

Agro-meteorological Bulletin and Assessment for Farmers and Livestock Producers of Trinidad and Tobago for the Second Dekad (11th -20th) of December, 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 First Dekad (1st - 10th) of December, 2017.

Trinidad experienced moderate to heavy rainfall amounts over some areas, during day 3rd, 4th and 10th but scanty to moderate rainfall amounts over most areas, during days 5th, 6th and 7th of the dekad, with its ten-day rainfall totals ranging between 25.0 mm and 108.6 mm. Piarco had a ten-day rainfall total of 47.0 mm, with similar amounts of rainfall in southern, southwestern, western, and northwestern regions. However, more than twice as much rainfall fell in north-eastern, eastern, central and south-eastern areas.

Tobago experienced moderate to heavy rainfall amounts over some areas during day 4th, 5th and 10th, but scanty to moderate rainfall amounts over most areas, during days 1st, 3rd and 7th, of the dekad,

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with its ten-day rainfall totals ranging between 19.2 mm and 128.0 mm. Crown Point had a ten-day rainfall total of 104.1 mm with slightly above this amount reported in northeastern areas, however below this amount reported in the central regions and significantly less than half the amount reported in the northwestern areas.

Accompanying these conditions, the maximum temperature in Trinidad got up to 32.8 °C and minimum temperature of 22.4 °C. While, Tobago's temperatures went up to a maximum of 31.4 °C and minimum temperature of 23.4 °C.

Expected Weather for Second Dekad (11th-20th) of December, 2017 and Likely Impact on Agriculture.

During days 11th, 13th, 14th, and 15th of dekad, there is a 68% chance that converging bands of moist air within the northeast trade winds, will generate mostly patchy cloudy skies with few brief light and/or occasionally moderate rainfall amounts. This will disperse to give sunny, breezy and/or hazy conditions at times. The maximum temperatures are expected to be near 32.6 °C in Trinidad and near 31.9 °C in Tobago. Generally clear nights will give low temperatures near 20.0 °C in Trinidad and near 22.5 °C in Tobago. There is a moderate chance of mist in patches will form and will disintegrated just after sunrise.

However, during days 12th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th of the dekad, there is a 65% chance of zonal convergence bands of moisture within a northeasterly to easterly wind flow. This will produce patchy cloudy skies with few cloudy periods at times and brisk light to moderate rainfall amounts. The forecast maximum temperatures during those days in Trinidad will be near 31.6 °C, while Tobago's forecast maximum temperatures will be near 30.1 °C. On the other hand, the forecast minimum temperatures during those days will be near 22.4 °C in Trinidad and near 23.9 °C in Tobago.

Over the ten-day period, Trinidad and Tobago's highest possible daily rainfall totals will range between 4.0 mm and 17.0 mm, with its ten-day totals ranging between 25.0 mm and 50.0 mm, as seen in figures 1 and 2.

There is a low possibility of flash flooding on streets and flooding in low lying areas during those wet days. Also, there is a low probability of pest and diseases especially the spread of fungi on crops following those relatively wet days.

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Trinidad's Mean Daily Rainfall Forecast for the Second Dekad of December (11th-20th) 2017.

Northern & Northwestern areas:

Moderate chance (63%) of mean daily rainfall up to 3.5 mm.

North-Eastern and Eastern areas:

Moderate chance (69%) of mean daily rainfall up to 4.9 mm.

Central, West-Central and inland areas:

Moderate chance (65%) of mean daily rainfall up to 3.8 mm.

South-Eastern areas:

Moderate chance (69%) of mean daily rainfall up to 4.8 mm.

Southern areas:

Moderate chance (64%) of mean daily rainfall up to 3.6 mm.

South-Western areas:

Moderate chance (61%) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.7 mm.

