

Meteorological Department St. Maarten

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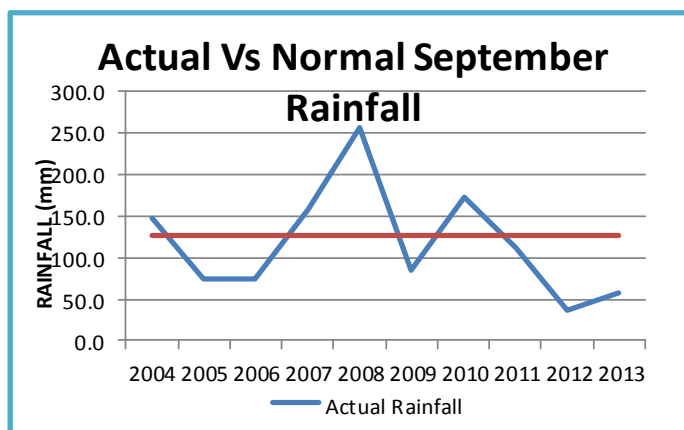
Weather & Climate

Volume 2, Issue 8

September 2014

NORMAL SEPTEMBER CONDITIONS

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Rainfall Total | 94.9 mm – 129.4 mm | 4 – 5 in. |
| No. of Rain days | 13 days | |
| Daily Average Temperature | 28.4°C – 28.8 °C | 83 – 84 °F |
| Max. Temperature | 32°C | 90 °F |
| Min. Temperature | 26 °C | 79°F |
| Avg. Daily Hours of Sunshine | 8 hrs | |



We are in the Hurricane Season!.

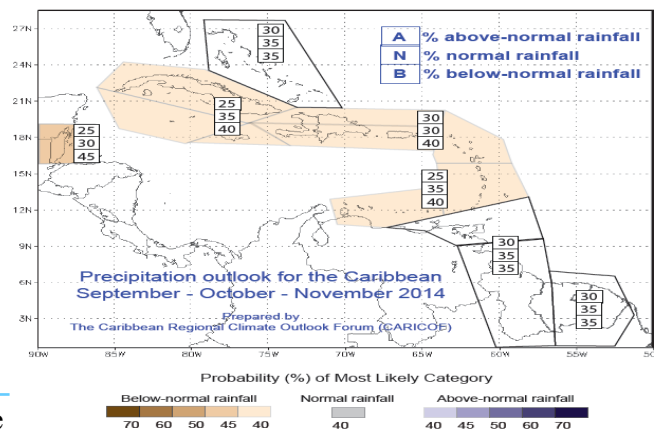
Rainfall for the month of September has been trending to near-normal to below-normal over the past ten years.

Seasonal Outlook for September to November

According to the Caribbean Outlook Forum : www.cimh.edu.bb/?p=precipoutlook

The precipitation outlook for the season ‘September – November’ which is normally the ‘wettest season’ on St. Maarten is expected to be drier than normal.

Temperature for most of the Caribbean is forecast to be near-normal to above-normal for the same period.



IMPACTS:

This season:

- ◆ Increase risks of bush fires.
- ◆ Heat stress.
- ◆ Less available Soil moisture.
- ◆ Risks of storms/hurricanes

Present observations are indicating that the sea surface temperatures in the Eastern Pacific continue to warm. Forecasts indicate that a weak or moderate El Nino may develop this season.

El Nino is associated with drier conditions and less frequency of storms across the Caribbean.

Drought conditions are evolving in parts of Belize, Jamaica and most of the Eastern Caribbean Islands.

However, as we approach September & October (peak of season) the threat of tropical storms & hurricanes remains high.

Please note that all data was recorded at the Princess Juliana International Airport and may not necessarily reflect conditions at other points on country St Maarten.

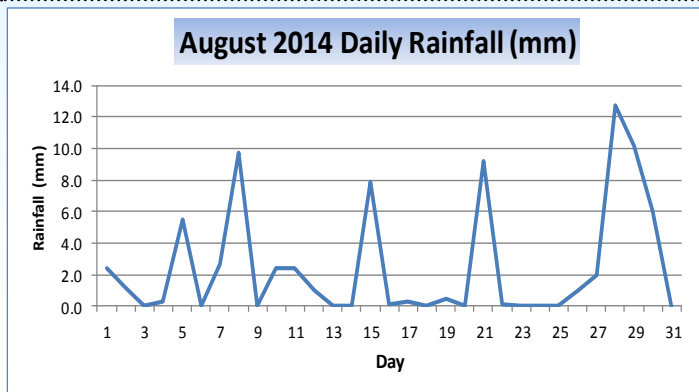
AUGUST 2014 IN REVIEW

Rainfall amounts continued to be low for the past three months. The island was threatened by tropical storm Bertha at the beginning of the month while several tropical waves traversed the area. However, no significant rainfall was measured, on August 28th a tropical wave produced about half of an inch of rainfall (12.7mm).

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Total Rainfall | 77.6 mm | 3.1 in. |
| 2014 Cumulative Rainfall | 515.5 mm | 20.3 in. |
| Max. 24-Hr. Rainfall | Aug. 28th | 12.7 mm/ 0.5 in. |
| No. Rain Days (>=1.0 mm) | 15 days | |
| No. Heavy Rain Days (>=10.0 mm) | 2 days | |
| No. Thunderstorm Days | 1 day | |
| Avg. Wind Speed | 11 kts. | 13 mph |
| Max. Wind Gust | Aug. 2nd | 39 kts. / 45 mph |
| Avg. Temperature | 28.6 °C | 83 °F |
| Max. Temperature | 19th | 32.7 °C / 91 °F |
| Min. Temperature | 2nd | 24.0 °C / 75 °F |

Tropical Storm Cristobal formed in August !

Rainfall this month was near the normal range. Normal rainfall for August ranges from 78.1– 121.6 mm/ 3-5 in. The day with the most rainfall was the 28th when 12.7 mm/0.5in. was recorded. The longest dry spell during the month of August was 5 days from the 16th to 20th.



Updated predictions from NOAA increases the likelihood of a below-average 2014 Atlantic Hurricane Season. 7-12 named storms, 3-6 hurricanes with 0-2 major hurricanes

Remember, that it takes only one major hurricane to make landfall on our island to make it an active season for us. We must also reiterate that other hydro-meteorological features such as heavy rainfall events can have impacts on our lives.

The Names for the storms for 2014 are:

- | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Arthur</i> | <i>Hanna</i> | <i>Omar</i> |
| <i>Bertha</i> | <i>Isaias</i> | <i>Paulette</i> |
| <i>Cristobal</i> | <i>Josephine</i> | <i>Rene</i> |
| <i>Dolly</i> | <i>Kyle</i> | <i>Sally</i> |
| <i>Edouard</i> | <i>Laura</i> | <i>Teddy</i> |
| <i>Fay</i> | <i>Marco</i> | <i>Vicky</i> |
| <i>Gonzalo</i> | <i>Nana</i> | <i>Wilfred</i> |

The temperatures recorded during the month of August were near-normal to below normal.

The warmest days were the 19th & 20th with an average temperature of 29.3°C/85°F.

Maximum daily sunshine hours was recorded on the 24th (11hrs 24 min).

Minimum sunshine hours was recorded on the 2nd (0 hrs. 0min)

The windiest days were the 2nd, with a daily average wind speed of 15 kts. / 17mph.

Skies were partly cloudy most of the time during the month of August.

**Be Prepared! Be Alert!
Ready to take Action!**