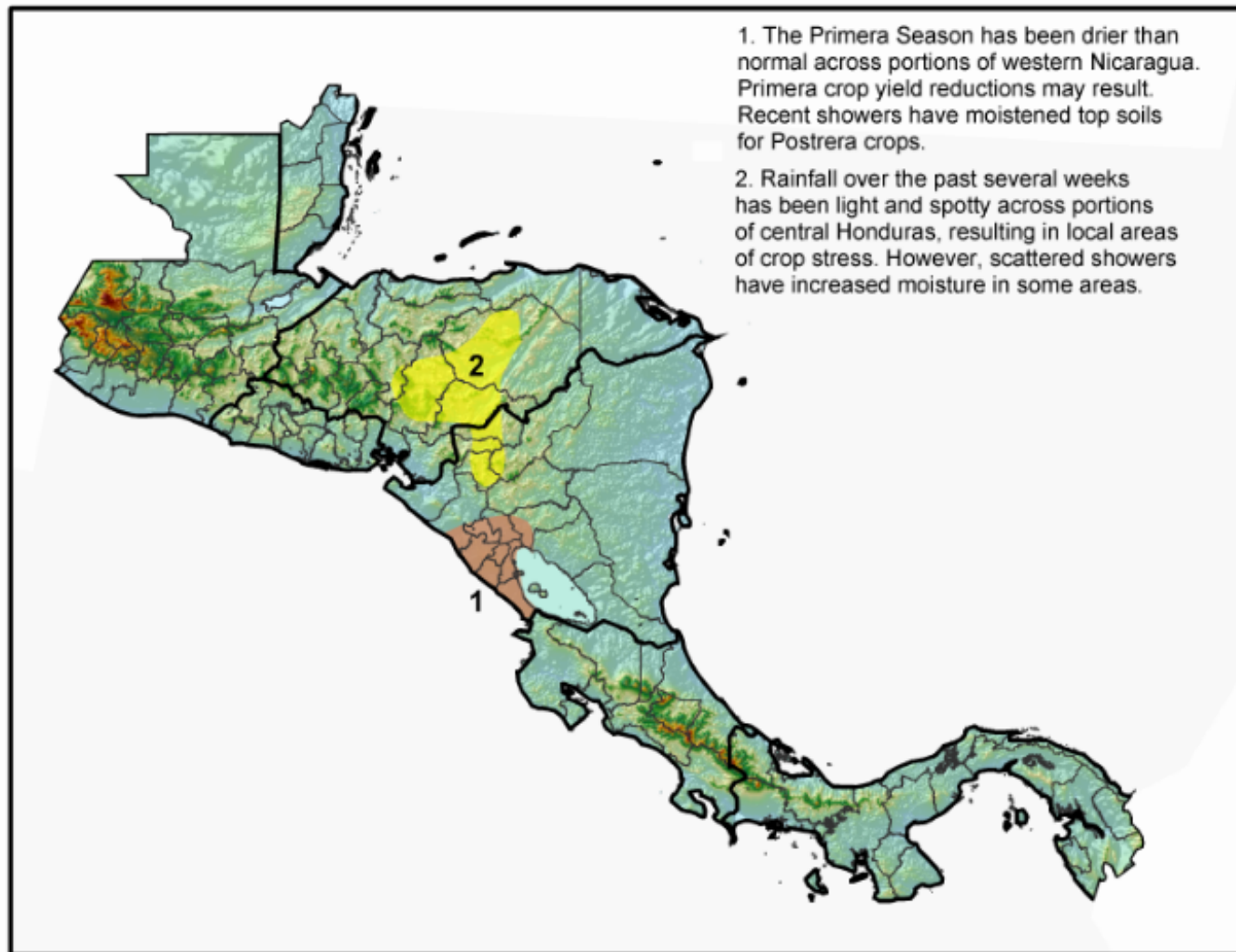


The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

August 31 – September 6, 2006



1) Primera rains have been erratic and lighter than normal across coastal portions of western Nicaragua. The dry spell may have caused crop stress, yield reductions, localized crop losses and a reduction of water supplies. Scattered showers are expected during the period, which will boost top soil 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 western 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 in Olancho and El Paraiso. However, little rain fell across much of Francisco Morazan this week. Showers are expected across the region, mainly during the beginning and middle parts of the period.

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