



2024 Dry Season Review

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Trinidad and Tobago Meteorological Service

Gary Benjamin, Meteorologist

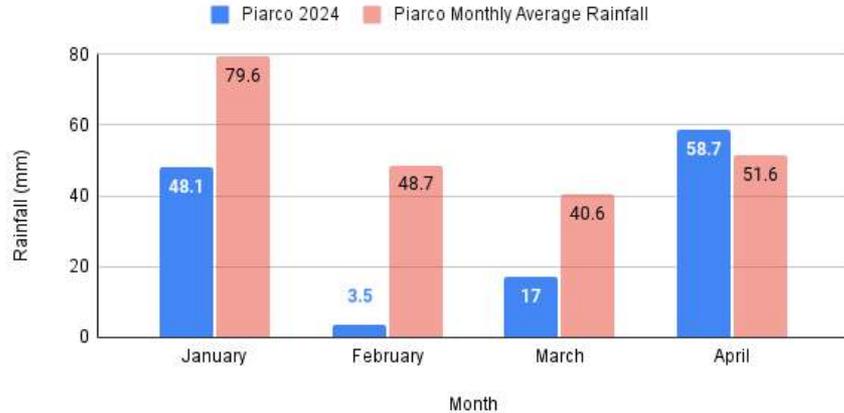
Ean Wallace, Meteorologist

- **Rainfall January 2024 – April 2024**
- Temperature January 2024 – April 2024
- Hazardous Seas
- Bush/Forest Fires
- Saharan Dust

Rainfall January 2024 – April 2024

Piarco Rainfall: 2024 vs Monthly Average

January 2024 – April 2024

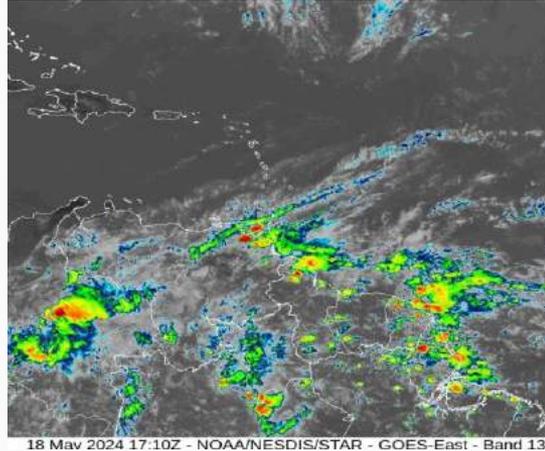
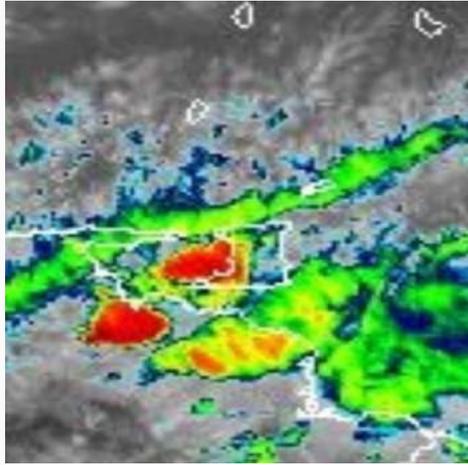


Crown Point Rainfall: 2024 vs Monthly Average

January 2024 – April 2024



NOT YET VALIDATED RR FOR MAY 2024 (up to 19th)



Saturday 18th May 2024

“A low level trough affected Trinidad and Tobago producing cloudy conditions with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms accompanied by gusty winds”

The TTMS officially declares the start of the Wet Season based on either of the following conditions:

- (a) The passage of a Tropical Wave that is an African Easterly Wave that was tracked off the West African Coast, which brings measurable rainfall to Trinidad and Tobago. The onset date of the wet season is the first day of the associated rainfall; or
- (b) The Inter-tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) shifts northward and brings measurable rainfall to Trinidad and Tobago. The onset date of the wet season is the first day of the associated rainfall.

