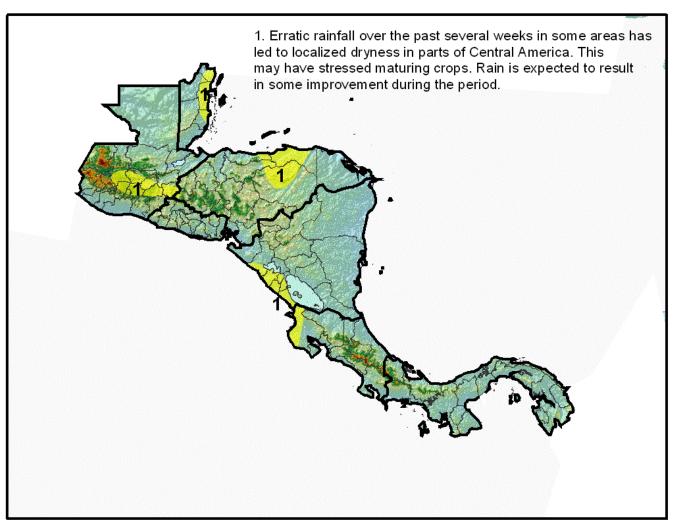


The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards Assessment

for

August 18 – August 24, 2005



Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

1) Rainfall over the past 4 to 7 weeks has been erratic across portions of eastern Belize, southern Guatemala, north-central Honduras and the Pacific Coast of Nicaragua into northwestern Costa Rica. This has led to pockets of dryness in these areas. However, not all areas within the polygons are experiencing dryness. Within localized areas of short term dryness, maturing first season crops may be experiencing some moisture stress. This may also reduce moisture for second season crop planting and emergence. The forecast indicates some improvement is likely with a good chance for some significant rainfall over Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Belize. Lower rainfall amounts are expected in central and north-central Honduras.

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