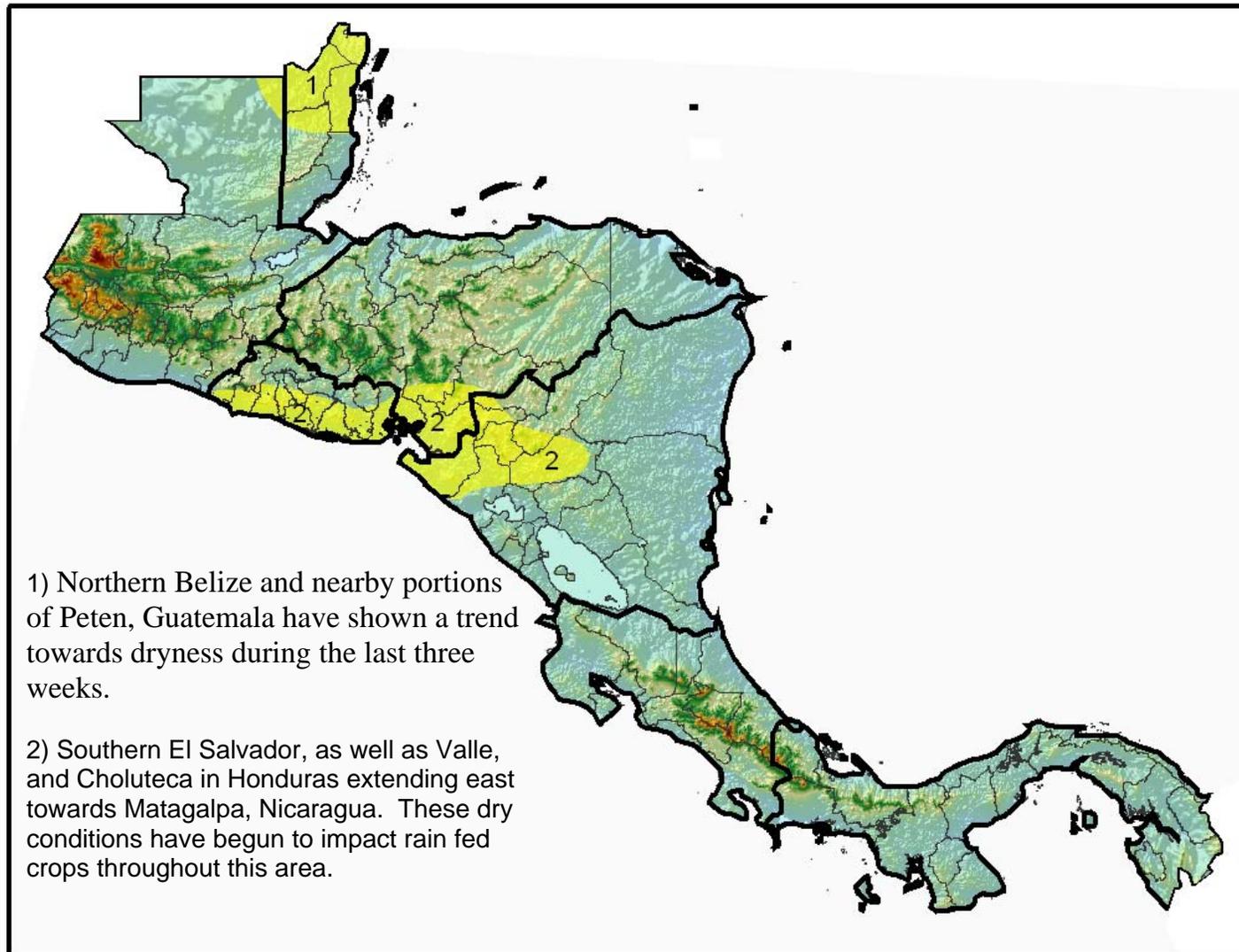


The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

For

July 19 – 25, 2007

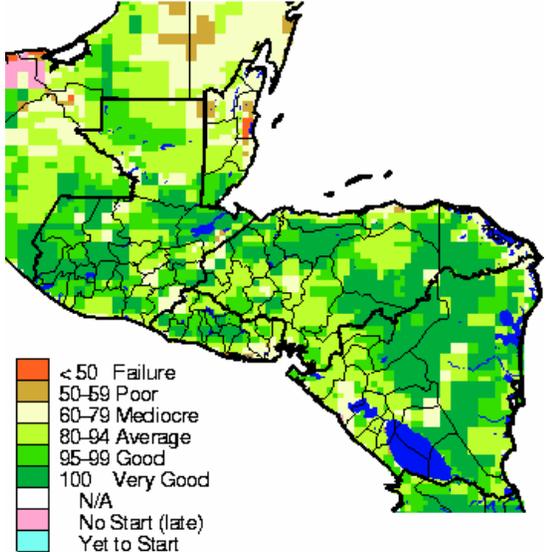
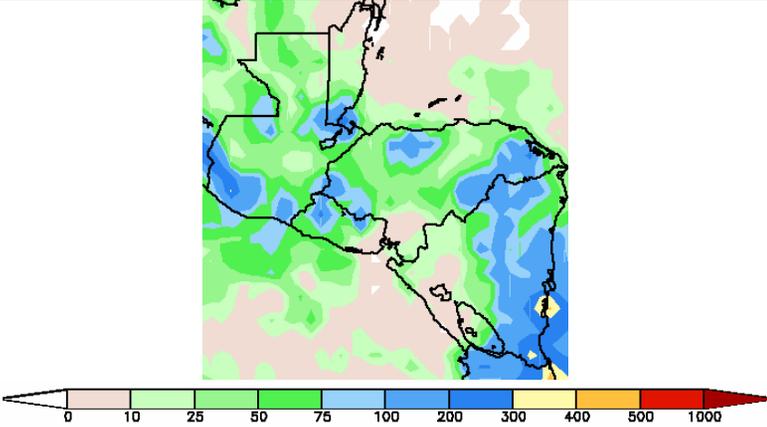


Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

Dry conditions have continued to spread across certain sections of Central America. The worst impacted area is in southern Honduras and Matagalpa in Nicaragua. The dry conditions are the result of erratic rains. Conditions are not poor everywhere, some regions have experienced poor rainfall totals, but have not had extended breaks in the rains. Meanwhile other areas have experienced extended periods of dry conditions, as long as 40 days, and then received large totals that have sufficiently replenished soil water.

Dry conditions have also been reported in Guatemala; however crops have remained largely unaffected as distribution has remained normal in most areas. Areas reporting the largest deficits in Guatemala are largely irrigated and precipitation has remained sufficient to keep reservoirs levels reasonable.

Recently rainfall has begun to slacken off over northern Belize. Extended dry conditions in this area is likely stressing crops. If moisture does not return to the area, there could be more serious impacts.

Water Requirement Satisfaction Index for Maize as of July 1	Rainfall Estimates July 1 – 10, 2007
	
Source: MFEWS/USGS	Source: NASA

The evaluation of climatological threats of MFEWS include the participation of the central and local offices of MFEWS, NOAA-CPC, USGS, NASA, INETER of Nicaragua, Meteorological Service of Honduras, IMN of Costa Rica, INSIVUMEH of Guatemala, ETESA of Panama, and SNET of El Salvador. Any questions or comments on this product can be directed to Chet.Schmitt@noaa.gov