

Agro-meteorological Bulletin and Assessment for Farmers and Livestock Producers of Trinidad and Tobago for the First Dekad (1st -10th) of May, 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 Third Dakad (21st-30th) of April, 2017.

Mostly dry conditions dominated Trinidad and Tobago over the majority of the dekad where both islands experienced sporadic patchy cloudiness at times, with some light rainfall over few areas. Trinidad experienced some light rainfall producing scanty rainfall amounts over few areas during the second half of the dekad, with its ten-day rainfall totals ranging between a trace to 2.0 mm. Tobago experienced mostly scanty to moderate rainfall over few areas during days 23rd and 30th of the dekad. with its ten-day rainfall totals ranging between a trace to 13.0 mm. Accompanying these conditions maximum temperatures in Trinidad got up to 35.1°C and minimum temperatures of 23.6°C. Whereas, Tobago's temperatures went up to a maximum of 31.7°C and minimum temperature of 23.4°C

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Expected Weather for First Dekad (1st – 10th) of May, 2017 and Likely Impact on Agriculture.

On days excluding 3rd, 4th, 7th and 8th, farmers in both Trinidad and Tobago should expect sporadic cloudy patches and a 40% chance of a brief light shower at times, producing scanty rainfall amounts. The cloud patches will disperse to give breezy and sunny conditions with high temperatures of 34.3°C in Trinidad and 31.7 °C in Tobago. Generally clear nights will give low temperatures of 23.3°C in Trinidad and 23.6 °C in Tobago.

On days; 3rd, 4th and 8th of the dekad, there is a 65% chance of a low level moist southeasterly wind flow establishing itself over both islands producing patchy cloudy periods and mostly light occasionally moderate showers at times. On day 7th, there is 60% chance that low level moist convergent bands, in the northeasterly wind flow, will establish itself upon both islands and resulting in cloudy patches but mostly over Tobago, with few light showers and the occasional moderate shower. Over the ten-day period, Trinidad's highest possible daily rainfall totals will range between 3.0 mm and 9.0 mm and ten-day totals ranging between 8.0mm and 24.0mm while Tobago's highest possible daily rainfall totals will range between 1.0 mm and 8.0 mm and ten-day totals ranging between 8.0 mm and 18.0 mm as seen in figures 1 and 2.

During days: 3rd, 4th, 7th and 8th, forecast maximum temperatures in Trinidad will be near 33.6 °C while Tobago forecast maximum will near 30.8 °C with forecast minimums of 23.9 °C in Trinidad and 24.2 °C in Tobago. The fairly wet and humid conditions during those days may lend itself to greening-up of pastures for livestock and reducing chances of bush fires in few areas.

Trinidad's Mean Daily Rainfall Forecast for the First Dekad of May (1st -10th) 2017.

Northern & Northwestern areas:

Moderate chance (61%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.2 mm.

North-Eastern and Eastern areas:

Moderate chance (65%) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.2 mm.

Central, West-Central and inland areas:

Moderate chance (62%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.5 mm.

South-Eastern areas:

Moderate chance (65%) of mean daily rainfall up to 2.3 mm.

Southern areas:

Moderate chance (62%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.6 mm.

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South-Western areas:

