



Three-Month Climate Characteristic Expectations of Thailand

During January - March 2015

Issued on 24 December 2014

Thai Meteorological Department

General Climate Characteristics

Upper Thailand (Northern, Northeastern, Central and Eastern parts of Thailand):

January: High pressure air masses from China will prevail over Upper Thailand periodically as being rather active in some periods causing northern and northeastern parts to be cool or cold, especially at the upper portion, whereas central and eastern parts will be cool and also cold in some areas on some days. Furthermore, mountain tops and mountainous areas will be cold to very cold with frost possibly occurring on some days.

During the 1st half of February: Weather will be variable as thunder rains happen on some days in some areas since the prevailing high pressure air masses will weaken discontinuously. As a result, the Upper Thailand is influenced to be warming up as thick fog appears in many areas, although many areas in the northern and northeastern parts are still cool or cold in the morning.

During the 2nd half of February until March: During the 1st phase, weakly high pressure air masses still prevail to cover the upper portion of the northern and northeastern parts periodically. Additionally, southerly or southeasterly winds will prevail over the Upper Thailand almost all of the phase and also heat low pressure air masses cover the upper Thailand in some periods. Consequently, the Upper Thailand will swelter generally and be very hot in many areas, especially during the 2nd half of March. Maximum temperatures are about 42 – 44 °C alternating with thunder rains in many areas on some days, thus reducing some heat.

The total rainfall will be nearly normal while mean temperature will be above normal.

Southern Thailand

January until March: Northeastern monsoon prevailing over the Gulf of Thailand and Southern Thailand will weaken and starts to change to be prevailing easterly or southeasterly winds. Thus, rainfall on both coasts of the Southern Thailand will have less rain reducing toward isolated to widely scattered criteria, mostly at the lower portion of the part. Together with hot air appears on some days while wind waves are weakening. For those in the Gulf of Thailand will be 1–2 meters high while those in the Andaman Sea will be about 1 meter high.

The total rainfall will be nearly normal while mean temperature will be above normal.

*** Cautions: ***

During January and February: Some westerly winds from Myanmar may move toward the Upper Thailand causing thunder rains and gusts to occur in some areas with possible falling hails. The public should follow the weather news from the Thai Meteorological Department closely.

March: Summer thunderstorms may occur often. Their characteristics include gusts or possible hails in some areas causing damages on some houses and farms.

Remarks: - Normal mean averages of the 30-year period during B.E. 2524 – 2553 or A.D. 1971 – 2010.

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|--|-------------|--------------------|-------------|---------|
| - Daily rainfall distribution (% area) criteria: | Isolated: | > 0 until < 20 % | | |
| Widely scattered: >=20 until < 40% | Scattered: | >= 40 until < 60 % | | |
| Almost widespread: >=60 until < 80% | Widespread: | >= 80% | | |
| - Daily rainfall amount (millimeters) criteria: | Light: | > 0 until 9.9, | | |
| Moderate: >=10 until <= 34.9, | Heavy: | >= 35 until < 90, | Very Heavy: | >= 90.1 |

Details of each part are:

Part	Prediction and normal	January 2015	February 2015	March 2015
Northern	Maximum temperature (°C.) Normal	31-33 31.1	33-35 33.7	36-38 36.1
	Minimum temperature (°C.) Normal	16-18 15.6	18-20 17.2	21-23 20.4
	Rainfall (mm.) / Rainy days Normal	Less than 10/1-2 4.6 / 1.0	10-20 / 1-2 10.4 / 1.4	20-40 / 2-4 28.1 / 3.1
Northeastern	Maximum temperature (°C.) Normal	30-32 30.6	33-35 33.0	35-37 35.1
	Minimum temperature (°C.) Normal	17-19 17.1	20-22 19.7	23-25 22.4
	Rainfall (mm.) / Rainy days Normal	Less than 10/1-2 4.8 / 1.1	10-20 / 2-4 18.5 / 2.5	40-60 / 4-6 44.7 / 4.8
Central	Maximum temperature (°C.) Normal	32-34 32.7	34-36 34.6	36-38 36.1
	Minimum temperature (°C.) Normal	20-22 20.1	22-24 22.2	24-26 24.1
	Rainfall (mm.) / Rainy days Normal	Less than 10/1-2 6.7 / 1.1	10-20 / 1-2 12.3 / 1.6	30-50 / 3-5 36.0 / 3.4
Eastern (including coastal areas)	Maximum temperature (°C.) Normal	32-34 32.1	33-35 32.9	34-36 33.8
	Minimum temperature (°C.) Normal	21-23 21.4	23-25 23.4	25-27 24.9
	Rainfall (mm.) / Rainy days Normal	10-20 / 1-2 16.1 / 1.8	20-40 / 2-4 29.4 / 3.1	50-70 / 4-6 62.5 / 5.4
Southern (east coast)	Maximum temperature (°C.) Normal	30-32 30.3	31-33 31.4	32-34 32.6
	Minimum temperature (°C.) Normal	22-24 22.2	23-25 22.7	24-26 23.7
	Rainfall (mm.) / Rainy days Normal	50-70 / 6-8 59.7 / 7.2	20-40 / 3-4 34.5 / 3.7	60-80 / 5-7 68.4 / 5.4
Southern (west coast)	Maximum temperature (°C.) Normal	32-34 32.6	33-35 33.8	34-36 34.4
	Minimum temperature (°C.) Normal	23-25 22.8	23-25 23.0	24-26 23.7
	Rainfall (mm.) / Rainy days Normal	20-40 / 3-5 26.4 / 4.2	20-40 / 3-4 27.5 / 3.6	80-100 / 7-9 89.1 / 7.6
Bangkok Metropolis and vicinity	Maximum temperature (°C.) Normal	32-34 32.5	33-35 33.3	35-37 34.3
	Minimum temperature (°C.) Normal	23-25 22.6	25-27 24.4	26-28 25.9
	Rainfall (mm.) / Rainy days Normal	10-20 / 1-2 13.3 / 1.7	15-30 / 2-4 20.0 / 2.5	30-50 / 3-5 42.1 / 3.6

