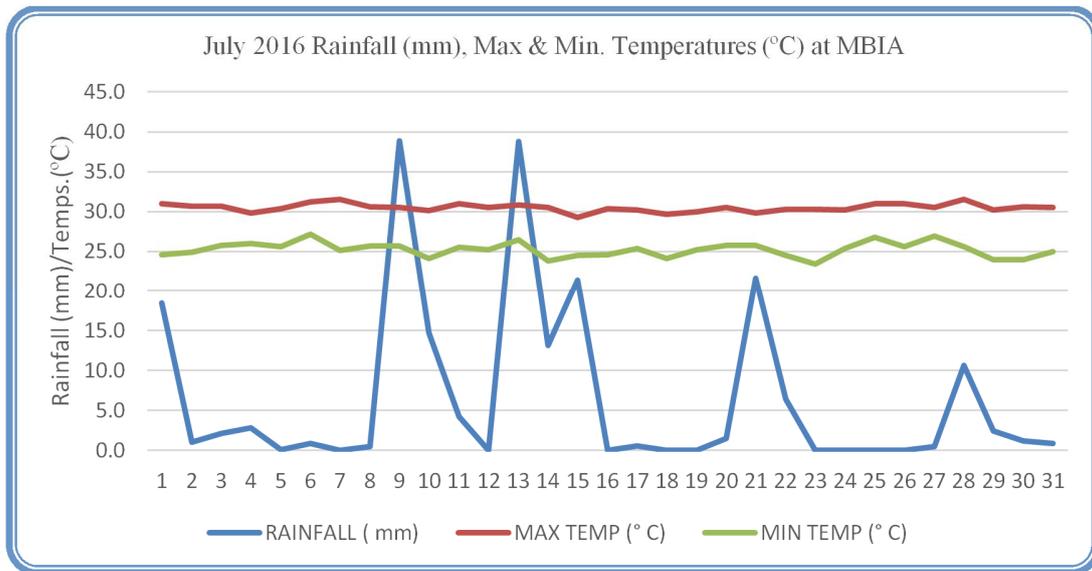




July 2016 Agro-Met Report

Above normal rainfall was recorded for the month of July. As the tropical waves continue to traverse our region, the moist environment enhance scattered to moderate showers and thunder showers at times; to yield a total of 202.6mm of rain for the month. This was the fifth highest July total recorded at the MBIA, the highest being 304.3mm in 2005. There were eight (8) 24 hour periods of rainfall over 10.0mm with two (2) main significant periods of 38.9mm and 38.8mm on the 9th and 13th respectively. There were three (3) days with only a trace and six (6) days with no rainfall. *See graph below.*



Graph for July 2016 showing Rainfall (mm), Max and Min Temperatures (°C)

Mean daily temperatures for the month of July was higher than last year’s by an average 0.2°C reaching a mean of 27.9°C. The mean maximum temperature was 0.4°C higher than that of July 2015 reading 30.5°C and 0.1°C lower than the 30-year average of 30.6°C. The mean minimum temperature was 25.2°C which was 0.1°C lower than 2015 and 0.5°C higher than the 30-year average. The highest maximum temperature recorded was 31.5°C on the 7th and 28th of the month, compared with 31.4°C for 2015 and 31.8°C for the 30-year average. The lowest minimum was 23.4°C recorded on the 23rd, compared with 23.0°C for 2015 and 22.4°C for the 30-year average.

The Bermuda/Azores High measured 1028mb and over for more than half the month and peaked on the 27th, measuring 1034mb resulting in tight pressure gradients. This generated strong winds with gusts of up to 30knots and moderate to rough seas. As a result, marine advisories were issued on the 3rd - 4th, 6th, 10th and 16th of the month.



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Fishing was quite challenging during the month and as a result, fishermen only managed few catches in Yellow fin tuna and Coastal Scads (big jacks)

Farmers were able to have bumper production of many of their crops as a result of the 45.76% increase in the rainfall over the 30-year average. This meant that farmers had to take more care in ensuring that their soils were properly drained to avoid unwanted pests and diseases from taking hold of their crops. Farmers had good yield in the following crops: Plantain, Pineapples, Mangoes, Pumpkins, Okra, Breadfruit, all kinds of Herbs and Sweet and Seasoning peppers.

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