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## Meteorological Department St. Maarten

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# Weather & Climate

Volume 7, Issue 6

June 2022

## Summary

- Rainfall for May and the past 3 months was below the normal range.
- The Caribbean 'Heat Season', August & September are the warmest months.
- Dry conditions expected to persist till the end of June on St. Maarten.
- The 2022 Atlantic Hurricane Season is predicted to be an above average season, Be Prepared!!

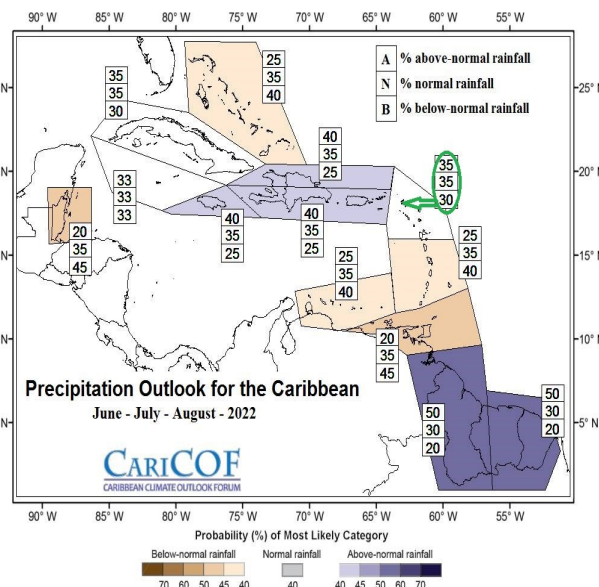
## Seasonal Outlook for June to August (JJA) 2022

### Rainfall Forecast

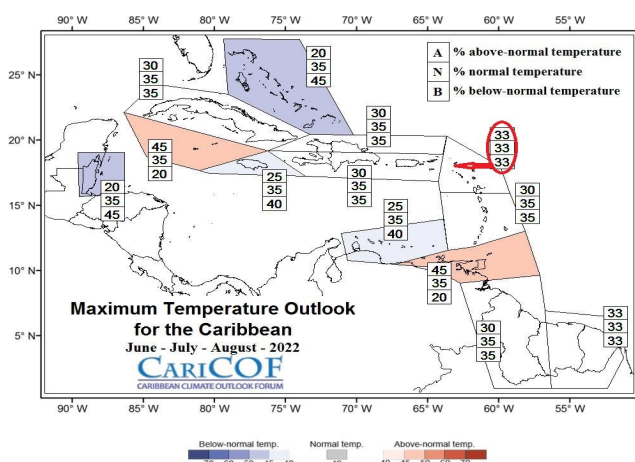
Models are indicating that rainfall totals for the season Jun-Jul-Aug 2022 are likely to be near the normal range in St. Maarten and rest of the Leeward Islands, below normal in the southern Caribbean, Belize and the Bahamas and above normal in the Guianas, Jamaica, Puerto Rico and Hispaniola.

Normal rainfall on St. Maarten during the Jun-Jul-Aug season ranges 201mm–267mm/8-11 inches, with 32 to 40 wet days. There are usually few showers in June while in July and August showers become more frequent and often includes a mid-summer dry spell.

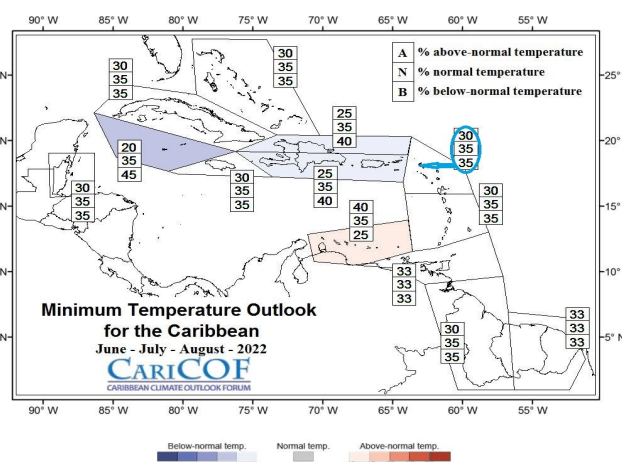
The forecast is for up to 6 (7-day) wet spells and up to 5 (7-day) dry spells on St. Maarten during this season.



### Temperature Forecast



Day-time Temperatures



Night-time Temperatures

Day-time and night-time temperatures are expected to warm throughout the season since this season coincides with the Caribbean "Heat Season".

