

Agro-meteorological Bulletin and Assessment for Farmers and Livestock Producers of Trinidad and Tobago for the Second Dekad (11th -20th) of April 2018.

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 First Dekad (1st – 10th) of April 2018.

Relatively dry days occurred over most of the country, except on days 4th, 7th and 8th where relatively wet days occurred. The ten-day rainfall total recorded at Piarco Trinidad, was 6.0 mm, well within the expected range of 0.0 mm to 10.0 mm. El Reposo and other northeastern districts had experienced similar rainfall amounts as Piarco with a total of 7.6 mm. Central districts such as Longdenville, Freeport, Waterloo, Preysal and Brasso Vernado experienced rainfall ranging between 1.0 mm to 3.7 mm. However, Couva and its environs experienced 19.8 mm of rainfall above the forecasted amount. Southern districts of San Fernando, Princess Town, Penal and Chatham had rainfall amounts ranging from 1.0 mm to 11.4 mm. Similarly, mostly dry conditions pervaded through the northwestern districts such as Port of Spain and Carenage with rainfall totals ranging between 1.0 mm and 15.0

Disclaimer

This information is provided with the understanding that the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service makes no warranties, either expressed or implied, concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of the forecast or outlook contained in this document. The information may be used freely by the public with appropriate acknowledgement of its source, but shall not be modified in content and then presented as original material.



mm, just above the forecasted range of 0 to 10.0 mm. However northern districts of St. Benedict and Tunapuna had rainfall ranging between 8.0 mm and 20.0 mm, above the forecasted amount.

Similarly, Tobago had the little rainfall amounts as expected. ANR Robinson airport recorded 3.6 mm, which was well within the forecasted range of 0.0 mm to 10.0 mm. Neighboring districts such as Bethel, Mount Pleasant and Buccoo and Mount Moriah had experienced similar rainfall totals ranging between 2.0 mm to 6.6 mm.

Temperatures are starting to warm up in Trinidad and Tobago. Trinidad's maximum temperature went up to 33.1 °C, which was above the expected range of 31.5 °C to 32.7 °C. At the same time Tobago's maximum got up to 30.8 °C, just above the range expected of 30.0 °C to 30.5 °C. Similarly, lowest temperatures recorded were 20.7 °C in Trinidad and 22.7 °C in Tobago. In both cases they were below the expected ranges of: 23.0 °C to 25.5 °C in Trinidad and 23.5 °C to 26.0 °C in Tobago. The average humidity for both islands remained in the mid-sixties and falling lower during hot and breezy condition and going up during cloudy, calm and relatively wet conditions. The mostly sunny and relatively dry conditions must have warranted frequent irrigation of crops.

Expected Weather for Second Dekad (11th – 20th) of April 2018 and Likely Impact on Agriculture.

The forecast for the second dekad of April indicates that farmers can expect slightly wetter conditions as compared to the first dekad of April. During the second dekad farmers will experience initially relatively wet days during the first half of the dekad, followed by relatively dry conditions during the second half of the dekad. The ten-day period totals, forecast to range between 10.0 mm and 15.0 mm in Trinidad and 15.0 mm in Tobago.

The average daily temperatures across Trinidad and Tobago are likely to range between 26.4 °C and 27.3 °C. Expect the highest maximum temperature over the dekad to peak near 33.1 °C in **Trinidad**, while the lowest night to early morning minimum temperature could dip below 20.7 °C. Especially along the foothills and valleys during relatively cloud free nights. Likewise, during the dekad, in **Tobago**, the highest maximum temperature will peak near 31.9 °C, while the lowest minimum temperature will be dip below 22.7 °C, mostly during relatively cloud free nights.

For both Trinidad and Tobago, the daytime relative humidity (RH) is likely to range between 48% and 69%. However, during relatively wet days, RH percentage values will range around 68% to 94%. At the same time, wind speeds are expected to range between 25 km/h and 46 km/h. In addition, evaporation rates are expected to range between 2.5 mm/day and 10.4 mm/day, but can be slightly more during warmer and windier periods, but slightly less during relatively wet days.

