

AGROMET BULLETIN



HIGHLIGHTS FOR JULY

- ✚ Stations in four of thirteen parishes received above-normal rainfall.
- ✚ No parish experienced meteorological drought conditions.
- ✚ Above-normal rainfall is forecast for August to October.
- ✚ Above-normal temperatures are still expected for the next three months

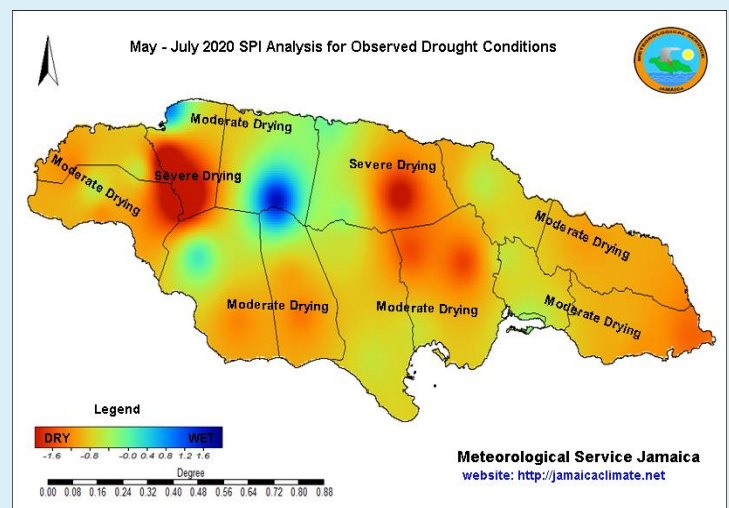
What Happened: May – July 2020

Based on analysis done (image to the right) the rainfall received especially in July, has reversed the drying conditions in many farming areas across the island. While, wetness was observed in southern Trelawny, most other parishes experienced moderate dryness; however, severely dry conditions were observed in sections of St. James and St. Ann. No parish experienced meteorological drought conditions in the June/July bi-monthly period.

The July rains would have eased the plight of farmers who were being impacted by insufficient rainfall for several months, which had resulted in lower than expected yields from their farms.

Temperatures, ranging from 1-3°C warmer, were recorded in some areas across the island for the month of July 2020, when compared to July 2019.

Wet and Dry Conditions, May-July 2020



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.

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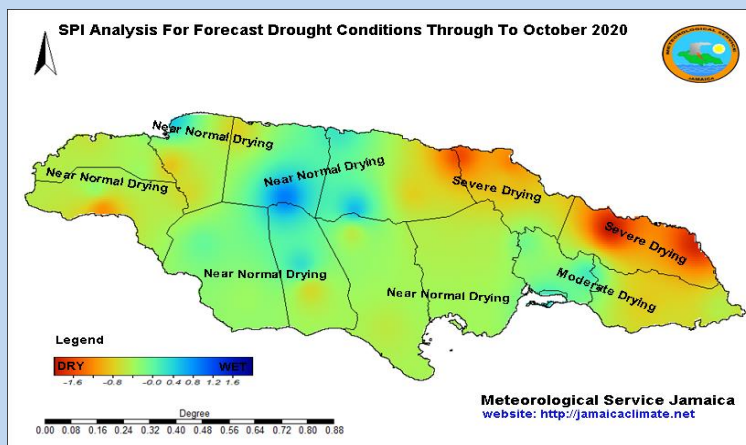
Seasonal Forecast: August – October 2020

For the three-month period of August to October, rainfall amounts for Jamaica are likely to be above-normal. Based on the projections, there is the possibility that dryness could further decrease in many farming communities; however, this may not be the case for sections of Portland, St. Mary and eastern St. Ann, where, lower rainfall totals are expected. In contrast, farming communities in southern Trelawny and adjacent areas of St. Elizabeth and Manchester could benefit the most from rainfall over the next three months, thereby, ensuring some levels of wetness in these areas. Temperatures for the August to October period are likely to be above-normal.

Possible Impacts

The forecast for above-normal rainfall should provide more relief from the dry conditions especially for farming areas dependent on rainfall for irrigation. The expected rains should also provide much needed replenishment for water storage facilities in areas where the commodity has been in short supply. As the Meteorological Service continues to monitor conditions across the island, the advice is for stakeholders, in particular farmers, to begin planting schedules ahead of the upcoming rainfall season in order to increase yields. The forecast for warmer-than-normal temperatures could cause more heat stress impacts especially on days with little or no rainfall.

Wet and Dry Conditions, August – October 2020



Seasonal Outlook, August - October 2020

JAMAICA	Below-Normal (%)	Normal (%)	Above-Normal (%)
Rainfall Outlook	25	30	45
Temperature Outlook	20	25	55

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