MFEWS Mesoamerican Food Security Early Warning System
Sistema Mesoamericano de Alerta Temprana para Seguridad Alimentaria

The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

For

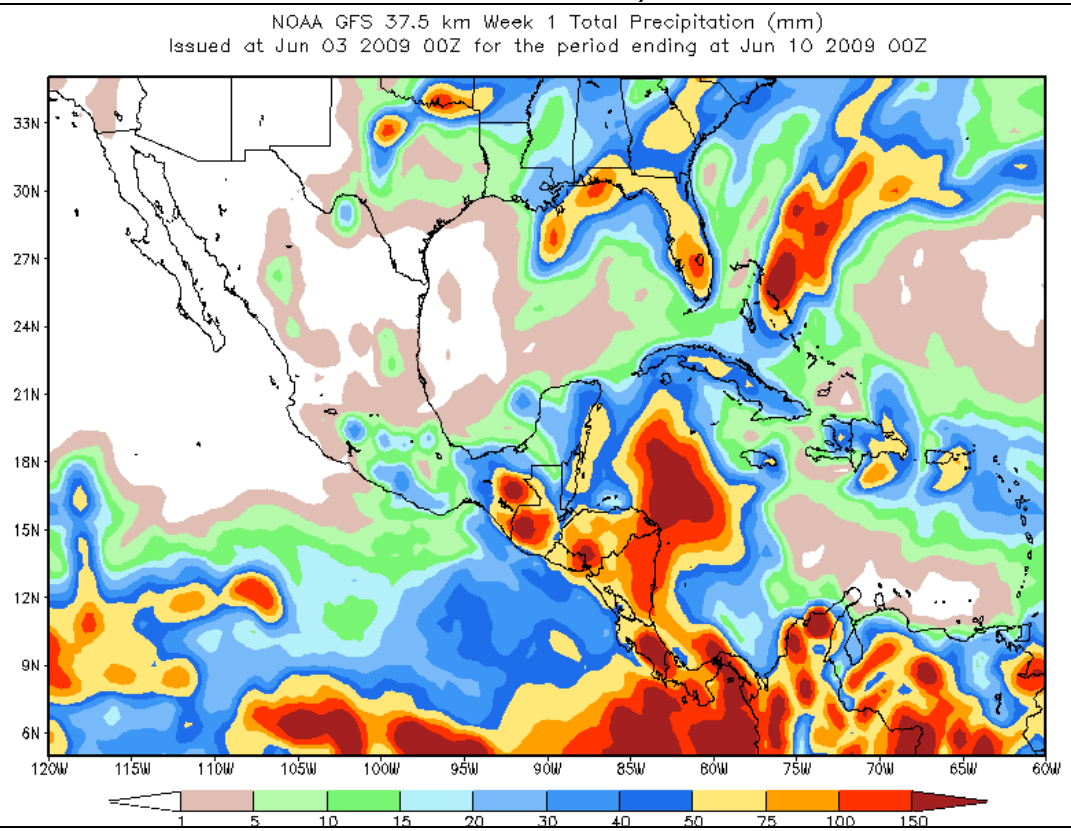
June 4 – 10, 2009

Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

During the last observation period light to moderate rains characterized the Central America region. In the west-central departments of Huehuetenango and El Quiche, Guatemala totals ranging from 10 mm – 25 mm+ were observed, but further south, rains exceeded 100 mm in San Marcos and nearby areas. The Verapaces area of Guatemala continues to have significant rainfall accumulation according to INSIVUMEH. The water level in the Polochic River in Panzos, Alta Verapaz is variable, flash flood could happen in plane areas of the river basin. Flooding has eased in the San Marcos and southern El Quiche departments, but the areas must continue to be monitored due to the high rainfall totals expected during the June 4th – June 10th observation period.

In Honduras, the 7.3 magnitude earthquake that was centered approximately 80 miles north of the coast on May 28th caused some localized flooding in the Olancho area and has the potential to cause landslides in vulnerable areas in conjunction with the rains. It also caused a number of injuries and damaged buildings in Honduras, Guatemala, and Belize. Another earthquake of 5.0 magnitude occurred in western Honduras on June 2nd.

GFS Precipitation Forecast
Valid: June 3 – 10, 2009



Source: NOAA / FEWSNET

The evaluation of climatological threats of MFEWS include the participation of the central and local offices of MFEWS, NOAA-CPC, USGS, NASA, INETER of Nicaragua, Meteorological Service of Honduras, IMN of Costa Rica, INSIVUMEH of Guatemala, ETESA of Panama, NMS of Belize and SNET of El Salvador. Any questions or comments on this product can be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov