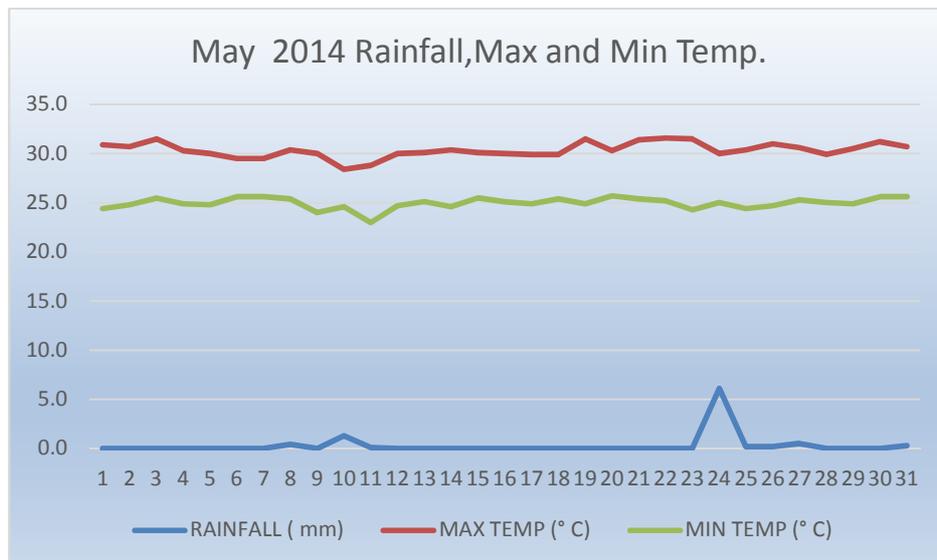


May Agro-met Report 2014

Dry and hot conditions continued its dominance over the tri-island state of Grenada during the month with rainfall being approximately five (5) times below the twenty nine (29) years average of 49.5mm. The total rainfall for the month amounted to a mere 9.1mm which is 18.38% of the 1986-2014 average. This is the seventh lowest rainfall total for May over this period.

A surface low level trough with upper level divergence and mid to upper level moisture advection from the SW, brought some 1.3mm of light rain during the afternoon of the 10th and into the night; the first of the two (2) days with rainfall over 1mm. Cloudiness associated with a tropical wave, brought 6.1mm of rainfall on the evening of the 24th and into the morning of the 25th. There were also fifteen (15) days with no or insignificant amounts of rainfall.

Accompanying the hot and dry weather conditions, were higher than average temperatures. Mean daily temperatures exceeded that of last years by an average of 0.2°C to reach a mean of 27.7°C, while the mean maximum and minimum temperatures were 30.4°C and 25.0°C respectfully. The highest maximum temperature though was 31.6°C and occurred on the 22nd while the lowest was 23.0°C and occurred on the 11th of the month.



Strong winds generated moderate to rough seas causing small craft advisories to be issued on the 13th and 23rd of the month. The Bermuda Azores High reached a high

of 1033mb on the 31st. Despite the moderate to rough seas at times, Fishermen were able to venture out at sea bringing in some yellow fin Tuna, Jacks and Bonita.

With dry weather dominating the country from April, water for agriculture and soil moisture content would have been seriously affected during this month (May). Crop growth and development would have been impacted severely by the lack of adequate water supply. NAWAS A (National Water and Sewage Authority) was forced to do some valve regulation as a result of this lack of rainfall. Nevertheless, farmers were still able to harvest some plantains, dasheen, green bananas, red plums and water melon.

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