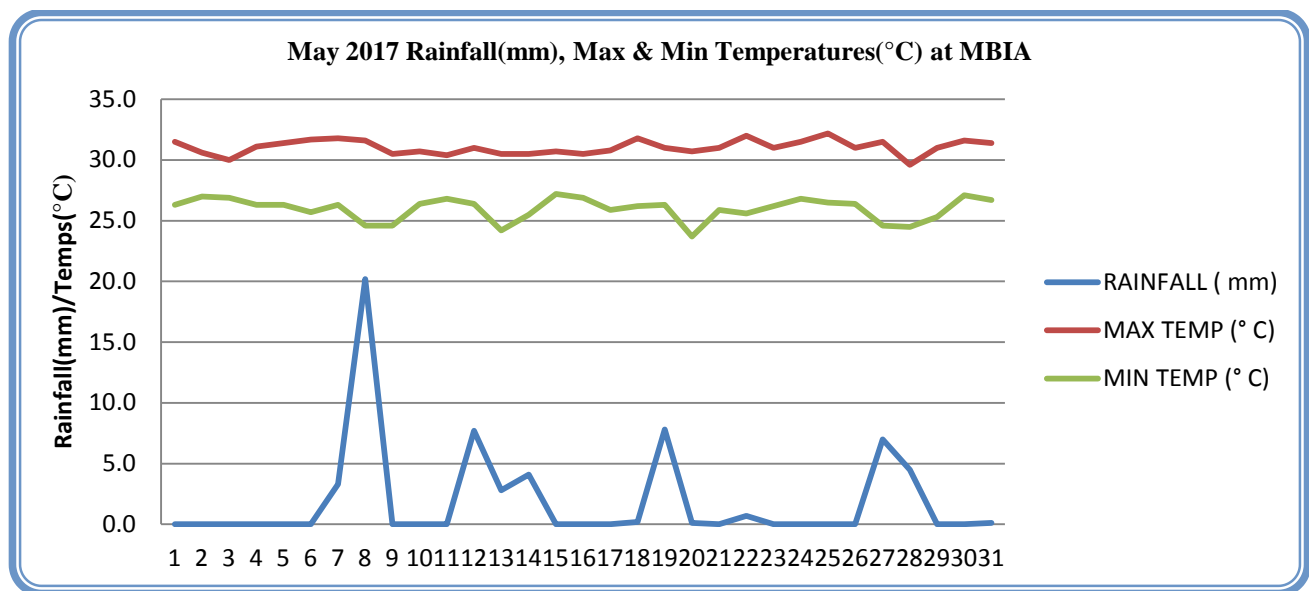




May 2017 Agro-met Report

After four (4) consecutive months of below average rainfall, the month of May brought about a welcome change in the rainfall pattern. Above normal rainfall was recorded here at MBIA. A total of 58.5mm of rainfall was recorded which was 15.8% or 8.0mm more than the long term average of 50.5mm and 20.86% or 10.1mm more than the 30-year average of 48.4mm.

Low level convergence and orographic lift aided in convection and showery activity producing the highest 24-hour period of 20.2mm of rainfall on the 8th of the month. Tropical waves on the 12th, 19th and 27th embedded in moist environment with upper level diffluence, enhance convection and showery activity producing 7.7mm, 7.8mm and 7.0mm respectively. *See graph below*



Graph for May 2017 showing Rainfall (mm), Max and Min Temperatures (°C)

With regards to temperatures, the average maximum temperature was 31.1°C compared with 30.9°C for the long term and 30-year averages. A max of 32.2°C was recorded on the 25th. On the other hand, the average minimum temperature was 26.0°C compared with 25.3°C for both the long term and 30-year averages. The lowest minimum of 23.7°C was recorded on the 20th of the month. The daily mean temperature of 28.5°C was 0.8°C higher than that of May last year.

The Bermuda/Azores High measured 1025mb and over for more than half of the month and peaked on the 17th, measuring 1033mb resulting in tight pressure gradients.



May 2017 Agro-met Report



This generated strong winds with gusts of up to 37knots on the 16th and moderate to rough seas. As a result, marine advisories were issued for almost the entire month; affecting the fishing community. Fishermen had catches in Black and Yellow fin tunas and Skuttle.

The farming community continued to enjoy good production of Pumpkins and other ground provisions like Sweet Potatoes and Yams. Red plums continued to be in abundance and other crops like Tomatoes, Cabbages, Sweet Peppers and Mangoes also flourished on the market.

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