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- **Temperature January 2024 – April 2024**
- Hazardous Seas
- Bush/Forest Fires
- Saharan Dust

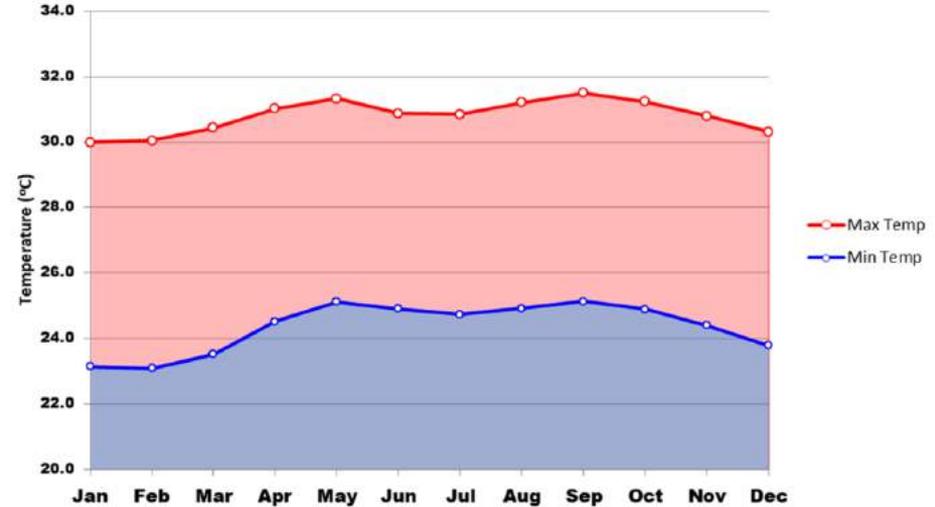
Average Maximum & Minimum Temperatures

Average Day Maximum and Night Minimum Temperatures Piarco (Trinidad) 1991-2020



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Average Day Maximum and Night Minimum Temperatures Crown Point (Tobago) 1991-2020



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Temperatures: January 2024 – April 2024

MONTH	EXTRM MAX TEMP			EXTRM MIN TEMP		
	Piarco	/	Crown Point	Piarco	/	Crown Point
January	32.6°C	/	32.4	21.5°C	/	23.6
February	33.9°C	/	32.7	20.6°C	/	23.5
March	35.2°C	/	32.9	20.8°C	/	22.9
April	34.7°C	/	33.0	22.6°C	/	24.2

- Rainfall January 2024 – April 2024
- Temperature January 2024 – April 2024
- **Hazardous Seas**
- Bush/Forest Fires January 2024 – April 2024
- Saharan Dust

HAZARDOUS SEAS

Hazardous Seas Alerts - Yellow Level issued:

1. January: 24th to 28th
2. February: 9th to 15th
3. February: 16th to 19th
4. March: 11th to 15th
5. March 30th to April 1st
6. April: 4th to 7th



- Rainfall January 2024 – April 2024
- Temperature January 2024 – April 2024
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- **Bush/Forest Fires January 2024 – April 2024**
- Saharan Dust

Smoke Haze

- Poor Visibility
- Hazardous Air Quality



Forest Fire near Mount St. Benedict in Tunapuna, Trinidad during February 2024.

Photo: Lutchman Ragoonanan (Forestry Division).



Smoke haze from bush fires mixes with significant Saharan dust haze on May 6 2024 in Mausica, Trinidad.

Photo: Ean Wallace

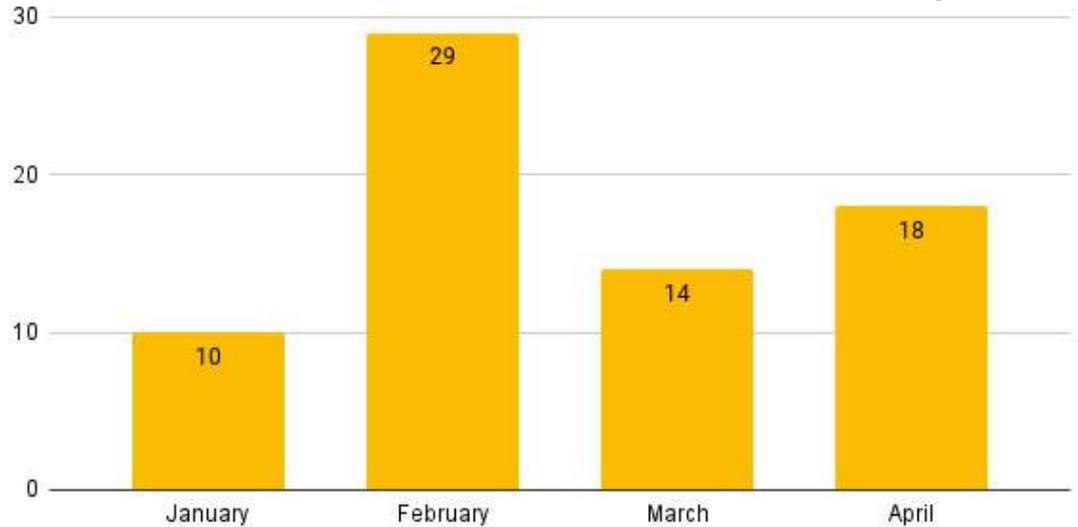
- Rainfall January 2024 – April 2024
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- **Saharan Dust**

