



Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook April 7 – April 13, 2016

- Average to below-average early season rainfall received throughout Central America last week.



Early season dryness develops across portions of southern Guatemala.

During the last week, light to moderate amounts of precipitation were received across many coastal areas along the Gulf of Honduras and the southern Caribbean according to satellite estimates. For many interior departments, little to no rainfall accumulations was registered. Although rainfall is climatologically light during early April, analysis of weekly anomalies since late March depicts generally suppressed, below-average rainfall over the past two weeks. Since the beginning of March, developing moisture deficits have emerged across several departments of central and southern Guatemala, signaling the possibility of delayed start of the “Primera” rains in the region. Elsewhere, rainfall conditions have been near average throughout much of El Salvador, Nicaragua, and with pockets of anomalous wetness across northern Honduras and Belize. Satellite estimated vegetation health conditions continue to look quite favorable throughout most of Central American countries; however localized pockets of less favorable conditions have been noted across parts of southern Guatemala and eastern Nicaragua.

For the upcoming outlook period, precipitation models suggest little change from this past week’s rainfall distribution, as most of the rainfall is forecast across many coastal areas along the Gulf of Honduras with little to no rainfall expected for several interior departments in Central America. Below-normal rains are expected throughout many parts of Guatemala.