The relatively wet start to the dekad, will definitely decrease the need for frequent irrigation. However, during the second half of the dekad, expect dry and sunny conditions will warrant an increase in the frequency of irrigation and possible shading of seedlings and young animals from

Disclaimer

This information is provided with the understanding that the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service makes no warranties, either expressed or implied, concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of the forecast or outlook contained in this document. The information may be used freely by the public with appropriate acknowledgement of its source, but shall not be modified in content and then presented as original material.

intense solar radiation during the March/April equinox. There is a moderate chance of frequent visitation of Saharan dust that will occasionally reduce visibility to minimum of 8 km. Owing to the possible of rainfall over the first half of the dekad, there is a low probability that the expected conditions will be favourable for some agricultural insect pests, fungi and diseases to develop and thrive. Moreover, the expected daytime wind speeds, together with the funneling effect of wind along narrow paths and undulating landscapes, may affect seedlings negatively by causing seedlings' stems and leaves to be damaged. In addition, strong winds may hamper some types of fertilizer application and crops' ability to retain flowers.

Trinidad's Mean Daily Rainfall Forecast for the Second Dekad of April (11th–20th) 2018.

Northern & Northwestern areas:

Moderate chance (65%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.7 mm.

North-Eastern and Eastern areas:

Moderate chance (68%) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.0 mm.

Central, West-Central and inland areas:

Moderate chance (62%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.3 mm.

South-Eastern areas:

Moderate chance (68%) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.0 mm.

Southern areas:

Moderate chance (66%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.7 mm.

South-Western areas:

Moderate chance (65%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.6 mm.

Disclaimer

This information is provided with the understanding that the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service makes no warranties, either expressed or implied, concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of the forecast or outlook contained in this document. The information may be used freely by the public with appropriate acknowledgement of its source, but shall not be modified in content and then presented as original material.

