

The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

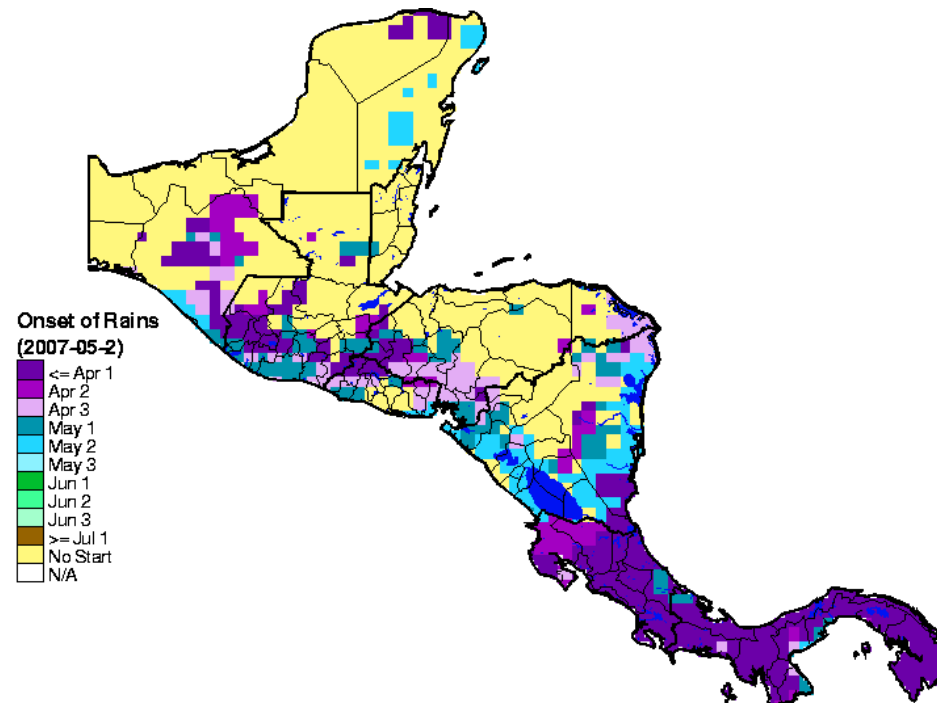
For

24 May – 30 May 2007



Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

Nicaragua experienced an increase in rainfall accumulation in the last period, reflective of the onset of the rainy season there. According to INSIVUMEH, the Pacific coast of Guatemala has also had a start of season. Forecasts indicate significant rain and thunderstorms throughout the region in the coming week; as a result, we can expect an onset of the rainy season in other portions of Central America in the near future. NOAA's Climate Prediction Center projects a 75% chance that the Atlantic hurricane season will be above normal this year.



The above graphic from the USGS depicts the onset of rains as of the second ten day period (dekad) for the month of May. Determining the onset of rains is based upon the 1st dekad in which at least 25 mm of rain fall, followed by two dekads which total at least 20 mm of rain. If the following two dekads total at least 20 mm of rain, the 1st dekad of 25 mm rainfall is identified as the dekad of onset of rains.

AUTHOR: Angel M. Bennett

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