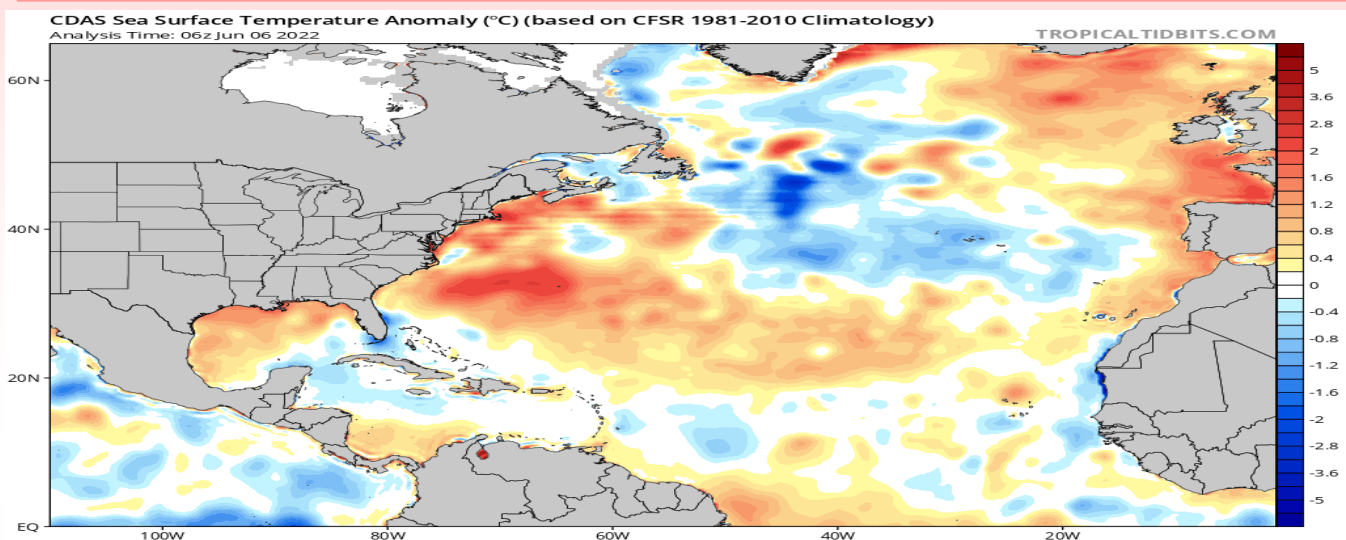
For more information on other Caribbean Outlooks go to <http://rcc.cimh.edu.bb/long-range-forecasts/caricof-climate-outlooks/>

## WHAT INFLUENCES THIS SEASON'S CLIMATE?

In mid May, sea surface temperature (SST) remained below-average in the east-central Pacific ( $-1.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). The key atmospheric variables also remained consistent with continued La Nina conditions and therefore a La Nina Advisory remained in place.

Majority of the forecast models predict with high probability that SSTs will remain below normal at the level of a weak La Nina throughout the Jun-Jul-Aug season and with a slightly lower probability for the rest of 2022.

Warm SSTs have persisted to  $1^{\circ}\text{C}$  above average around the southern section of the Caribbean Sea and in the sub-tropical portions of the Tropical North Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico. Models are forecasting observed SST to remain warm across the Caribbean Sea and in the sub-tropical North Atlantic. Warm SSTs in and around the Caribbean tend to contribute to higher air temperature, above-average humidity, seasonal rainfall totals and an increase in the frequency of extreme rainfall.



## Drought Outlook

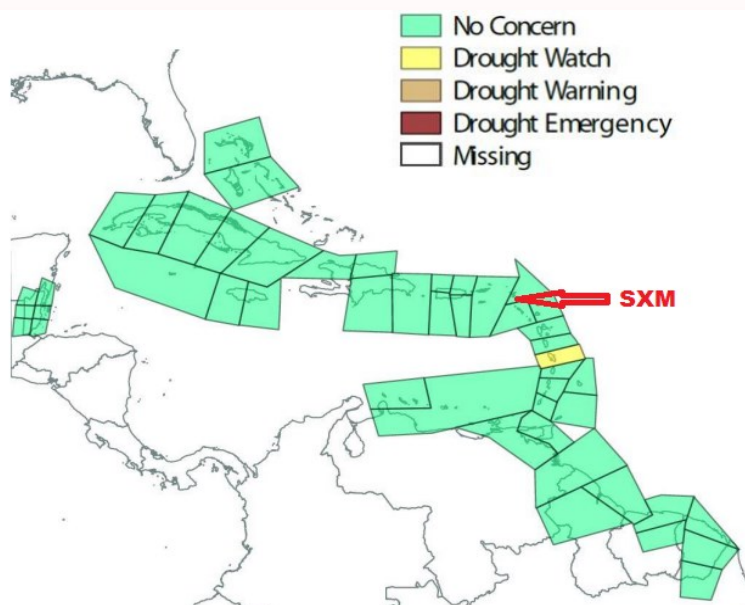
### Alert Level: Warning

Drought conditions is expected to persist through the month of June on St. Maarten. Therefore the potential for bush fires remains high.

