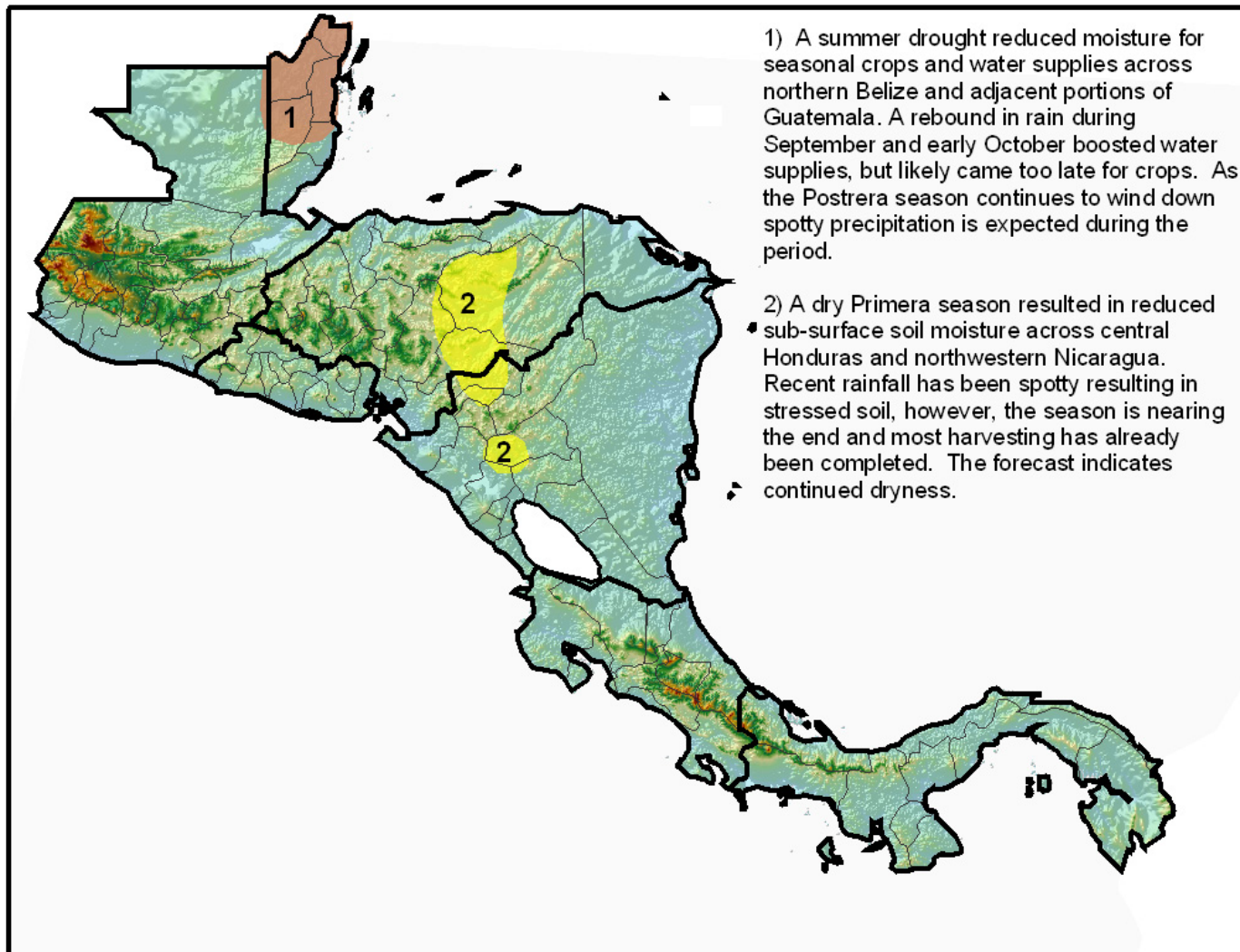


# The MFEWS

## Central America Weather Hazards Assessment

for

November 25 – December 1, 2004



1. The drought across northern Belize during June, July and August received some relief in September and early October with above normal rainfall amounts. While the September/October rains helped to recharge water supplies, they likely came too late for the crops. As a result, significant crop yield reductions are possible in the area. Since the Postrera season is coming to an end, the shortage of rain is now not so significant. The past week has been dry and the forecast suggests continued dryness for the next week.

2. Dry conditions during the Primera season resulted in reduced sub-surface soil moisture levels across much of central Honduras and northwestern Nicaragua and likely resulted in crop yield reductions during the Primera season. Rainfall has been light during September, early October, and all of November across western Olancho and El Paraiso in Honduras and the surrounding region which has also reduced moisture for Postrera crops. The Postrera season is near the end and most harvesting has now been completed. However, the stress on the soil may have led to reduction in yields. There are no signs of improvement as the past week has been dry and the forecast indicates potentially light showers during the next week.

AUTHOR: John M Dickens