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

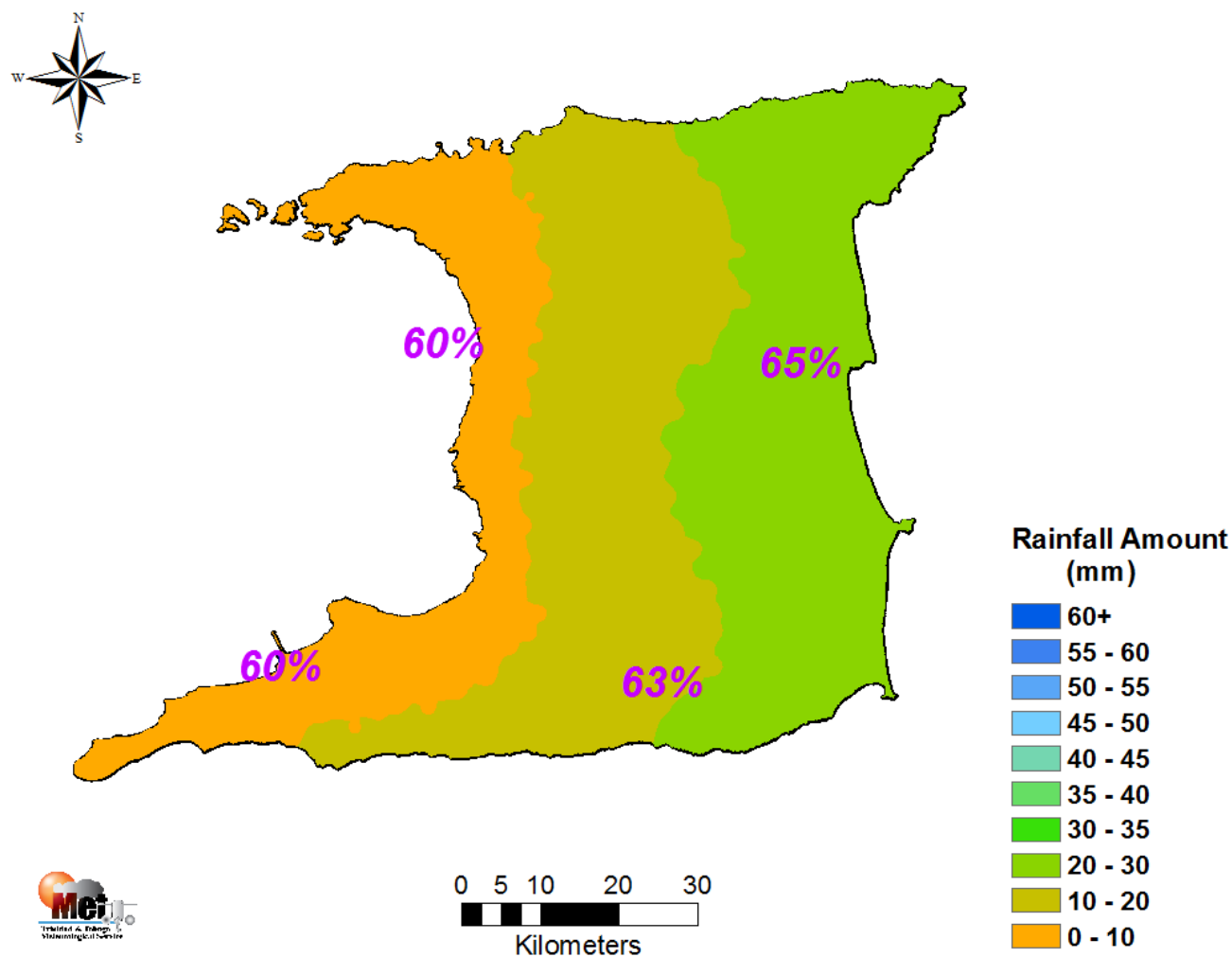


Figure 1. Rainfall Map of Trinidad showing possible rainfall totals for varying districts during First dekad of May, 2017 and percentage probability of occurrence.

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Tobago's Mean Daily Rainfall Forecast for the First Dekad of May (1st -10th) 2017.

Northeastern areas:

Moderate chance (65%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.8 mm.

South-Western areas:

Moderate chance (63%) of mean daily rainfall up to 1.4 mm.

