely intervals.

Listen to the daily weather report to know what to expect.

Liaise with your extension service to review and update your strategic drought/hurricane plan

Sufficient irrigation is needed for crops such as vegetables and other short term crops.

Agromet bulletins from across the region can be accessed via [http://63.175.159.26/cami/regional\\_bulletin.html](http://63.175.159.26/cami/regional_bulletin.html).

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](mailto:metoffice@cwdom.dm) or [aictudoa@gmail.com](mailto:aictudoa@gmail.com)

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