



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

Mostly dry and breezy conditions dominated Trinidad and Tobago, however days 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th and 10th experienced intermittent cloudy periods over both islands. On days 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th and 10th, Trinidad experienced some light to moderate rainfall over most areas. The ten-day rainfall totals for Trinidad range between 8.5 mm to 35.0 mm. Tobago experienced light to moderate rainfall during days 1st, 5th, 7th and 10th of the dekad, where their ten-day rainfall totals ranging between 8.5 mm to 32.0 mm. Accompanying these conditions maximum temperatures in Trinidad got up to 32.4°C and minimum temperatures of 22.1°C. Whereas, Tobago's temperatures went up to a maximum of 31.5°C and minimum temperature of 22.3°C. Both islands had majority of clear and cool nights which assisted in producing lower temperatures.

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

On days excluding 11th, 15th, 16th and 17th, farmers in both Trinidad and Tobago should expect sporadic cloudy patches and 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 33.7°C in Trinidad and 31.6°C in Tobago. Generally clear nights will give low temperatures of 21.4°C in Trinidad and 22.8°C in Tobago. On day 11th, there is a 55% 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; 15th, 16th and 17th, there is 65% 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 7.0 mm and 17.0 mm.

During days: 11th, 15th, 16th and 17th, forecast maximum temperatures in Trinidad will be near 32.4 °C while Tobago forecast maximum will near 30.2°C with forecast minimums of 22.3 °C in Trinidad and 23.2 °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 Mean Daily Rainfall Forecast for Second Dekad of March (11th-20th) 2017.

Northern & Northwestern areas:

Moderate chance of (62%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.4 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 (62%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.3 mm.

South-Eastern areas:

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

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Southern areas:

Moderate chance of (61%) 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.

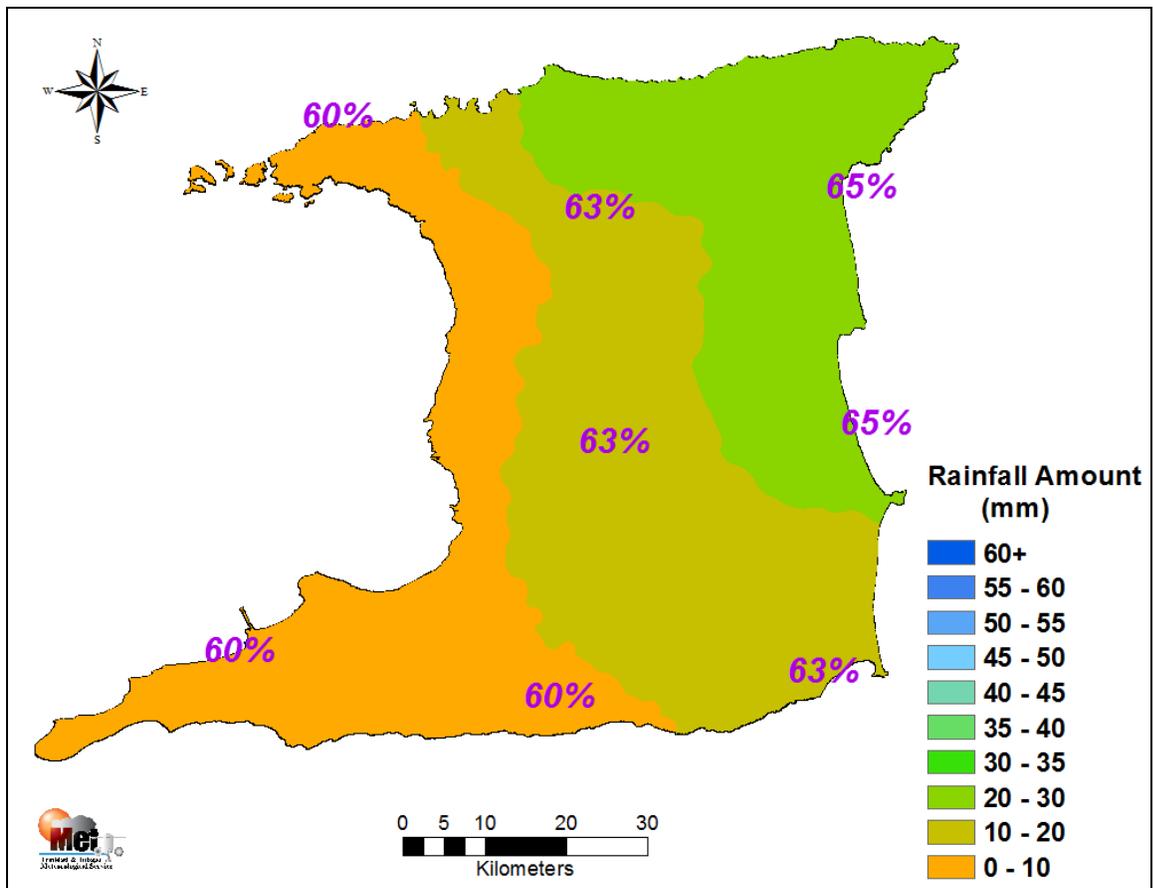


Figure 1. Rainfall Map of Trinidad showing possible rainfall totals for varying districts during Second dekad of March, 2017 and percentage probability of occurrence.

