

AGROMET BULLETIN



HIGHLIGHTS FOR OCTOBER

- ✚ Several stations in seven parishes received below-normal rainfall.
- ✚ No parish experienced meteorological drought conditions.
- ✚ Above-normal rainfall is forecast for the island, for November to January.
- ✚ Above-normal but comfortable temperatures are still expected for the next three months.

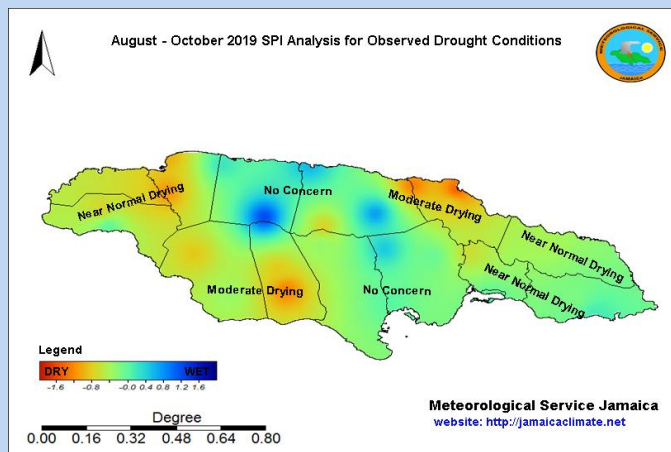
SUMMARY

Several stations in seven of 13 parishes received below-normal rainfall in October. Wet conditions were observed across Trelawny and bordering areas of St. Ann & St. Catherine. Moderately dry conditions were observed in sections of St. Mary and Manchester. Near normal drying was evident mainly across eastern and western parishes. No parish recorded meteorological drought conditions, in the August/October period.

What Happened: August-October 2019

Based on analysis done (image to the right) moderately dry conditions were experienced in most areas of St. Mary and Manchester. No parish recorded meteorological drought conditions. Near-normal drying was observed in western parishes, as well as, St. Thomas and Portland. Contrastingly, there were no concerns for farming communities in Trelawny especially along the hilly interior and bordering areas of St. Ann and St. Catherine which experienced mildly wet conditions. Warmer than normal temperatures, from 1-2 °C were recorded in some areas across the island for the month of October 2019, when compared to October 2018.

Wet and Dry Conditions, August-October 2019



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<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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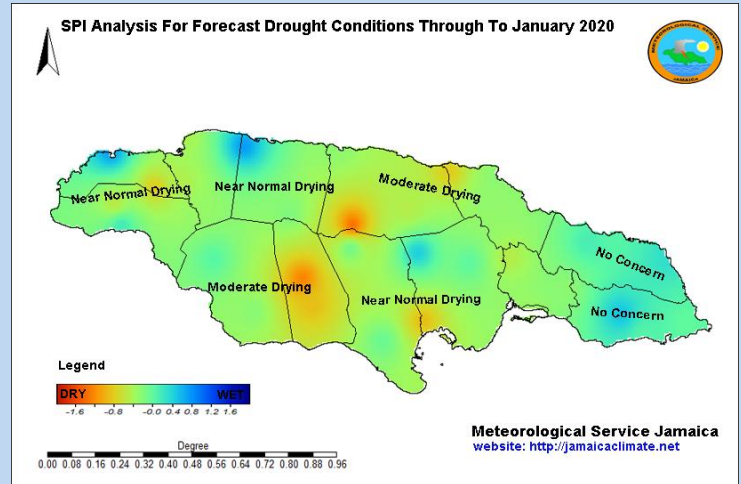
Seasonal Forecast: November-January 2020

For the period of November to January, rainfall amounts are likely to be above-normal going into the traditional dry season. The expected above-normal rainfall could benefit eastern and western parishes more than it does central parishes. Therefore, St. Mary, Portland, St. Thomas, KSA, St. Elizabeth, Westmoreland, Hanover and St. James should experience a reduction in the levels of dryness currently being experienced. In contrast, Manchester and sections of Clarendon, St. Catherine and St. Ann could experience an increase in dryness. Temperatures for November to January are likely to be above normal but comfortable.

Possible Impacts

The forecast for above-normal rainfall should bring some relief for farming communities in eastern and western parishes. Farmers in central parishes may not benefit significantly from the expected rainfall over the next 3 months; therefore, prudent use of available water is being suggested. The forecast for warmer than normal temperatures may not cause heat stress during the day time, however, cooler nights could have an impact on live stocks.

Wet and Dry Conditions, November 2019- January 2020



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

Seasonal Outlook, November 2019-January 2020

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