Expected rainfall, nearly or above or below normal:

Parts	January 2015	February 2015	March 2015
Northern (Prediction/Normal)	Nearly normal (Less than 10 / 5)	Nearly normal (10-20 / 10)	Nearly normal (20-40 / 28)
Northeastern (Prediction/Normal)	Nearly normal (Less than 10 / 5)	Nearly normal (10-20 / 19)	Nearly normal (40-60 / 45)
Central (Prediction/Normal)	Nearly normal (Less than 10 / 7)	Nearly normal (10-20 / 12)	Nearly normal (30-50 / 36)
Eastern (Prediction/Normal)	Nearly normal (10-20 / 16)	Nearly normal (20-40 / 29)	Nearly normal (50-70 / 63)
Southern Part (East Coast) (Prediction/Normal)	Nearly normal (50-70 / 60)	Nearly normal (20-40 / 35)	Nearly normal (60-80 / 68)
Southern Part (West Coast) (Prediction/Normal)	Nearly normal (20-40 / 26)	Nearly normal (20-40 / 28)	Nearly normal (80-100 / 89)
Bangkok Metropolis and vicinity (Prediction/Normal)	Nearly normal (10-20 / 13)	Nearly normal (15-30 / 20)	Nearly normal (30-50 / 42)

Expected temperature, nearly or above or below normal:

Parts	January 2015	February 2015	March 2015
Northern Prediction of Max./Min.): (Normal of Max./Min.)	Above Normal 32 / 17 (31.1 / 15.6)	Above Normal 34 / 19 (33.7 / 17.2)	Above Normal 37 / 22 (36.1 / 20.4)
Northeastern Prediction of Max./Min.): (Normal of Max./Min.)	Above Normal 31 / 18 : (30.6 / 17.1)	Above Normal 34 / 21 : (33.0 / 19.7)	Above Normal 36 / 24 (35.1 / 22.4)
Central Prediction of Max./Min.): (Normal of Max./Min.)	Above Normal 33 / 21 (32.7 / 20.1)	Above Normal 35 / 23 (34.6 / 22.2)	Above Normal 37 / 25 (36.0 / 24.1)
Eastern Prediction of Max./Min.): (Normal of Max./Min.)	Above Normal 33 / 22 (32.1 / 21.4)	Above Normal 34 / 24 (32.9 / 23.4)	Above Normal 35 / 26 (33.8 / 24.9)
Southern Part (East Coast) Prediction of Max./Min.): (Normal of Max./Min.)	Above Normal 31 / 23 (30.3 / 22.2)	Above Normal 32 / 24 (31.4 / 22.7)	Above Normal 33 / 25 (32.6 / 23.7)
Southern Part (West Coast) Prediction of Max./Min.): (Normal of Max./Min.)	Above Normal 33 / 24 (32.6 / 22.8)	Above Normal 34 / 24 (33.8 / 23.0)	Above Normal 35 / 25 (34.4 / 23.7)
Bangkok Metropolis and vicinity Prediction of Max./Min.): (Normal of Max./Min.)	Above Normal 33 / 24 (32.5 / 22.6)	Above Normal 34 / 26 (33.3 / 22.4)	Above Normal 36 / 27 (34.3 / 25.9)

Explanations: Nearly normal means ± 10 % of normal. Slightly above/below normal means ± 10 - 25 % of normal. And above/below normal means \pm more than 25 % of normal.