

Agromet Bulletin

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Agro-meteorological Bulletin and Assessment for Farmers and Livestock Producers of Trinidad and Tobago for the Third Dekad (21st -31st) 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 Second Dakad (11th -20th) of May, 2017.

Mostly mixed conditions dominated Trinidad and Tobago over the majority of the dekad where both islands experienced patchy cloudiness to cloudy periods at times, with light to moderate occasionally heavy rainfall events over most areas. Trinidad experienced showers that produced moderate to heavy rainfall amounts over most areas during days 12th, 13th and 14th of the dekad, with its ten-day rainfall totals ranging between 14.5 mm and 54.8 mm. However, Tobago experienced showers that produced moderate to heavy rainfall amounts over most areas during days 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th of the dekad, with its ten-day rainfall totals ranging between 14.2 mm and 24.4 mm. Accompanying these conditions maximum temperatures in Trinidad got up to 34.2 °C and minimum temperatures of

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24.0°C. Whereas, Tobago's temperatures went up to a maximum of 31.9 °C and minimum temperature of 24.4 °C

Expected Weather for Third Dekad (21st - 31st) of May, 2017 and Likely Impact on Agriculture.

The rainy season has started, stakeholders and particularly farmers in both Trinidad and Tobago should expect cloudy patches to cloudy periods at times and a 55% chance of brief light showers at times, producing scanty to moderate rainfall amounts. The cloudy periods will disperse to give sunny and breezy conditions at times, with high temperatures of 34.5 °C in Trinidad and 32.1 °C in Tobago. Generally clear nights will give low temperatures of 23.5 °C in Trinidad and 24.0 °C in Tobago.

However, on days 22th, 23th and 24th of the dekad, there is a 68% chance of a low level moist southeasterly wind flow establishing itself over both islands producing patchy cloudy to cloudy periods with light to moderate occasionally heavy showers at times. On days; 27th, 28th and 29th, there is 60% chance that the low level moist southeasterly wind flow will re-establish itself over both islands producing patchy cloudy periods and light to moderate showers at times. Over the ten-day period, Trinidad's highest possible daily rainfall totals will range between 8.0 mm and 25.0 mm, with ten-day totals ranging between 32.0 mm and 59.0 mm, while Tobago's highest possible daily rainfall totals will range between 8.0 mm and 25.0 mm with ten-day totals ranging between 30.0 mm and 40.0 mm as seen in figures 1 and 2.

During days: 22th, 23th, 24th, 27th, 28th and 29th forecast maximum temperatures in Trinidad will be near 33.0 °C, while Tobago's forecast maximums will be near 31.3 °C, forecast minimums will be near 24.3 °C in Trinidad and be near 24.9 °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 all areas.

Trinidad's Mean Daily Rainfall Forecast for the Third Dekad of May (21st -31st) 2017.

Northern & Northwestern areas:

Moderate chance (62%) of mean daily rainfall up to 4.2 mm.

North-Eastern and Eastern areas:

Moderate chance (64%) of mean daily rainfall up to 5.7 mm.

Central, West-Central and inland areas:

Moderate chance (63%) of mean daily rainfall up to 4.3 mm.

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South-Eastern areas:

Moderate chance (64%) of mean daily rainfall up to 5.6 mm.

Southern areas:

Moderate chance (62%) of mean daily rainfall up to 4.0 mm.

South-Western areas:

Moderate chance (61%) of mean daily rainfall up to 3.5 mm.