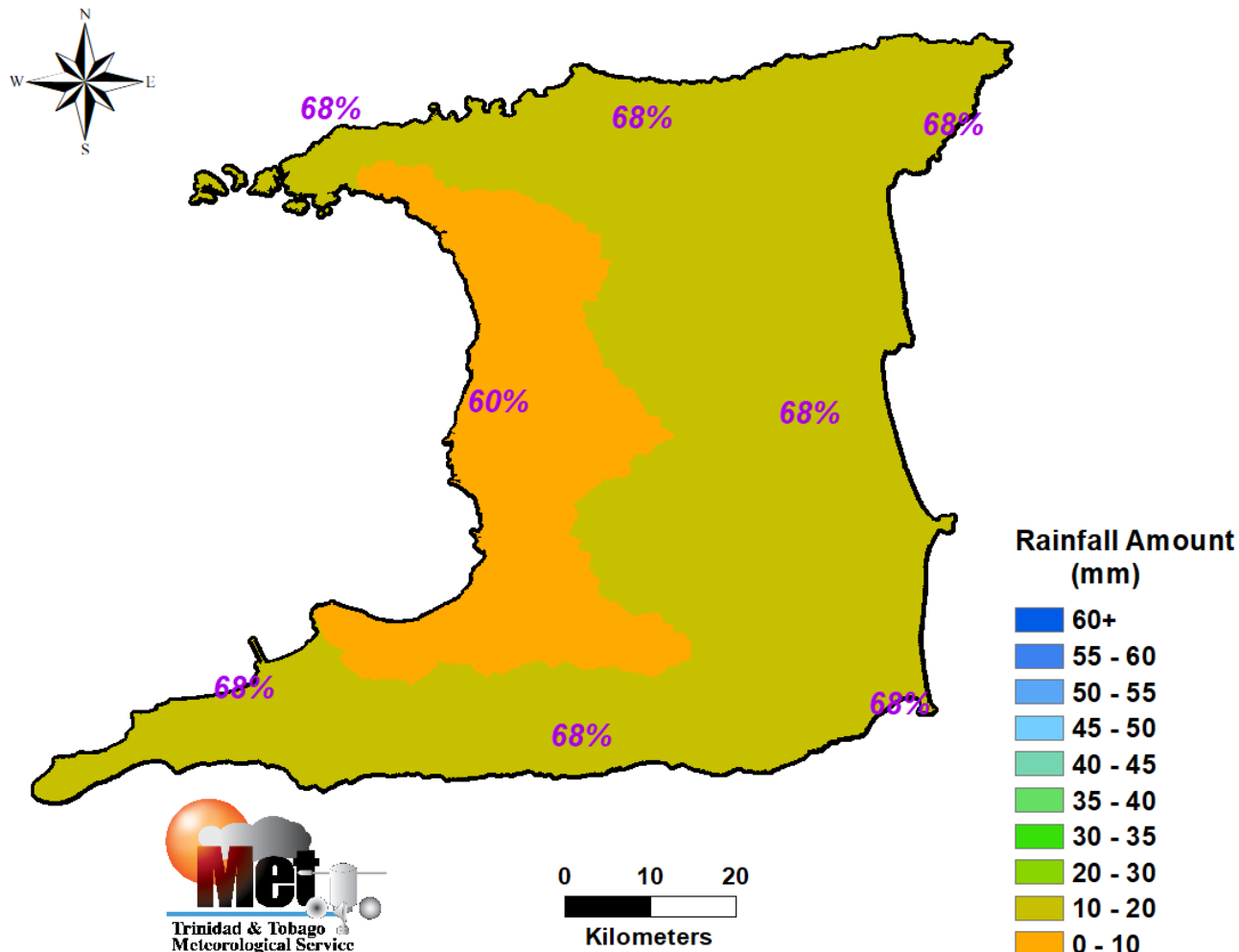


Figure 1. Rainfall Map of Trinidad showing possible rainfall totals for varying districts during second dekad of April 2018 and percentage probability of occurrence.

Disclaimer

This information is provided with the understanding that the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service makes no warranties, either expressed or implied, concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of the forecast or outlook contained in this document. The information may be used freely by the public with appropriate acknowledgement of its source, but shall not be modified in content and then presented as original material.

Tobago’s Mean Daily Rainfall Forecast for the Second Dekad of April (11th- 20th) 2018.

Northeastern areas:

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

South-Western areas:

