

# AGROMET BULLETIN



## HIGHLIGHTS FOR OCTOBER

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

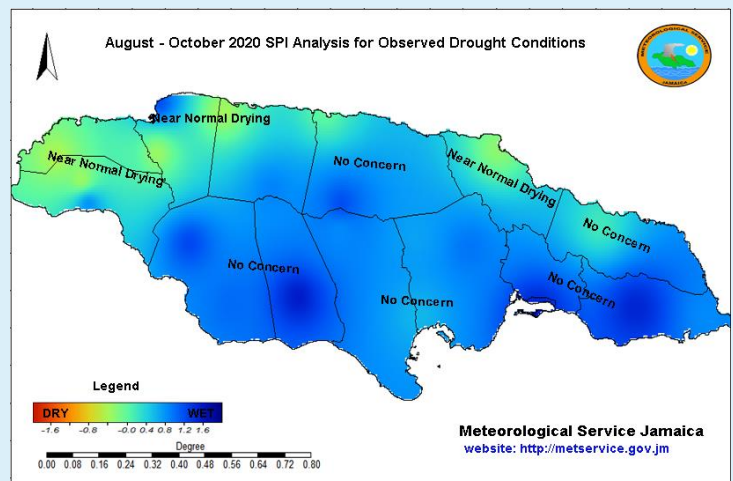
### **What Happened: August – October 2020**

Based on analysis done (image to the right) the rainfall received over the last 3 months, has resulted in varying levels of wetness in many farming areas across the island, with the exception being Westmoreland, Hanover, St. James and St. Mary where mild dryness prevailed. Wet conditions were observed in most southern parishes, along with St. Ann and Trelawny. No parish experienced meteorological drought conditions in the September/October bi-monthly period.

Heavy and at times prolonged rainfall during October resulted in flooded farms, the destruction of crops and some livestock which, have left farmers in many areas counting huge losses, instead of looking forward to increases in their yields and subsequent profits.

Temperatures, ranging from 1-2°C warmer, were recorded in some areas across the island for the month of October 2020, when compared to October 2019.

### **Wet and Dry Conditions, August - October 2020**



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<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: November 2020 – January 2021

For the three-month period of November to January, rainfall amounts for Jamaica are likely to be near-normal to above-normal. Based on this projection, mild levels of wetness should prevail in some farming communities in Trelawny, St. Ann, St. Elizabeth, Manchester and return to southern St. James. In contrast, mildly dry conditions could return to Clarendon, St. Catherine and KSA while, continuing in Westmoreland and Hanover. Farmers in St. Thomas and Portland should have no concerns about rainfall over the next 3 months.

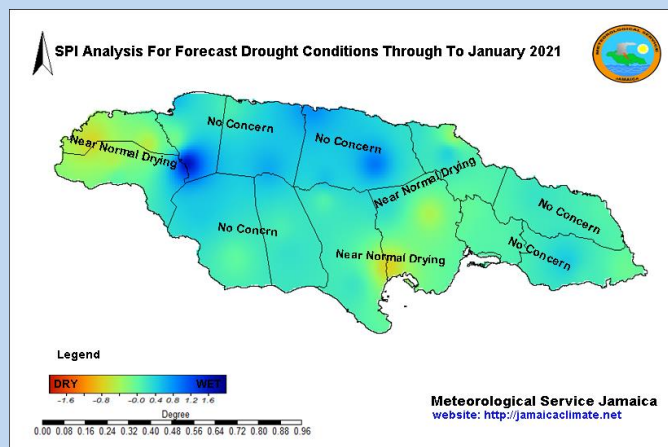
Temperatures for the November 2020 to January 2021 period are likely to be near-normal to above-normal.

## Possible Impacts

The forecast for near-normal to above-normal rainfall should ensure recharge of the aquifers and make water storage facilities remain at near capacity levels during the early months of the dry season. Farmers, especially in the south who suffered crop losses will be looking to restart planting schedules with the hope that no further flooding occurs over the next 3 months.

As the Meteorological Service continues to monitor conditions across the island, the advice is for stakeholders, in particular farmers, to manage pests and diseases that would have increased during this rainfall season. The temperature forecast of near-normal to above-normal should be tolerable especially during the day time.

## Wet and Dry Conditions, November 2020 – January 2021



## Seasonal Outlook, November 2020 – January 2021

JAMAICA	Below-Normal (%)	Normal (%)	Above-Normal (%)
<b>Rainfall Outlook</b>	30	30	40
<b>Temperature Outlook</b>	30	30	40

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