

AGROMET BULLETIN



HIGHLIGHTS FOR APRIL

- ✚ Stations in eight of 13 parishes received below-normal rainfall.
- ✚ Two parishes experienced meteorological drought conditions.
- ✚ Below-normal rainfall is forecast for May to July 2021.
- ✚ Below-normal to near-normal temperatures are expected for the next three months.

What Happened: February – April 2021

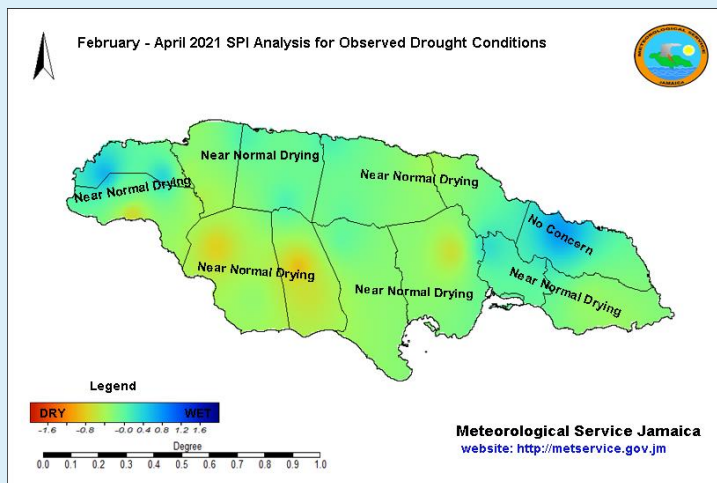
Based on analysis done (image to the right) near-normal levels of dryness were observed across sections of most parishes, particularly those in the south, with some areas of drier conditions being noted in St. Elizabeth, Manchester and St. Catherine.

Meteorological drought conditions returned to St. Elizabeth and was experienced in St. James.

There was no concern however, for farming communities in Portland where, mild wetness was observed, especially in the west.

Temperatures, ranging from 1-2°C warmer, were recorded in some areas across the island for the month of April 2021, when compared to April 2020.

Wet and Dry Conditions, February – April 2021



Read more by visiting our website:

<https://www.metservice.gov.jm/climate-products>

ABOUT US:

This report provides short term precipitation forecasts, as well as drought monitoring products that will assist in making critical decisions about the growing season for crops, as well as irrigation scheduling and water management.

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Seasonal Forecast: May – July 2021

For the May to July period, rainfall amounts for Jamaica are likely to be below-normal during the transition from the early wet season to the mid-summer dry period. Based on this projection, there is a possibility that dryness could exacerbate in many farming communities especially in the south; along with sections of St. Mary and St. Ann where, severely dry conditions could prevail. Moderate dryness could return to farming areas in Portland. Contrasting conditions however, could be expected in Trelawny, particularly the Cockpit area, which could benefit the most from the rainfall over the next three months.

Temperatures for the next three months are likely to be below-normal to near-normal.

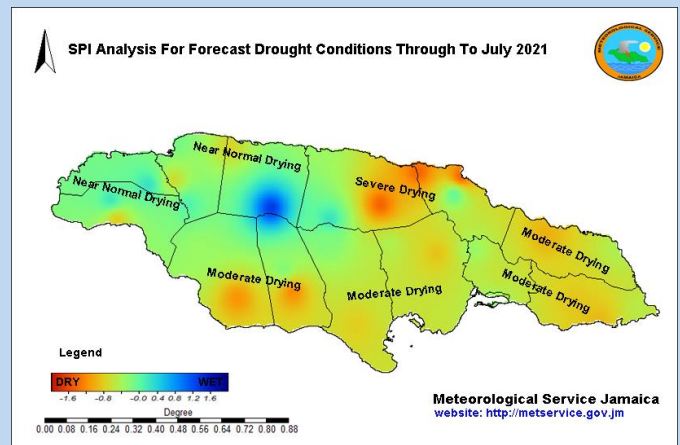
Possible Impacts

The forecast for below-normal rainfall could continue to present a challenge for the availability of water in farming communities being impacted by dry conditions. Mildly wet conditions are likely to prevail in Trelawny and especially the Cockpit area.

As the Meteorological Service continues to monitor the drying trend in conditions across the island, the advice is for stakeholders, particularly farmers, to continue employing rainwater harvesting solutions and other methods to retain soil moisture.

The forecast for below-normal to near-normal temperatures should result in comfortable daytime temperatures.

Wet and Dry Conditions, May – July 2021



Seasonal Outlook, May – July 2021

JAMAICA	Below-Normal (%)	Normal (%)	Above-Normal (%)
Rainfall Outlook	55	25	20
Temperature Outlook	40	30	30

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