Saharan Dust Haze January 2024 – April 2024

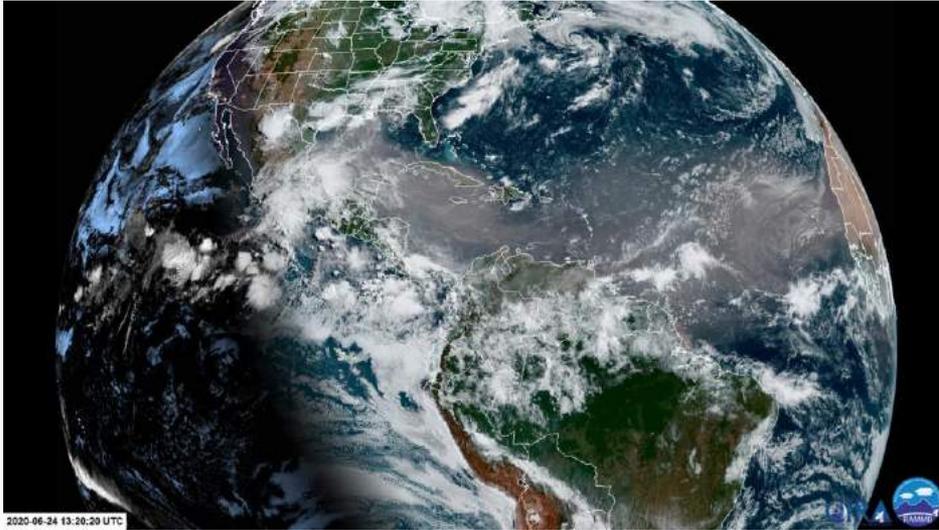


Dust Haze Days Observations in 2024

PIARCO, TRINIDAD



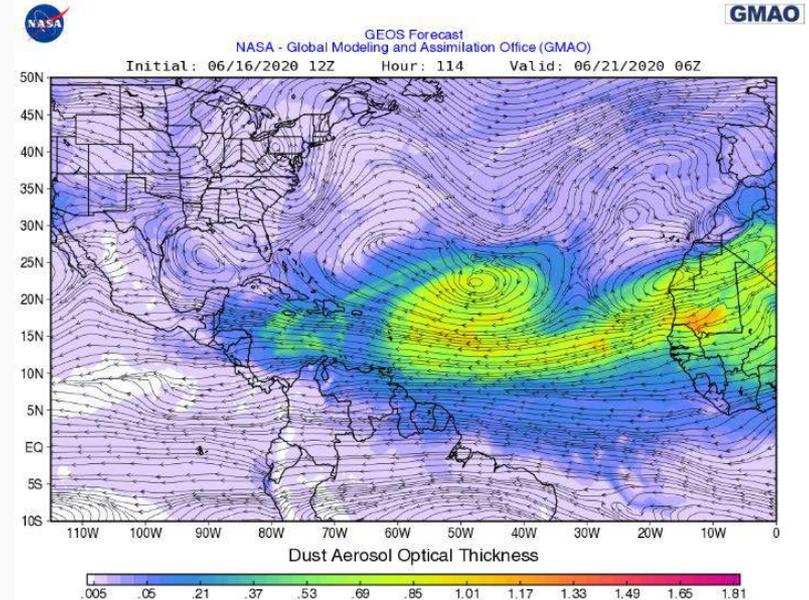
Saharan Dust affecting the Eastern Caribbean during May 2024.
Satellite Image: NOAA



