

AGROMET BULLETIN



HIGHLIGHTS FOR AUGUST

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

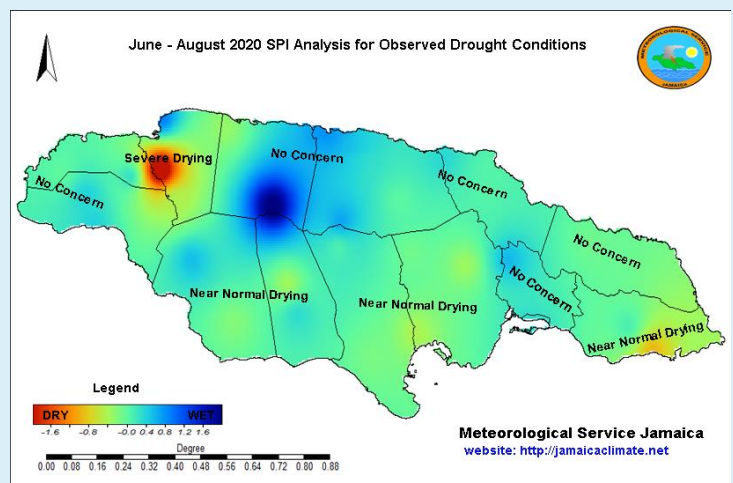
What Happened: June – August 2020

Based on analysis done (image to the right) the rainfall received in July and August, has reversed the drying conditions in many farming areas across the island, with the exception being western St. James where severely dry conditions prevailed. Meanwhile, extreme wetness was observed in southern Trelawny and into adjacent areas of northern Manchester. No parish experienced meteorological drought conditions in the July/August bi-monthly period.

Rainfall over the past two months would have provided much needed water for rain-dependent farms and therefore, farmers should expect to reap increases in their yields in the near future.

Temperatures, ranging from 1-4°C warmer, were recorded in some areas across the island for the month of August 2020, when compared to August 2019.

Wet and Dry Conditions, June - August 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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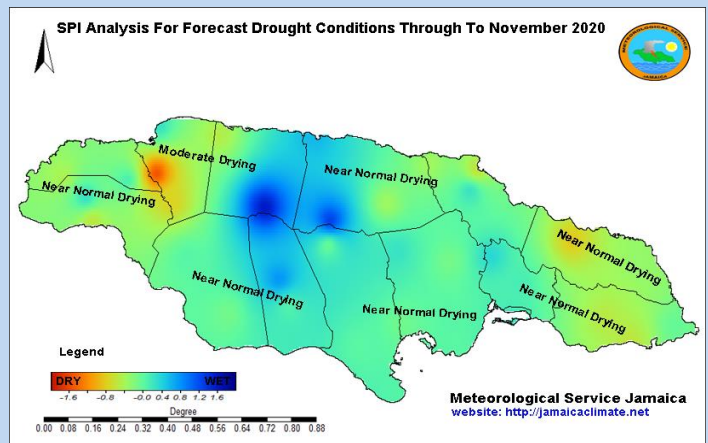
Seasonal Forecast: September – November 2020

For the three-month period of September to November, rainfall amounts for Jamaica are likely to be above-normal. Based on this projections, dryness should further decrease in many farming communities across the island but, especially for those in St. Thomas, Portland, St. Mary and sections of St. Ann where drier conditions were previously expected. In contrast, farming communities in southern Trelawny and adjacent areas of Manchester could benefit the most from rainfall over the next three months, thereby, ensuring some levels of wetness in these farming areas. Temperatures for the September to November 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 continue their planting schedules and, to be mindful of pests and crop diseases that will increase during the rainfall season. The forecast for warmer-than-normal temperatures could cause some heat stress impacts especially on days with little or no rainfall.

Wet and Dry Conditions, September – November 2020



Seasonal Outlook, September - November 2020

JAMAICA	Below-Normal (%)	Normal (%)	Above-Normal (%)
Rainfall Outlook	25	30	45
Temperature Outlook	20	30	50

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