

SVGMETS Annual Report to CMC Directors of Meteorology Antigua and Barbuda, 4th December 2006

Virtually at the start of the Atlantic Hurricane season a strong Tropical Wave, June 13 - 14, 2006 affected the southern Windward Islands. This system brought heavy rainfall, thunderstorms and its accompanying wind surge brought sustained winds of 20 - 30 kt and higher gusts.

The heavy rainfall resulted in flooding and the gusty winds brought destruction and damage to property on some southern coastal areas on the mainland and on the northern Grenadines island of Bequia.

Sustained wind speeds of 20 kt and gusts in excess of 48 knots were experiences (54 kt being the highest gust) at the E.T. Joshua Airport. Rainfalls measurements: 34 mm in 18 hours and 90 mm in 30 hours.

The SVG Meteorological Service remained well apprised of the situation as discussions with the Barbados Met. Service ensued from the moment the threat was detected... while the wave was east of the island of Barbados until the system had passed. Thanks to the Barbados Meteorological Service and a special thanks to Mr. Clement Williams with whom most of our discussions were held.

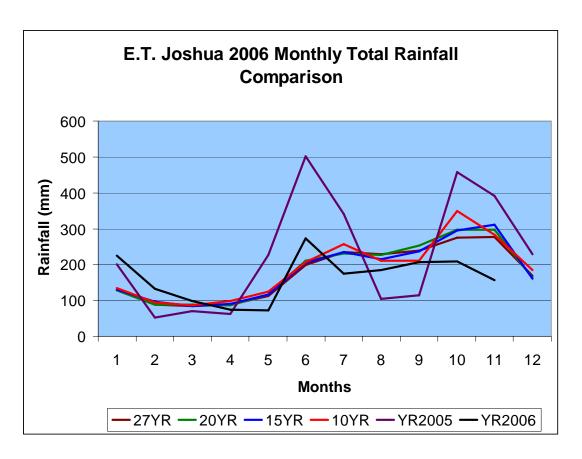
Location	Impact	Estimate
West Kingstown		
	13 Homes Destroyed/ Damages	\$80,000.00
South Leeward		
	3 Homes Destroyed/ Damages	\$10,000
East Kingstown		
	1 Home Destroyed/ Damages	\$2000.00
Central Kingstown		
	2 Homes Destroyed/ Damages	\$3000.00
N. Grenadines		
Bequia	1 Home Destroyed/ Damages \$10,000.	
St. Vincent and the	4 Retaining Walls Destroyed	Estimate not given!
Grenadines		
St. Vincent and the	Several Schools closed due to	No Estimate given
Grenadines	flooding!	

Number of Tropical Waves producing flood disruptive situations

No. of Tropical Waves threatening and producing heavy rainfall resulting in some flooding in St. Vincent & the Grenadines			
Month	No. of TW	Remarks	
June	3	Wind damage on 13 th -14 th	
July	3		
August	4	23 rd -24 th , Ernesto formed	
September	2		
October	2		
November	1		

2006 - Rainfall Climatology

Despite the apparent absence of ample significant weather on which to report, there were some observations made having looked at the annual rainfall comparing it to the past.



2005 Rainfall Analysis

Compared to 28, 20, 15, and 10 year-averages.

A rainfall amount so far for the years is significantly below last years and bench mark averages.

Compared to the last 28, 20, 15 and 10 year-averages, 2006 wet season rainfall has fallen well below those markers. The months of July to November so far have fallen significantly below the averages for the aforementioned averages, making this year's wet season, not so wet....or a relatively dry wet season. June was the exception.

The dry season for 2006, on the other hand has been a little wetter than normal when compared with the aforementioned benchmarks. April and May were the exceptions for the contribution to the wetter than normal dry season. Both months registered below average rainfall amounts.

Compared to 2005

Rainfall for the year 2006 has not represented well with respect to what is expected as a norm.

When compared with last year 2005, the dry season fared well, registering a 32 percent increase. The month of May being the only month to fall below its last year's total, declining by 69 percent.

February and March when compared with the same period in 2005, saw increases of 158 and 42 percent respectively. January and April experienced only marginal increases of 12 and 17 percent respectively over their last year's total.

June to November, the wet season, so far has seen a 35 percent decrease in rainfall received. The largest decreases experienced by October and November so far, with 56 and 60 percent respectively. June and July follow with decreases of 54 and 51 percent respectively compared with their totals last year.

However, August and September registered appreciable increases of 78 and 80 percent respectively over the same period last year.

As far as E.T. Joshua and environs are concerned, compared to the CIMH Precipitation Outlook for the Caribbean, rainfall did not reflect expectations.

In an outlook, based on the current trend and local rainfall pattern, one may say that December is likely to follow suit with a decrease in rainfall below average.

December's average rainfall is 169 mm. Expectations are for 90 – 120 mm.