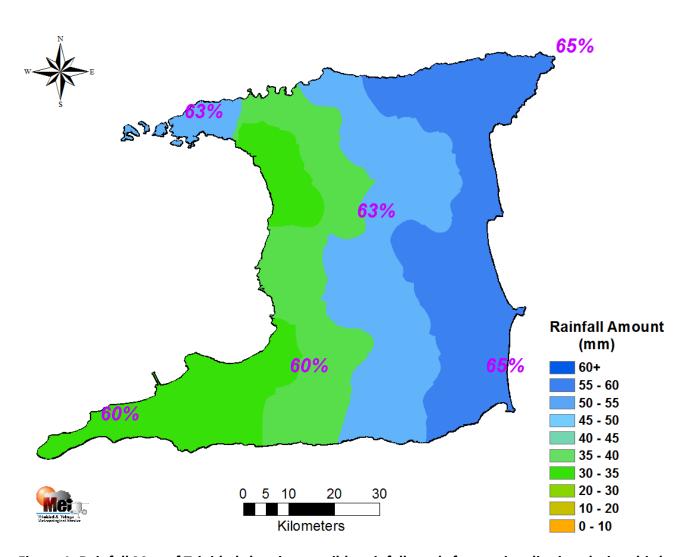


Figure 1. Rainfall Map of Trinidad showing possible rainfall totals for varying districts during third dekad of May, 2017 and percentage probability of occurrence.

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Tobago's Mean Daily Rainfall Forecast for the Third Dekad of May (21st -31st) 2017.

Northeastern areas:

Moderate chance (64%) of mean daily rainfall up to 3.8 mm.

South-Western areas:

Moderate chance (64%) of mean daily rainfall up to 3.8 mm.

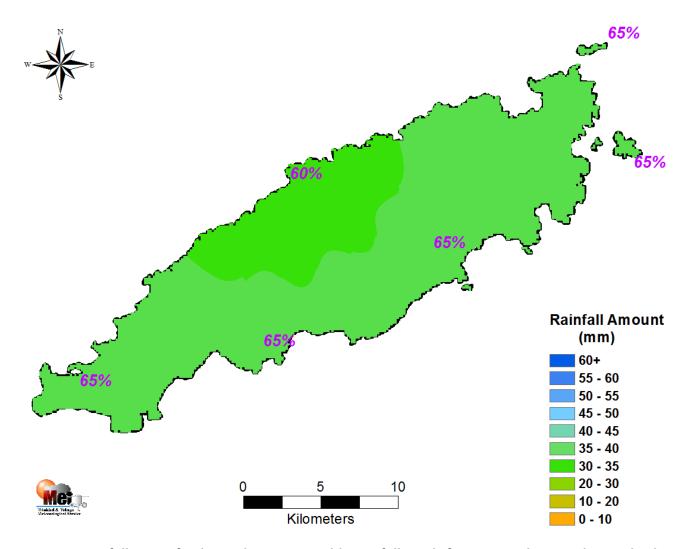


Figure 2. Rainfall Map of Tobago showing possible rainfall totals for varying districts during third dekad of May, 2017 and percentage probability of occurrence.

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Temperatures:

Trinidad's Temperature Forecast for the Third Dekad of May (21st -31st) 2017.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily maximum temperatures to exceed 32.3°C, peaking near 34.5 °C.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily minimum temperatures to be below 24.3 °C, dropping as low as 23.5 °C.

Tobago's Temperature Forecast for the Third Dekad of May (21st -31st) 2017.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily maximum temperatures to exceed 31.3 °C, peaking near 32.1 °C.

Moderate chance (70%) of daily minimum temperatures to be below 24.9 0 C, dropping as low as 24.0 0 C.

Summary:

With the inception of the rainy season, the forecast for the third Dekad of May (21st-31st) 2017, favours mostly mix weather, patchy cloudiness to cloudy periods with showers at times, followed by dry and at times breezy conditions. However, during days 22nd, 23th, 24th, 27th, 28th and 29th, there is a moderate probability of weather favouring light to moderate occasionally heavy rainfall amounts. There is a 63% chance that over the ten-day period, Trinidad's highest possible daily rainfall totals will range between 8.0 mm and 25.0 mm, while Tobago's highest possible daily rainfall totals will range between 8.0 mm and 25.0 mm with ten-day totals ranging between 30.0 mm and 40.0 mm as seen in figures 1 and 2.

Temperatures are set to peak near 34.5 °C in Trinidad and near 32.1 °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 all 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.