



## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook April 14 – April 20, 2016

- Largely suppressed rainfall continued across much of Central America.



## Early season dryness strengthens across portions of southern Guatemala.

The past week's rainfall distribution changed very little compared to the previous week's distribution. 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. Very little rainfall was received for nearly all interior and coastal departments facing the Pacific Ocean. Following at least two consecutive weeks of below-average rainfall, 30-day deficits have strengthened and expanded throughout the region with much of the early season dryness concentrated throughout Guatemala, El Salvador, and western Honduras. Consequently, satellite estimated vegetation health conditions have shown some decline, with the greatest deterioration depicted in southern Guatemala, El Salvador and southern Honduras. The suppressed rainfall since the middle of March suggests a delayed start of the Primera rains for many areas, which may lead to delayed planting and other adverse ground impacts.

For the upcoming outlook period, precipitation models suggest a substantial increase in rainfall for many areas experiencing dryness. Weekly precipitation accumulations in excess of 25mm are forecast across portions of southern and central Guatemala, as well as, throughout El Salvador, and southwestern Honduras which is expected to help alleviate moisture deficits. Largely suppressed rainfall is; however, forecast many areas in the southern Caribbean.