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

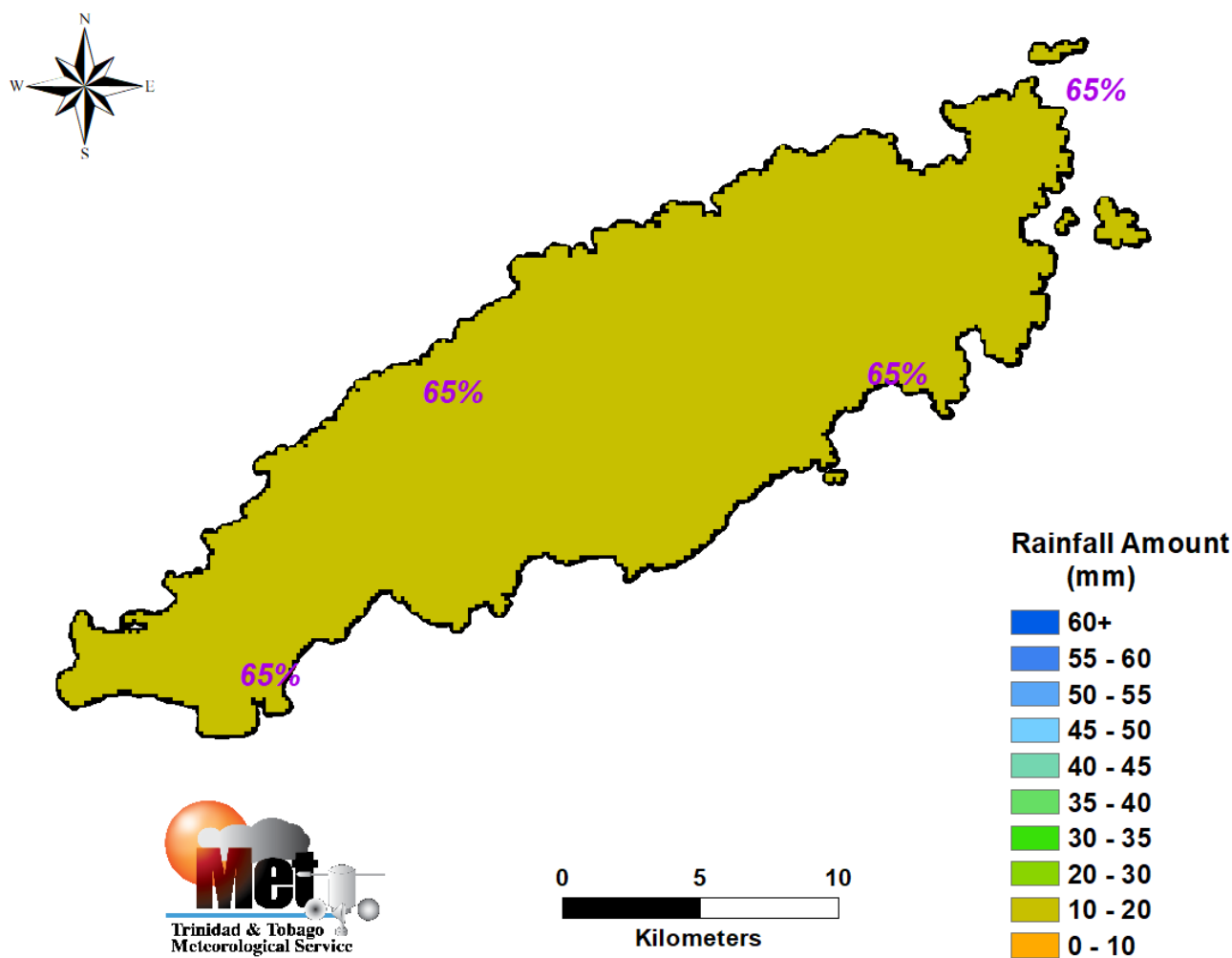


Figure 2. Rainfall Map of Tobago showing possible rainfall totals for varying districts during second dekad of April 2018 and percentage probability of occurrence.

Disclaimer

This information is provided with the understanding that the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service makes no warranties, either expressed or implied, concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of the forecast or outlook contained in this document. The information may be used freely by the public with appropriate acknowledgement of its source, but shall not be modified in content and then presented as original material.



Temperatures:

Trinidad's Temperature Forecast for the Second Dekad of April (11th-20th) 2018.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily maximum temperatures to exceed 32.6 °C, peaking near 33.1 °C.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily minimum temperatures to be below 23.4 °C, dropping as low as 20.7 °C.

Tobago's Temperature Forecast for the Second Dekad of April (11th-20th) 2018.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily maximum temperatures to exceed 31.1 °C, peaking near 31.9 °C.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily minimum temperatures to be below 24.3 °C, dropping as low as 22.7 °C.

Summary:

The outlook for the second dekad of April calls for relatively wet conditions during the first half of the dekad, followed by sunny, breezy and at times hazy conditions during the second half of the dekad. Overall, temperatures are warming with average temperatures ranging between 26.9 °C and 27.3 °C in both islands over the full dekad. The highest maximum temperatures are likely to reach 33.1 °C in Trinidad and 31.9 °C in Tobago. While, the lowest minimum temperatures are likely reach 20.7 °C in Trinidad and 22.7 °C in Tobago. Dry conditions are expected to continue into the months of April and first part of May. Opportunities for water harvesting have diminished significantly, hence any opportunity to harvest and store rainwater should be undertaken, while irrigation processes continue.

Disclaimer

This information is provided with the understanding that the Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service makes no warranties, either expressed or implied, concerning the accuracy, completeness, reliability, or suitability of the forecast or outlook contained in this document. The information may be used freely by the public with appropriate acknowledgement of its source, but shall not be modified in content and then presented as original material.