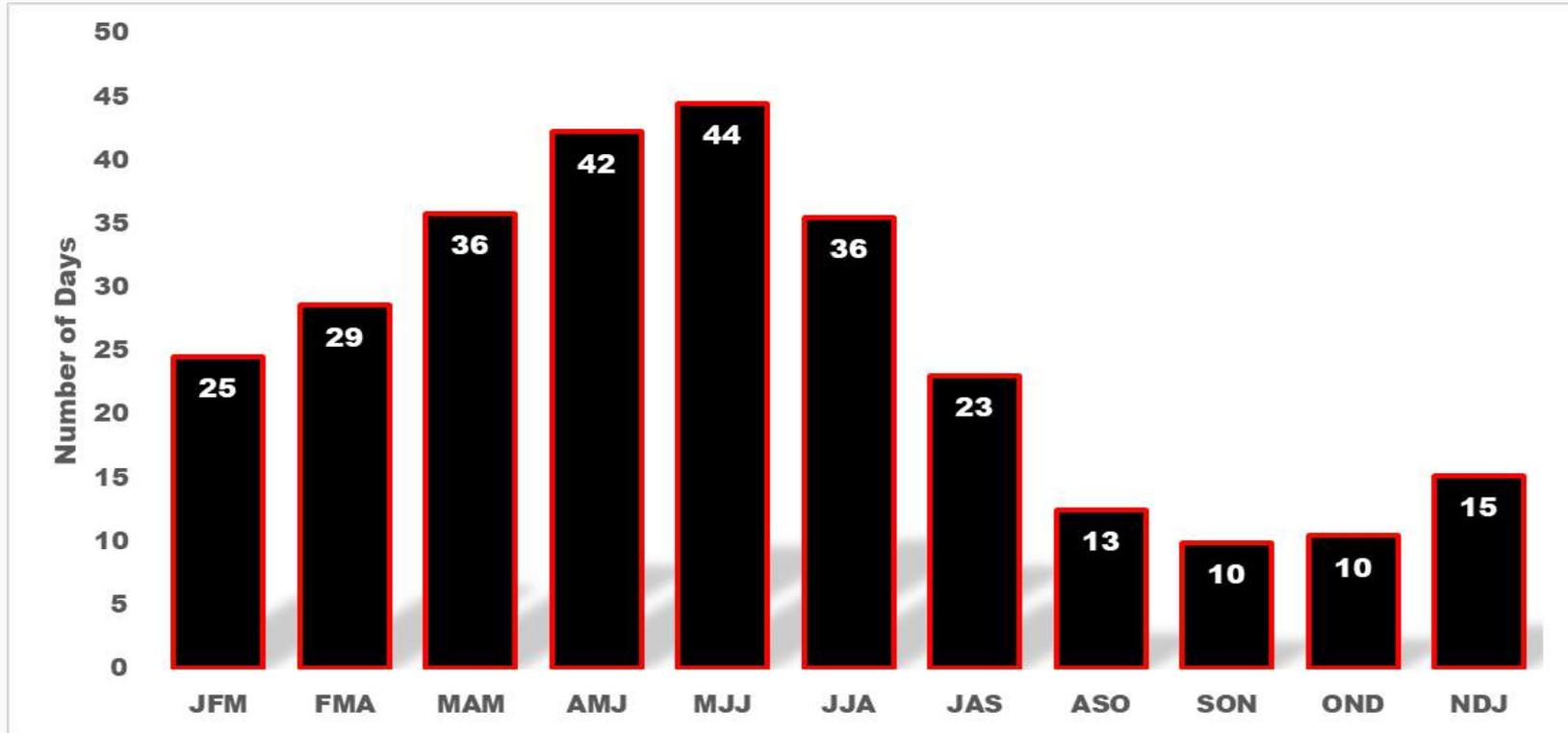
Satellite Image: NOAA
Photos: Barbados Dust Observatory



