



Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook April 21 – April 27, 2016

- Primera rains slow to start across Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras.



Low to moderate rainfall accumulations received in southern Guatemala.

According to satellite rainfall estimates, there has been little change in the past week's rainfall distribution compared to the rainfall distribution observed over the last four weeks. The highest weekly precipitation totals were received across parts of northeastern Nicaragua and the southern Caribbean with light rainfall totals (2-25mm) near the Gulf of Fonseca region and southern Guatemala. For all interior departments in El Salvador and Honduras, very little to no rains were received during the last seven days. Following at least three consecutive weeks of below-average rainfall, 30-day deficits continue to strengthen 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 an 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.

