

### **Grenada's Agromet Summary for February 2013**

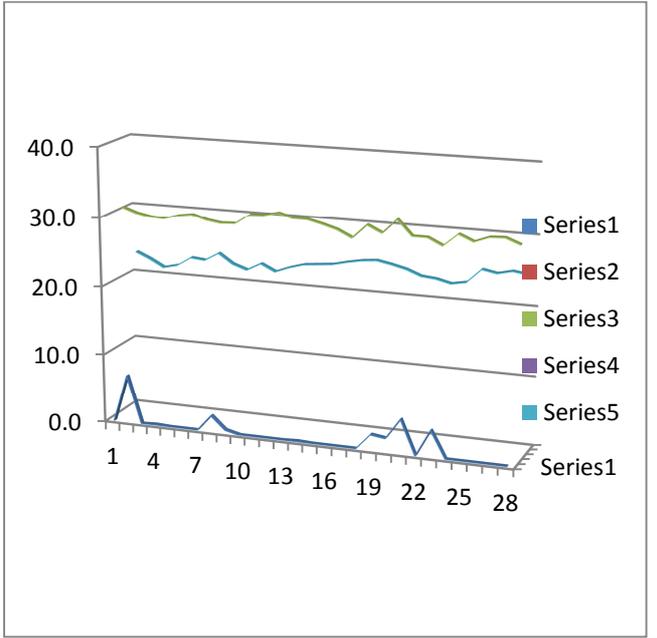
During the month of February Grenada experienced mostly fair conditions with only about three 12-24hr periods of cloudiness. This was as a result of firstly, well developed mid level anticyclones which resulted in almost continuous subsidence over the Caribbean basin. Secondly the Bermuda/Azores High reached a max of 1038mb on the 4<sup>th</sup> and extended southwards to 25°N on the 16<sup>th</sup>, hence the Lesser Antilles were feed with daily brisk trades.

As a result the month's rainfall was a mere 23.3mm, which is well below the February mean of 35.4mm. The highest rain day values were 7.2mm, measured on the Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5.0mm on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>. The high precipitation on the 2<sup>nd</sup> was as a result of a shear line which traversed the Eastern Caribbean. A mid level trough was responsible for the rainfall on the 21<sup>st</sup>. There were eighteen days with either no rainfall or a trace.

The mean maximum temperature for February was 30.1°C, (0.7°C below mean), with the highest being 31.9 on the 20<sup>th</sup>. On the other hand the month's mean minimum was 23.2°C, two degrees higher than the February mean. This corresponds with many indices which indicate global increasing minimum temperatures.

The northern Central Atlantic in February was littered with mid latitude cyclones on most day, some were intense, one such system, for example had a minimum central pressure as low as 960mb. Swells from some of these cyclones and some cold fronts together with wind waves generated from the Atlantic High battered our coastlines. Six feet(6ft) swells and higher were regular marine features during the month prompting the Meteorological office at Maurice Bishop Int'l to issue two sets marine advisories, on the 13<sup>th</sup> and from the 18<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup>. The afore-mentioned conditions negatively impacted the fisheries sector. Fishermen many times found conditions too hazardous to operate in therefore their month's catch were significantly diminished.

Although the rainfall was below average, February still saw very good production of some crops. Sweet potatoes, pumpkins, cantaloupes and tomatoes were in good supply for local consumption and export.



-----Rainfall

-----Min Temperature

-----Max Temperature