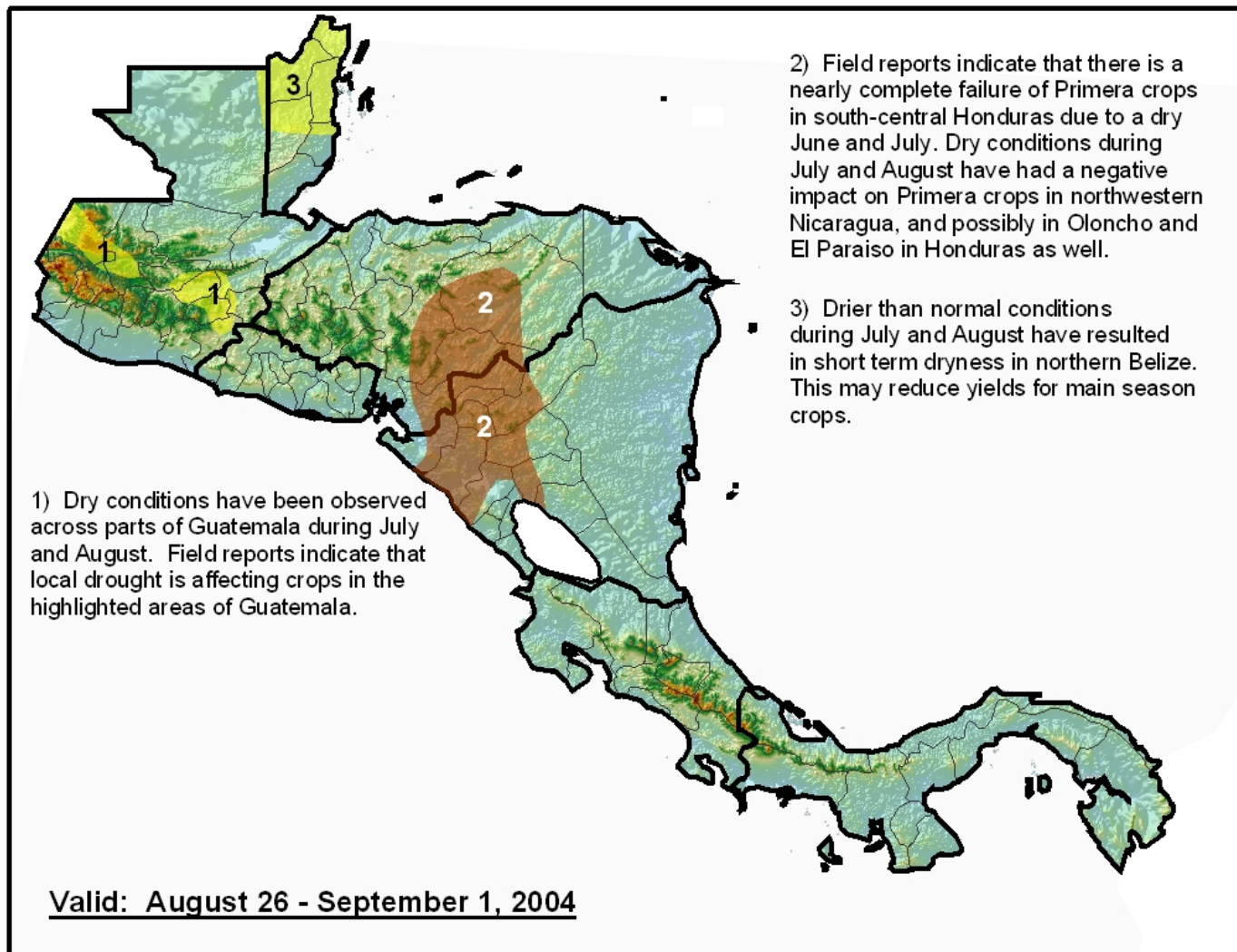


# The MFEWS

## Central America Weather Hazards Assessment

for

August 26 – September 1, 2004



1. Rainfall has been lighter than normal across portions of southern Guatemala for the month of July, with rainfall totals of 20 to 60% of normal. Rainfall so far for the month of August has also been light and scattered. These dry conditions have resulted in crop stress across some of Guatemala's southern departments. Along Guatemala's southern coast, some locations have experienced up to 45 consecutive days without measurable rainfall. However, recent rains have increased moisture along the coast with additional rainfall anticipated. Across interior southern Guatemala, rainfall is expected to be light and scattered.

2. Rainfall during the month of July has only been about half of normal, with only scattered showers observed so far during the month of August over central Honduras and northwestern Nicaragua. This has resulted in moisture deficits and crop stress across portions of southern Honduras and northwestern Nicaragua. Scattered showers are expected across the region. Therefore, some locations should see a small decrease in moisture deficits.

3. Drier than normal conditions have been observed over northern portions of Belize during June, July and the first half of August. This may result in crop yield reductions across the area. Scattered showers are expected during the period. However, improvement will be limited.

AUTHOR: Chester V. Schmitt