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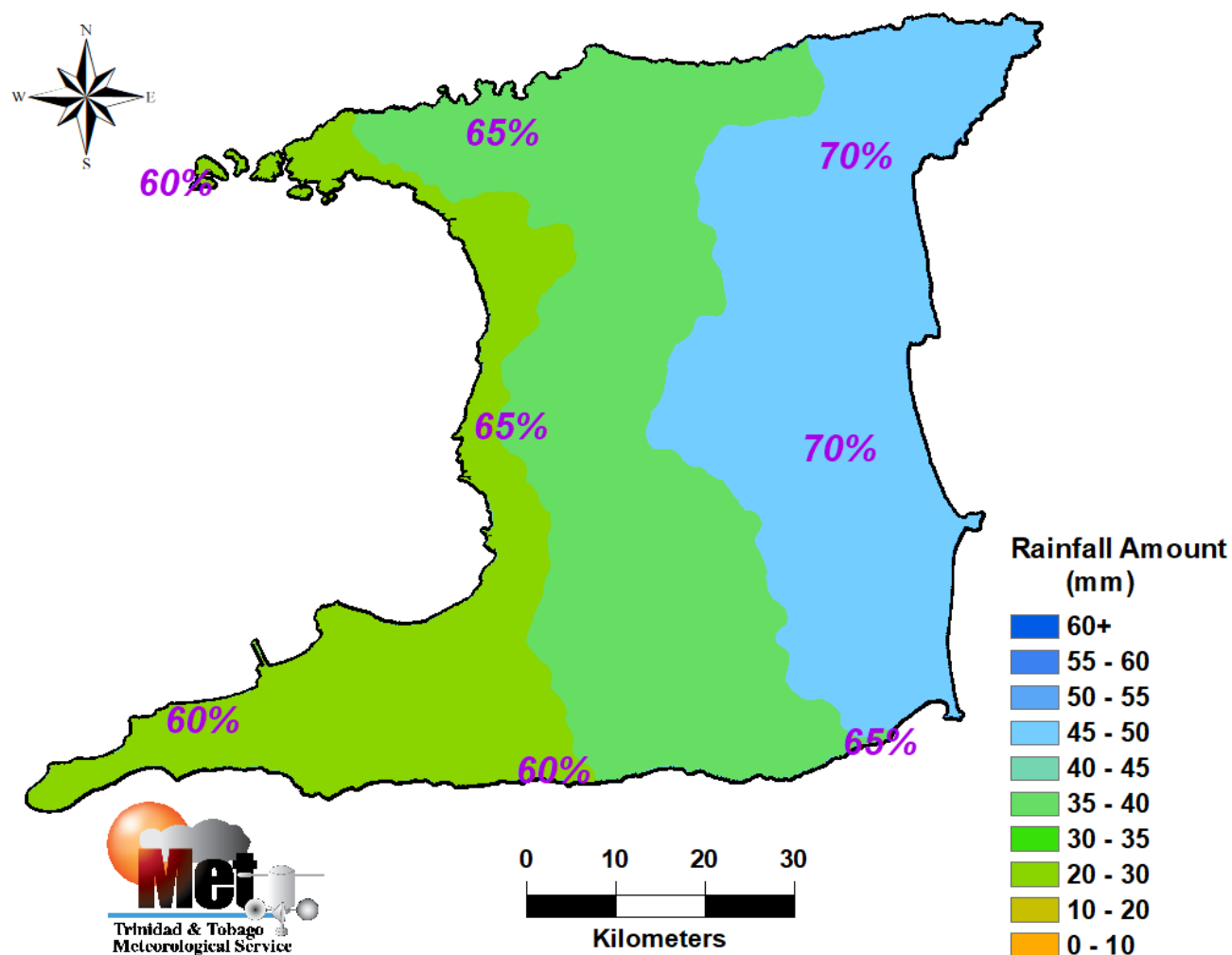


Figure 1. Rainfall Map of Trinidad showing possible rainfall totals for varying districts during Second dekad of December, 2017 and percentage probability of occurrence.

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Tobago's Mean Daily Rainfall Forecast for the Second Dekad of December (11th-20th) 2017.

Northeastern areas:

Moderate chance (70%) of mean daily rainfall up to 5.0 mm.

South-Western areas:

Moderate chance (69%) of mean daily rainfall up to 4.7 mm.

