



Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook February 04 – 10, 2016

- Increased rain is expected along the Caribbean coasts of northern Central America during the next week.



Reduced rain forecast over the Southern Caribbean.

From January 27 – February 2, suppressed rain continued across Central America. Though, light rain, with amounts up to 25 mm was observed over localized areas of Guatemala, northern Honduras, and Costa Rica. Compared to climatology, this past week's rainfall totals were near-average, except some moderate rainfall deficits observed in southern Petén department of northern Guatemala. An analysis of rainfall anomalies during the past month indicated drier than average conditions across the Petén department of Guatemala, northeastern Nicaragua, and Costa Rica, while average conditions were observed elsewhere. This pattern in rainfall anomalies has persisted over Central America since the beginning of December of last year, with seasonal deficits between 100-200 mm in southern Petén department of Guatemala and Costa Rica. However, because of a near-average frequency in rainfall over the past few weeks, vegetation conditions have remained mostly adequate throughout Central America, according to recent vegetation indices. A continuation of seasonable rain is expected to aid winter season cropping activities over many local areas of the region.

During the next outlook period, while the interior of Central America is forecast to receive little to no rainfall, moderate to locally heavy showers are expected over parts of northern Guatemala and along the Gulf of Honduras. Farther south, although enhanced rain is expected along the Atlantic Basin of Costa Rica, the forecast rain amounts are likely to remain below-average. For temperatures, minimum temperature could fall below-average, but it is expected to remain at or above freezing point across the higher elevations of western and central Guatemala.