Even the smallest spark could ignite a flame that could threaten your entire community. Avoid the burning of waste and dispose cigarette butts responsibly.

### Short-Term Drought

The forecast shows no drought concern across most of the region by the end of August 2022 except for Martinique where short-term drought may be possible.



Short term drought alert levels  
at the end of August 2022

**MAY 2022 IN REVIEW**

Total Rainfall	29.8mm	1.2in.
2022 Cumulative Rainfall	200.0mm	7.9in.
Max. 24-Hr. Rainfall	13 <sup>th</sup> May	9.3mm/ 0.4in.
No. Rain Days (≥1.0 mm)	7 days	
No. Heavy Rain Days (≥10.0 mm)	NONE	
No. Thunderstorm Days	NONE	
Avg. Wind Speed	10kts.	12mph
Max. Wind Gust	28kts.	32mph
Avg. Temperature	27.5°C	82°F
Max. Temperature	26 <sup>th</sup> May	32.0°C / 90°F
Min. Temperature	15 <sup>th</sup> May	23.1°C / 74°F

**Long /Short Term Seasonal Review****Year in Review  
(June 2021— May 2022)**

Total rainfall over the past twelve (12) months was below the normal range (958-1180mm). A total of 789mm/31in. of rainfall was recorded at the Princess Juliana International Airport.

**Seasonal Review  
(Mar-Apr-May 2022)**

Total rainfall for the last three (3) months was 99mm/4in, this amount was below the normal range (148-250mm). There were no days with heavy rainfall (>10mm) during that period.

Rainfall for May 2022 was 70% below average. Meanwhile temperatures for the month of May were generally near the normal range.

The average daily temperature for May was 27.5°C/82°F.

The warmest days were the 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> with an average temperature of 28.3°C/83°F. The coolest day was the 24<sup>th</sup> with an average temperature of 25.6°C/78°F.

The day with the most sunshine hours was the 5<sup>th</sup>. (11hrs:54min).

The day with the least sunshine hours was the 12<sup>th</sup> (3hrs:06min).

The windiest day was the 14<sup>th</sup>, with a daily average wind speed of 13kt./ 15mph.

The day with the highest wind gust was the 28<sup>th</sup> with a gust of 28kt/32mph.

Skies were mostly cloudy during the month of May.

There were seven (7) days with rainfall in May, none of these days had heavy rainfall.

The longest dry spell was fourteen (14) days; 16<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> May

**NORMAL  
JUNE CONDITIONS**

Rainfall Total	35 — 59 mm	1-2 in.
Avg. No. of Rain days	9 days	
Daily Average Temperature	28.4°C	83°F
Avg. Max. Temperature	31.3°C	88°F
Avg. Min. Temperature	26.2°C	79°F
Avg. Daily Hours of Sunshine	8 hrs	

## Implication of Forecast for Sectors

### Energy/Water Sector

Energy demand for cooling purposes will continue to increase through August.

### Tourism Sector

- Continue to observe all health protocols.
- Keep updated on weather information as we are in the hurricane season.

### Agriculture

- Drought conditions expected through June. Irrigation will be needed due to limited rainfall.
- Avoid burning waste as the risk of bush fires remain high.

### Health

- UV radiation will continue to increase this season. Excessive UV exposure can cause skin damage across the population on sunny days. Keep Hydrated.
- Persons with respiratory illnesses should take the necessary precautions during Saharan dust episodes and monitor daily forecasts for more information.
- Proper management of water storage containers e.g. covering with protective mesh helps to reduce the risk of potential breeding sites for mosquitoes.

## 2022 Atlantic Hurricane Season

June 1st officially marked the beginning of 2022 Atlantic Hurricane Season, which will run until November 30.

Based on long-term averages, in an average season there are about fourteen (14) named storms out of which seven (7) become hurricanes and three (3) of them are usually major hurricanes (with wind 111mph or higher).

The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) has released their predictions for the season which suggests above normal activity.

Named Storms: 14–21

Hurricanes: 6–10

Major Hurricanes: 3–6

## 2022 TROPICAL CYCLONE NAMES

<del>ALEX</del>	LISA
BONNIE	MARTIN
COLIN	NICOLE
DANIELLE	OWEN
EARL	PAULA
FIONA	RICHARD
GASTON	SHARY
HERMINE	TOBIAS
IAN	VIRGINIE
JULIA	WALTER
KARL	

**BE PREPARED!!!!!!**

Category	Wind Speeds
1	74-95 mph
2	96-110 mph
3	111-129 mph
4	130-156 mph
5	157+ mph

1. Tropical Depression	<38mph
2. Tropical Storm	39-73mph
3. Hurricane	74+mph

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