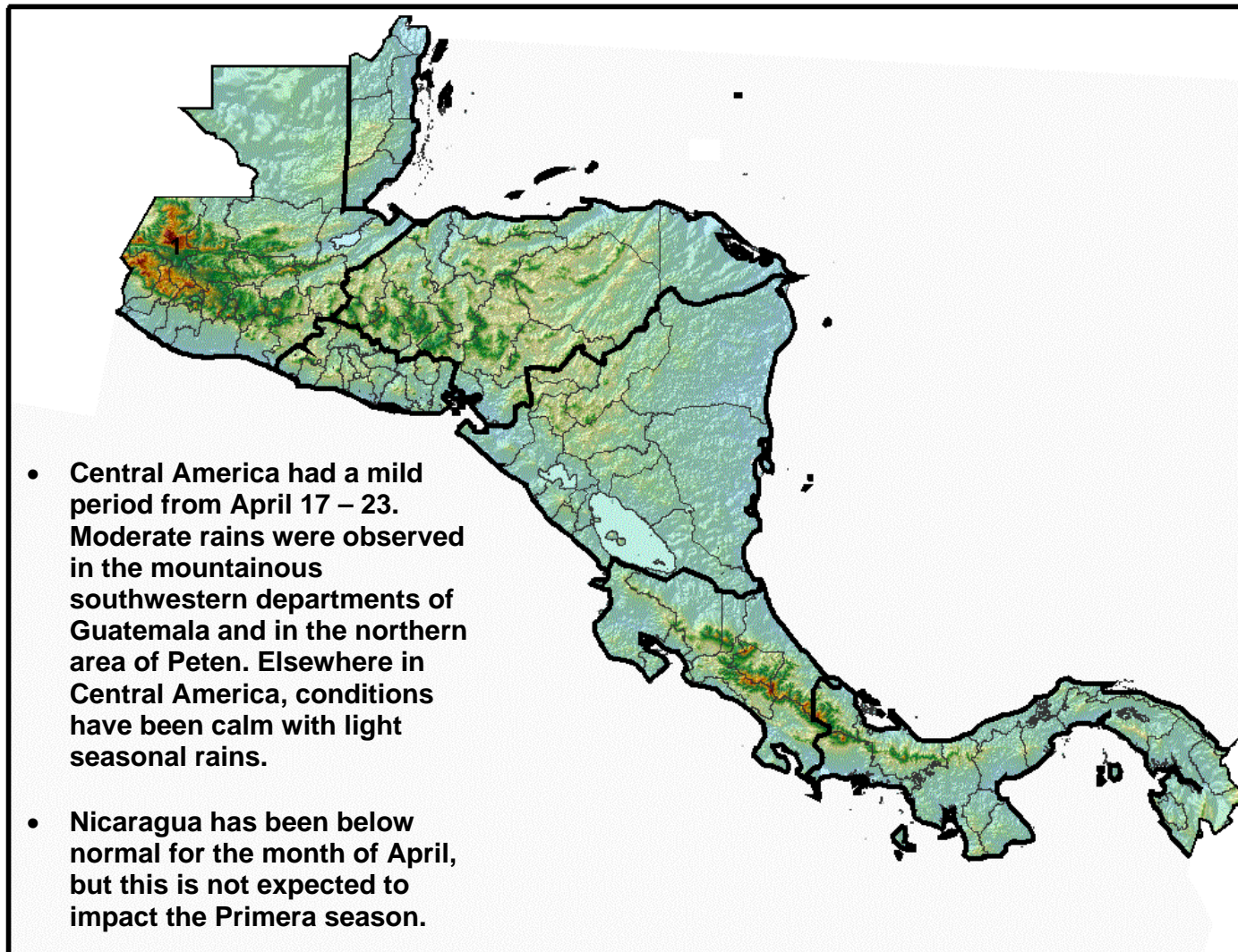


The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

For

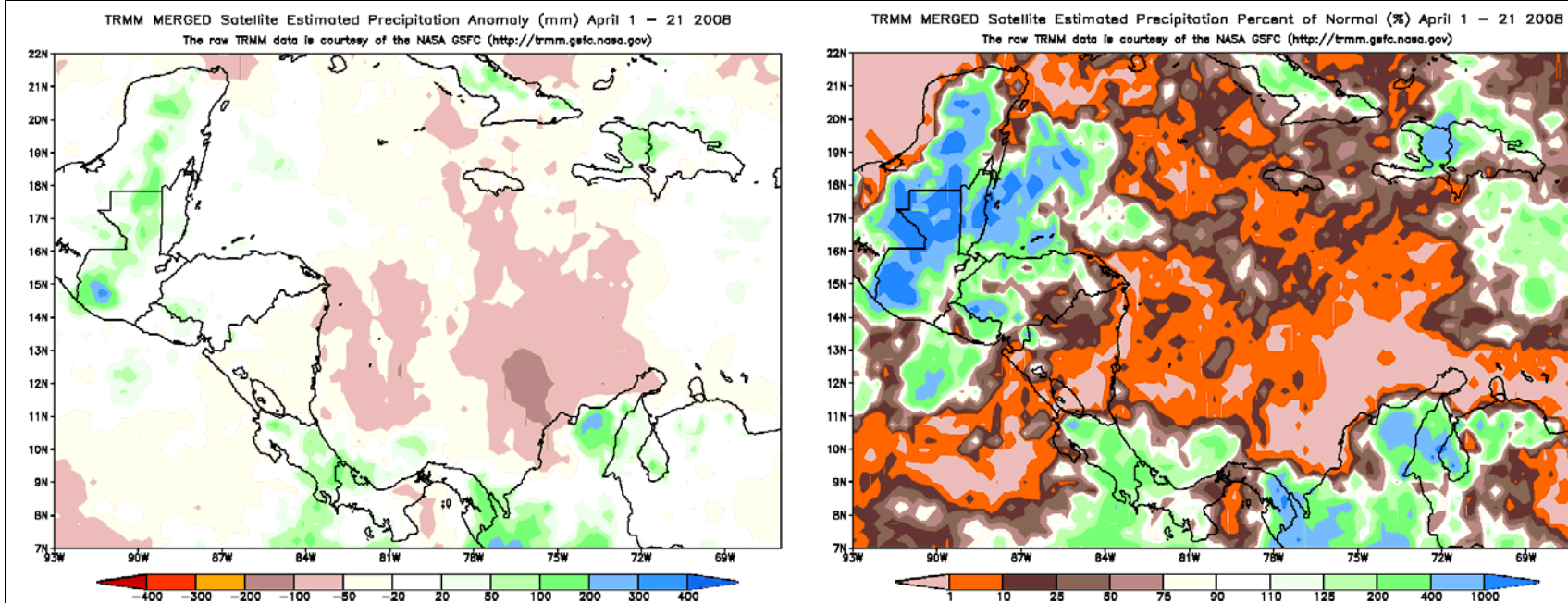
April 24 – April 30, 2008



Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

The Central America region is now migrating into its Primera season (May - August), in which the wet season and major cropping activities begin. The month of April is typically seen as the transition month and is indicative of what can be expected for the season. Although rainfall totals for the month of April in Nicaragua are below normal at present, this is not expected to impact the season as a whole. During the 2007 season Nicaragua's start of season did not occur until May and harvests were sufficient. Furthermore, Nicaragua's sowing activities get underway in the month of May coinciding with the expected start of season. In the April 24 – 30th observation period Nicaragua is expected to receive light rains, maxing around 10 mm.

TRMM Anomalies and Percent of Normal for April 1 – 21, 2008



The image to the left depicts rainfall anomalies and the image to the right depicts the percent of normal rainfall. In the left image rainfall in Nicaragua reaches up to 50 mm below normal. This is equivalent to a range of 75% to less than 1% of normal for the country for the month of April.

Source: NOAA/CPC

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, NMS of Belize and SNET of El Salvador. Any questions or comments on this product can be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov