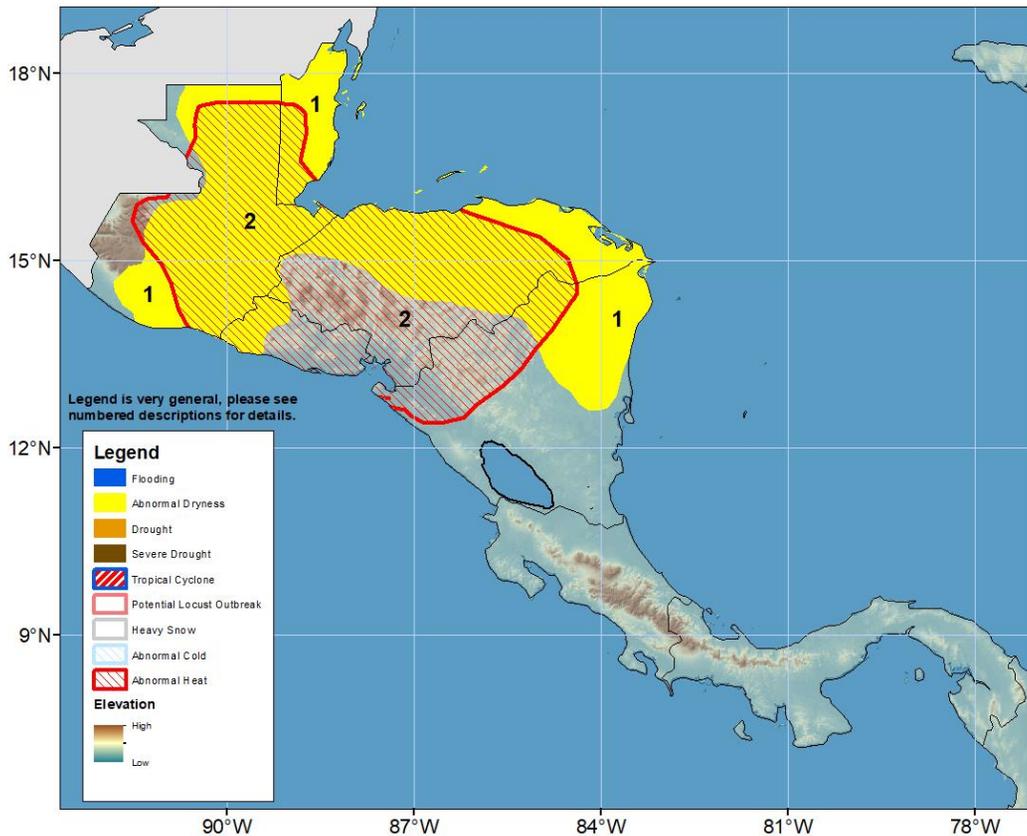


Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 30 May – 05 June 2024

Abnormal heat is expected in northern Central America



- 1) The short and long-term lack of rainfall has led to abnormal dryness in Belize, most parts of Guatemala, western El Salvador, northern Honduras, and northeastern Nicaragua, impacting sowing activities in the region. There is an increased chance that rainfall deficits will continue during the coming week.
- 2) Abnormal heat is very likely to be observed over Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, Honduras, and northern Nicaragua. In Guatemala, extreme heat is also affecting sowing activities and supporting fire forests in a few places in northern Central America.

Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium-range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), sub-seasonal forecasts up to 4 weeks, and assesses the potential impact of extreme events on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed and predicted to continue during the outlook period. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at the spatial scale of the map. This product takes into account long-range seasonal climate forecasts but does not reflect current or projected food security conditions. FEWS NET is a USAID-funded activity whose purpose is to provide objective information about food security conditions. Its views are not necessarily reflective of those of USAID or the U.S. Government. The FEWS NET weather hazards outlook process and products include participation by FEWS NET field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and a number of other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned.

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Dry and hot conditions are affecting sowing activities in northern Central America

Lack of rainfall continues to be observed in central and northern Guatemala, most parts of Honduras, and eastern Nicaragua. Meanwhile, rainfall totals between 5 mm and 100 mm were registered along the areas facing the Pacific Ocean, Costa Rica, and Panama. In terms of anomalies, most of Central America still shows rainfall deficits during the last 7 days, particularly Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua, while central Panama registered positive rainfall anomalies. Further, over the last 30 days, most rainfall products show that the largest rainfall deficits (100-300 mm below the mean) have been recorded in southern and northeastern Guatemala, northern El Salvador, a few areas of Honduras, northeastern Nicaragua, and western Costa Rica. According to reports, below-average rainfall and above-average temperatures have affected sowing activities and vegetation health in Guatemala. Moreover, rainfall maps on the 90-day long term showed that southeastern, central, and northern Guatemala, western El Salvador, many areas in Honduras, and eastern Nicaragua registered cumulative rainfall between 5-25 percent of the average. Furthermore, the lack of rainfall and hot temperatures has also affected the health of vegetation in northern and central Guatemala, western El Salvador, Honduras, and most parts of Nicaragua, driving fire forests in these countries.

During the next week, below-average conditions are expected in northern Central America, particularly negative anomalies larger than 40 mm, which are expected in Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, Honduras, and northern Nicaragua. On the contrary, positive rainfall anomalies are forecasted along coastal areas in Nicaragua and Costa Rica, and western Panama. Regarding temperatures, abnormal heat is likely to occur over Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, Honduras, and northern Nicaragua, bringing heat-related problems to vulnerable and sensitive people in the region.

