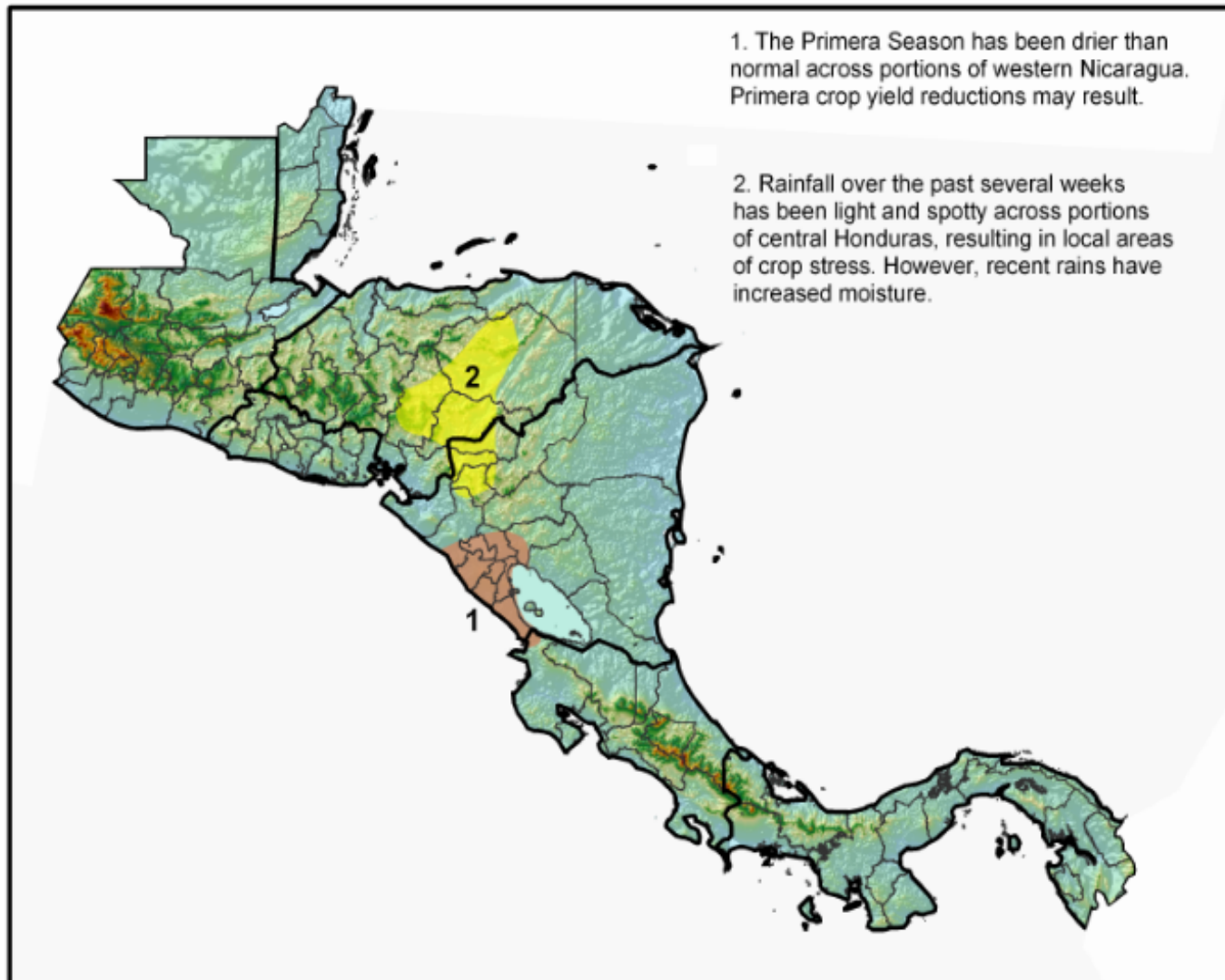


The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

August 24 - 30, 2006



1) Primera rains have been erratic and lighter than normal across coastal portions of western Nicaragua. The dry spell may result in crop stress, yield reductions, localized crop losses and a reduction of water supplies. Seasonal rains are expected during the period. These rains are expected to boost moisture for Postrera crops.

2) Seasonal rains have been light and spotty across portions of Honduras since the beginning of July, resulting in areas of dryness. Rainfall totals from early July through mid-August are less than 100 mm across much of Francisco Morazan, portions of El Paraiso, and Olancho. In some areas, as little as 50 mm has been reported. The dry spell has resulted in Primera crop stress, and some losses in areas where the crop was in moisture sensitive stages of development. In places such as Francisco Morazan, people were not too worried, however, since there is more of an interest in the upcoming Postrera season. Recent rains have increased moisture. Additional rain is expected during the period throughout the region. This will favor Postrera crops while benefiting pastures and water supplies.

Across the rest of Central America, seasonal rains are expected during the period. However, some of these rains could be heavy. As a result, the potential does exist for isolated flooding and land slides.

AUTHOR: Chester V. Schmitt