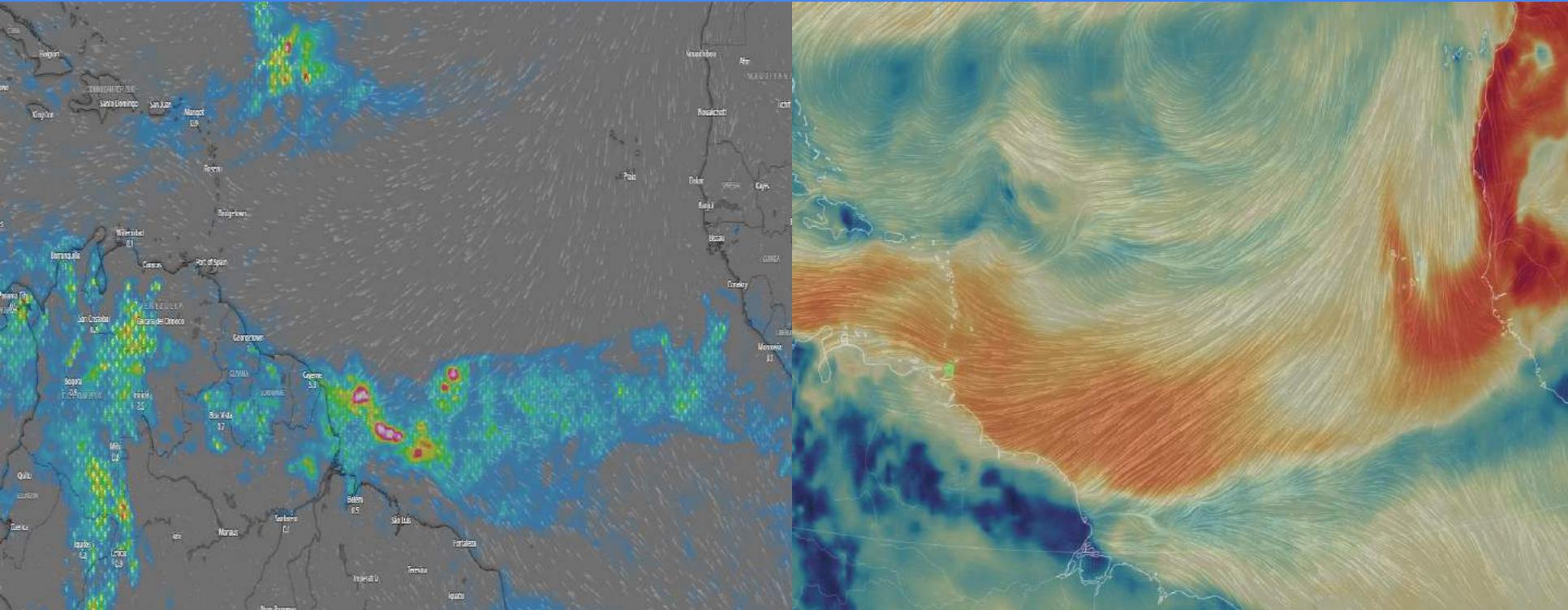
Prediction 5 days earlier... 16 June Valid for 21 June