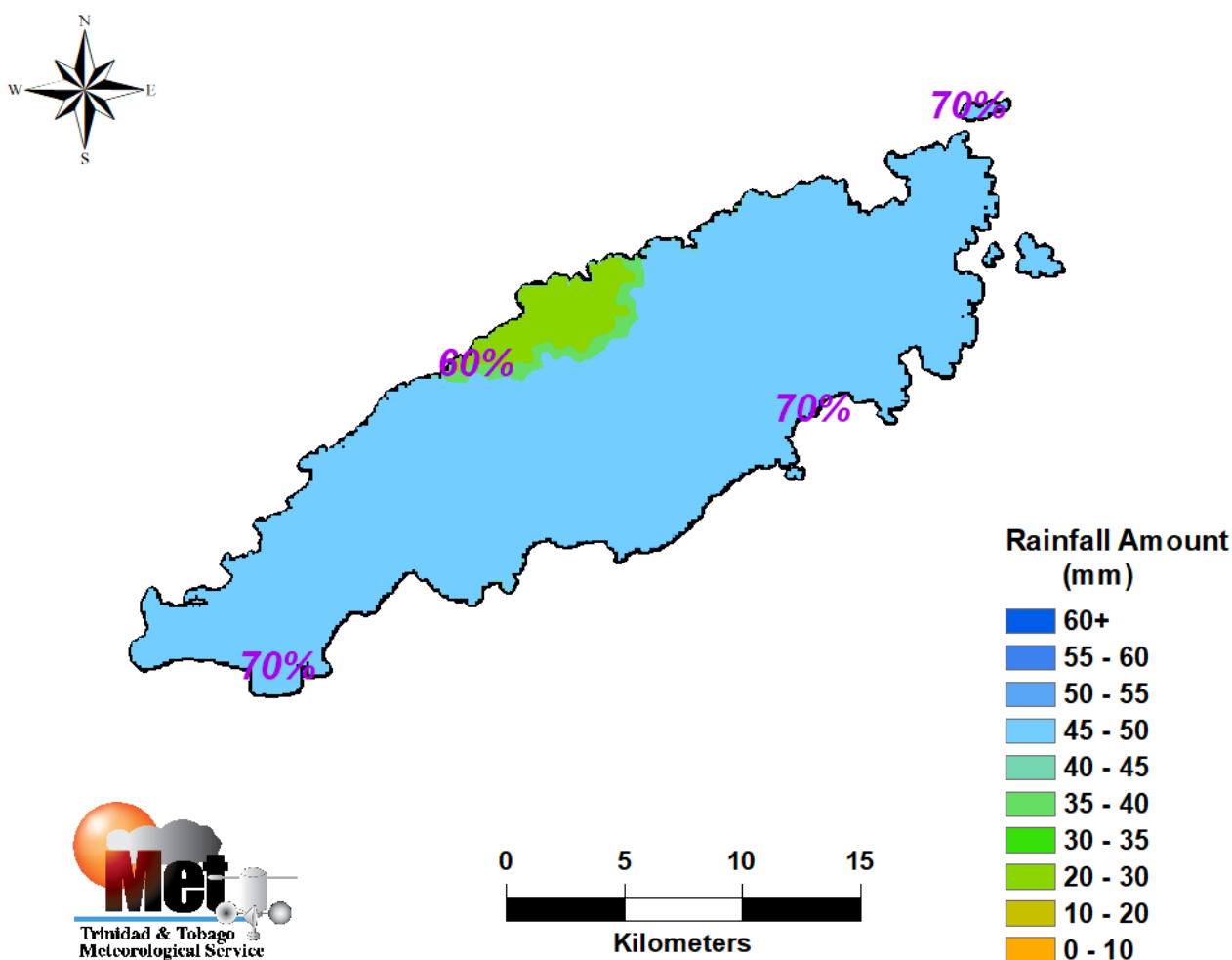


Figure 2. Rainfall Map of Tobago showing possible rainfall totals for varying districts during Second dekad of December, 2017 and percentage probability of occurrence.

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Temperatures:

Trinidad's Temperature Forecast for the Second Dekad of December (11th-20th) 2017.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily maximum temperatures to exceed 31.6 °C, peaking near 32.6 °C.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily minimum temperatures to be below 22.4 °C, dropping as low as 20.0 °C.

Tobago's Temperature Forecast for the Second Dekad of December (11th -20th) 2017.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily maximum temperatures to exceed 30.1 °C, peaking near 31.9 °C.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily minimum temperatures to be below 23.9 °C, dropping as low as 22.5 °C.

Summary:

Expected Weather for Second Dekad (11th-20th) of December, 2017 and Likely Impact on Agriculture.

During days 11th, 13th, 14th, and 15th of dekad, there is a 68% chance that converging bands of moist air within the northeast trade winds, will generate mostly patchy cloudy skies with few brief light and/or occasionally moderate rainfall amounts. This will disperse to give sunny, breezy and/or hazy conditions at times. The maximum temperatures are expected to be near 32.6 °C in Trinidad and near 31.9 °C in Tobago. Generally clear nights will give low temperatures near 20.0 °C in Trinidad and near 22.5 °C in Tobago. There is a moderate chance of mist in patches will form and will disintegrated just after sunrise.

However, during days 12th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th of the dekad, there is a 65% chance of zonal convergence bands of moisture within a northeasterly to easterly wind flow. This will produce patchy cloudy skies with few cloudy periods at times and brisk light to moderate rainfall amounts. The forecast maximum temperatures during those days in Trinidad will be near 31.6 °C, while Tobago's forecast maximum temperatures will be near 30.1 °C. On the other hand, the forecast minimum temperatures during those days will be near 22.4 °C in Trinidad and near 23.9 °C in Tobago.

Over the ten-day period, Trinidad and Tobago's highest possible daily rainfall totals will range between 4.0 mm and 17.0 mm, with its ten-day totals ranging between 25.0 mm and 50.0 mm, as seen in figures 1 and 2.

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