

# The MFEWS

## Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

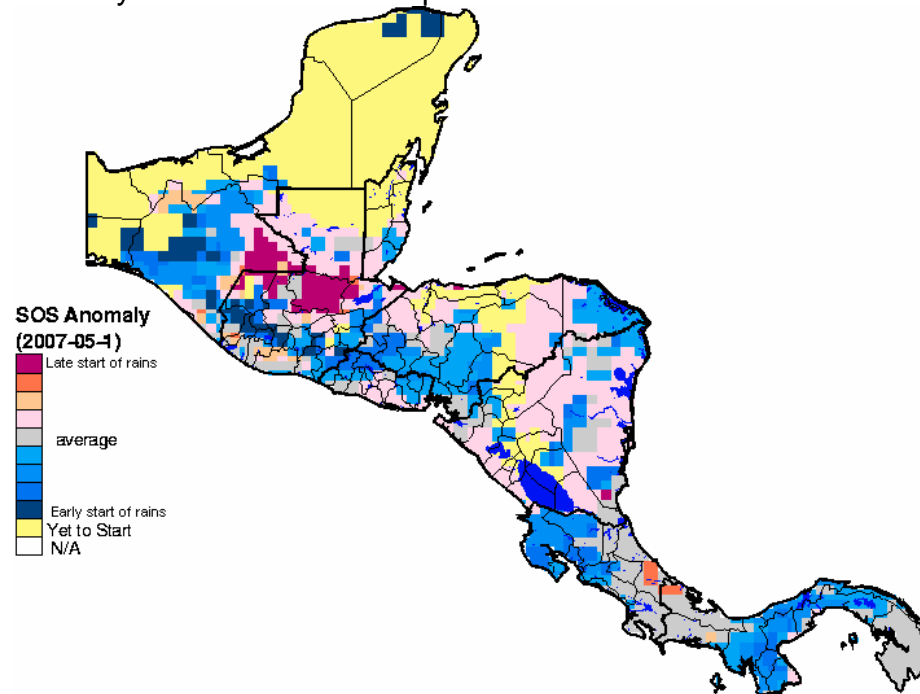
For

May 17 – May 23, 2007



## Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

This past week was again characterized by heavier rains in Costa Rica and Panama. Soil conditions throughout the region appear to be doing well. The rainy season does not peak until June; therefore, the late start of seasonal rains in central Guatemala is not a major concern at the moment. Due to sufficient humidity in the area, farmers were able to sow last week just as they normally would. Rains are expected to normalize within the next few weeks.



The above graphic from the USGS depicts the difference from normal of the start of the rainy season based upon the IWM1 1961 -1990 median rainfall dataset. Grey areas are indicative of rains that began within the same time period as normal. Yellow areas are indicative of rains that have yet to start and normally have not yet started. Blue areas indicate an early start of the rainy season; and the purple area indicates a late start of the rainy season.

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The evaluation of climatologic threats of MFEWS include the participation of the central and local offices of FEWS NET, NOAA-CPC, USGS, NASA, INETER of Nicaragua, Meteorological Service of Honduras, IMN of Costa Rica and INSIVUMEH of Guatemala. Any questions or comments on this product, can be directed to [Chet.Schmitt@noaa.gov](mailto:Chet.Schmitt@noaa.gov)