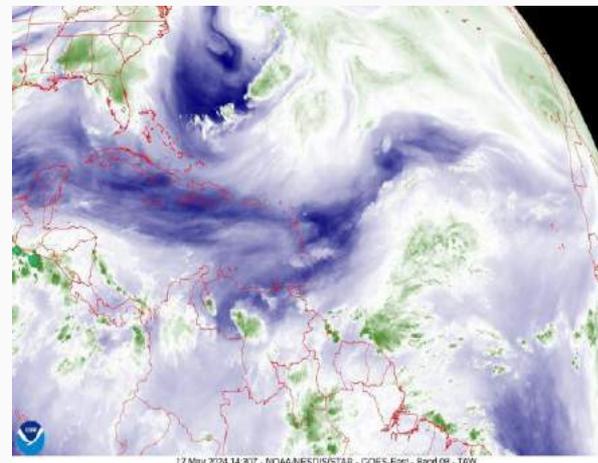
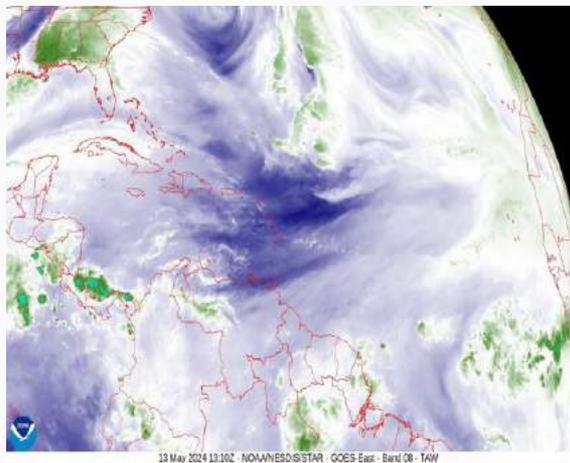
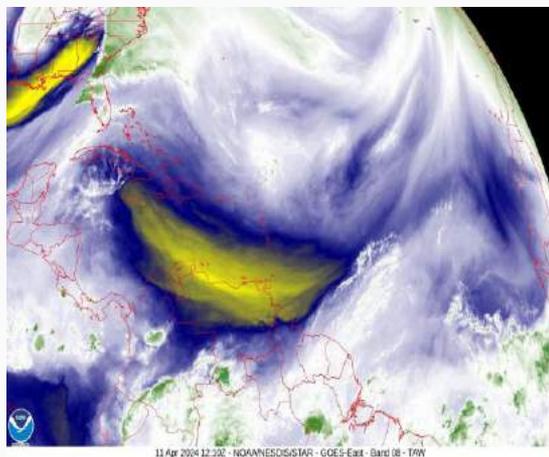
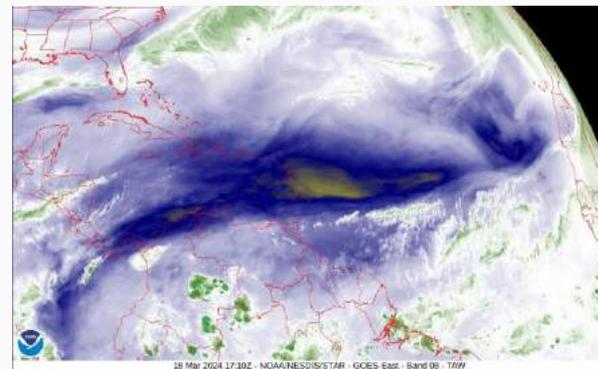
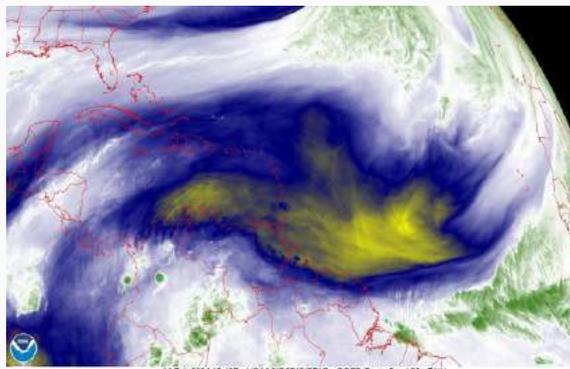
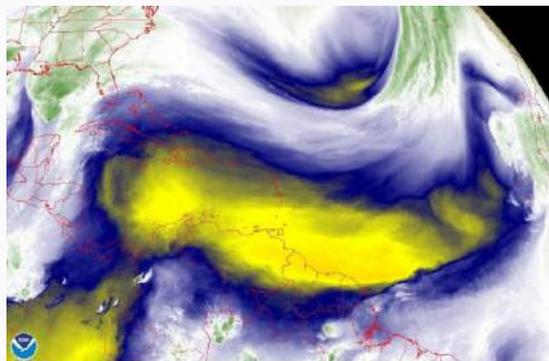
3-month seasonal average number of dust haze days



A look at the ITCZ's position relative to the Saharan dust on May 09th 2024



Snapshots of MOISTURE CONTENT IN THE ATMOSPHERE (H2Ov Sat Pic) Jan 23rd Feb 14th Mar 18th Apr 11th and May 13th & 17th 2024



- **HEALTH IMPACTS**

- Heat Stress
- Hazardous Air Quality (even for the normally healthy)
- Vulnerable groups affected: Persons with varying degrees of respiratory ailments, the Elderly, Young children, and Pets

- **WATER RESOURCE IMPACTS**

- Reduced river and water courses flow
- Lowered Reservoir Levels
- Water restrictions (e.g. Hose-pipe Ban)

- **AGRICULTURE IMPACTS**

- Heat stress in animals, wilting plants
- Reduced Rain fed irrigation





THANK YOU!

METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES DIVISION

357-365 Golden Grove Road, Piarco
TELEPHONE NOS.: (868) 669-
5465/3964
WEBSITE: www.metoffice.gov.tt
EMAIL: DirMetTT@metoffice.gov.tt

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