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Tobago Mean Daily Rainfall Forecast for Second Dekad of March (11th -20th) 2017.

Northeastern areas:

Moderate chance (64%) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.0 mm.

South-Western areas:

Moderate chance (62%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.4 mm.

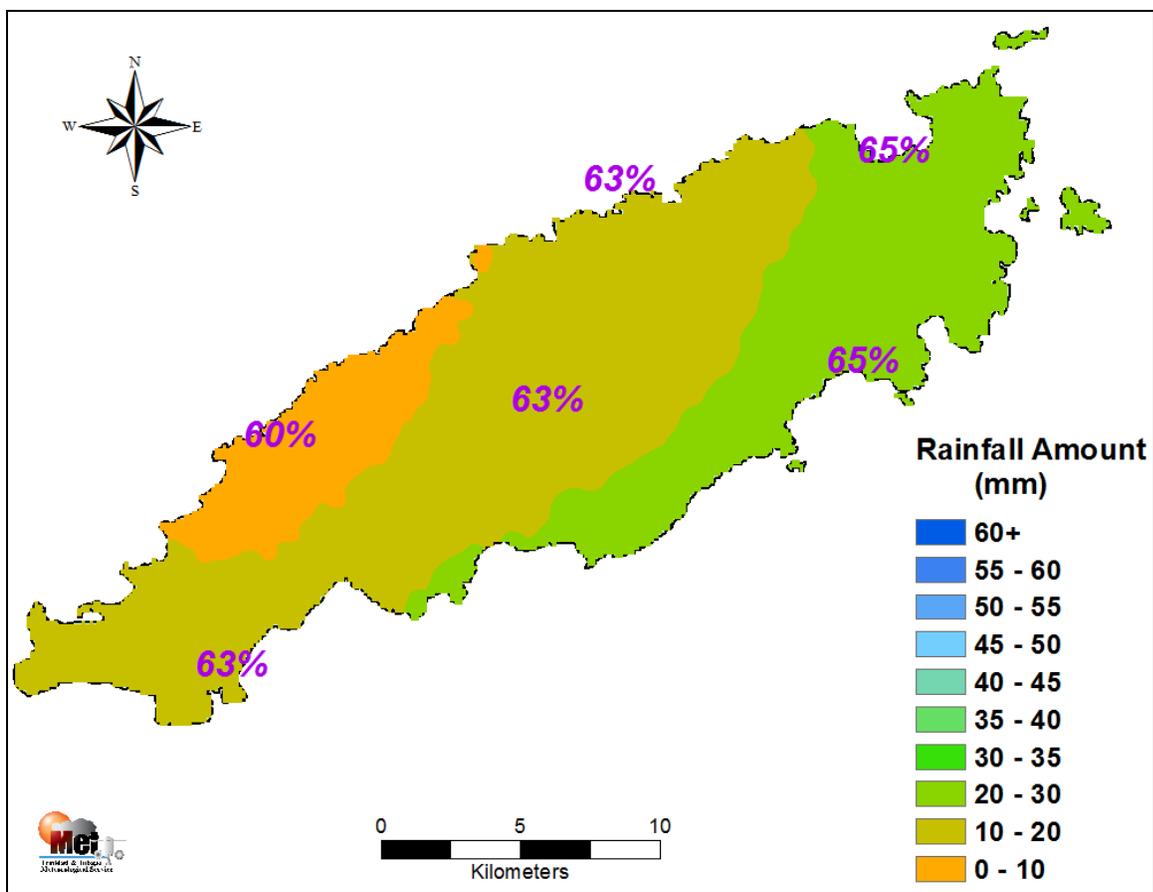


Figure 2. Rainfall Map of Tobago showing possible rainfall totals for varying districts during Second dekad of March, 2017 and percentage probability of occurrence.

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Temperatures:

Trinidad Temperature Forecast for Second Dekad of March (11th -20th) 2017.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily maximum temperatures to exceed 32.0 °C, peaking near 33.7 °C.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily minimum temperatures to be below 22.5 °C, dropping as low as 21.4 °C.

Tobago Temperature Forecast for Second Dekad of March (11th -20th) 2017.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily maximum temperatures to exceed 30.4 °C, peaking near 31.6°C.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily minimum temperatures to be below 23.2°C, dropping as low as 22.8°C.

Summary:

The forecast for the Second Dekad of March (11th -20th) 2017, favours initially mostly dry and breezy weather. However, days 11th, 15th 16th and 17th there is a moderate probability of weather favouring mostly light occasional moderate rainfall with daily amounts ranging from 7.0 mm to 17.0 mm. There is a 63% chance that the possible ten-day rainfall totals be between 8.0 mm and 20.0 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 33.7 °C in Trinidad and near 31.6°C 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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