

HIGHLIGHTS FOR AUGUST

- ✚ Selected stations in eight parishes received below-normal rainfall in August.
- ✚ Sections of eastern and central parishes continue to experience very dry conditions.
- ✚ Below-normal to near-normal rainfall is forecast for Jamaica for September through to November.
- ✚ Above normal temperatures are forecast for the next 3 months.

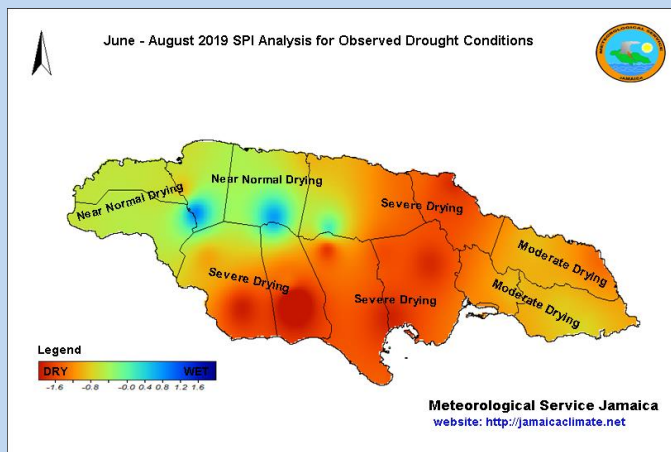
SUMMARY

Selected stations in eight of 13 parishes received below-normal rainfall in August. Varying levels of dryness were evident across the island, except for western parishes. Severely dry conditions were observed in St. Ann, St. Mary, St. Catherine, Clarendon, Manchester and St. Elizabeth. Moderately dry conditions impacted Portland, St. Thomas and KSA. Meteorological drought conditions for St. Elizabeth and St. Catherine.

What Happened: June-August 2019

From analyses (image to the right) moderately to severely dry conditions were experienced from St. Ann to Portland and from St. Thomas to St. Elizabeth with meteorological drought conditions been recorded for St. Elizabeth and St. Catherine. The other parishes were however, above the drought classification. In contrast, there was no concerns for farming communities in sections of Westmoreland, Hanover St. James and Trelawny where, wet conditions were experienced and especially in the Cockpit Country region. Warmer temperatures, between 1-2 °C were recorded in some areas across the island for this August, when compared to August 2018.

Wet and Dry Conditions, June-August 2019



Read more by visiting our website:
<https://www.jamaicacclimate.net/farmers-bulletin>

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.

AGROMET BULLETIN



Seasonal Forecast: September-November 2019

The projection for September to November, which is the primary rainfall season, is for below-normal to near-normal rainfall across Jamaica. The continuation of a drying trend over eastern and most southern parishes in August could therefore be halted if, significant rainfall is received over the next three months. Farming communities in the south of the island could be the main beneficiaries from the expected rainfall and therefore get significant relief from the current dry conditions, should the forecast for near-normal rainfall materialize. Sections of St. Thomas, Portland, St. Mary and St. Ann may however, not benefit significantly from the expected rains, when compared to other parishes. Temperatures for the next three months are likely to be above normal.

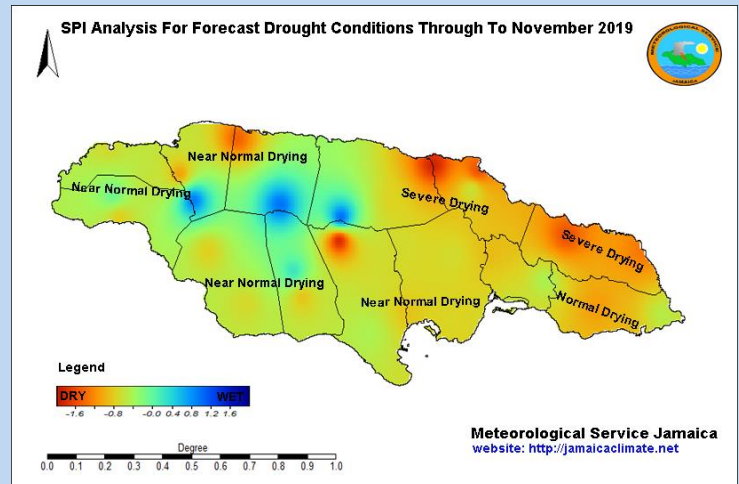
Possible Impacts

The forecast for below-normal to near-normal rainfall should not have an immediate impact in farming communities in Westmoreland, Hanover and the Cockpit Country region and its environs.

However, for all other parishes, farming communities should continue drought alleviation activities to lessen the impacts on crops and livestock, just in case they do not receive sufficient rainfall over the next three months.

The forecast for warmer than normal temperatures could lead to more heat stress and other related impacts and therefore, preventative measures should be continued to minimize these impacts.

Wet and Dry Conditions, September-November 2019



Seasonal Outlook, September-November 2019

JAMAICA	Below (B) %	Normal (N) %	Above (A) %
Rainfall Outlook	40	30	30
Temperature Outlook	20	30	50

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