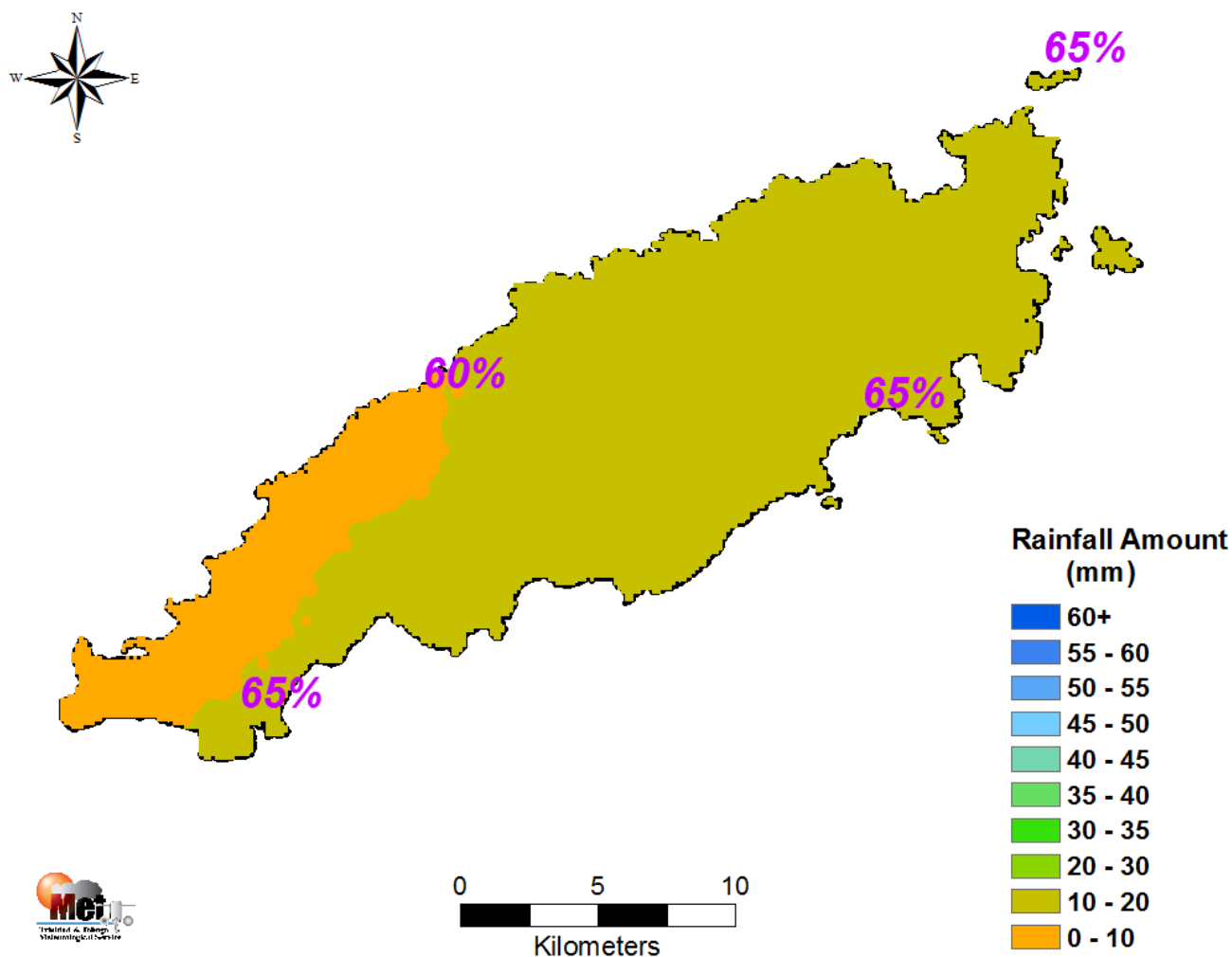


Figure 2. Rainfall Map of Tobago showing possible rainfall totals for varying districts during First dekad of May, 2017 and percentage probability of occurrence.

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Temperatures:

Trinidad's Temperature Forecast for the First Dekad of May (1st -10th) 2017.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily maximum temperatures to exceed 32.6⁰C, peaking near 34.3 ⁰C.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily minimum temperatures to be below 23.9 ⁰C, dropping as low as 22.5 ⁰C.

Tobago's Temperature Forecast for the First Dekad of May (1st -10th) 2017.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily maximum temperatures to exceed 31.3 ⁰C, peaking near 31.7 ⁰C.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily minimum temperatures to be below 24.4 ⁰C, dropping as low as 23.7 ⁰C.

Summary:

The forecast for the First Dekad of May (1st-10th) 2017, mostly favours mostly mix weather, a light early morning shower at times, followed by dry/breezy conditions. However, during days 3rd, 4th, 7th and 8th, there is a moderate probability of weather favouring mostly light, occasionally moderate rainfall amounts. There is a 63% chance that over the ten-day period, Trinidad's highest possible daily rainfall totals will range between 3.0 mm and 9.0 mm and ten-day totals ranging between 8.0 mm and 24.0 mm, while Tobago's highest possible daily rainfall totals will range between 1.0 mm and 8.0 mm and ten-day totals ranging between 8.0 mm and 18.0 mm as seen in figures 1 and 2.

Temperatures are set to peak near 34.2 ⁰C in Trinidad and near 31.7⁰C in Tobago. The fairly wet and humid conditions during those days may lend itself to greening-up of pastures for livestock and reducing chances of bush fires in few areas. If possible, 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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