



Three-month climate characteristic expectation of Thailand

February – April 2016

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Ministry of Information and Communication Technology

Thai Meteorological Department

General Climate Characteristics:

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

During the 1st half of February: Weather disturbances with thunder rain will occur at many areas because moderately high pressure air mass areas from China prevail over the northern and northeastern parts periodically. As a result, the Upper Thailand will get warmer with thick fog at many areas together with hot weather during day time.

Then from the 2nd half of February until April: The prevailing high pressure air mass areas from China will weaken including with some southerly or southeasterly winds prevailing over the Upper Thailand almost all of this period. Furthermore, warmly low pressure air mass cells still prevail over the Upper Thailand from time to time. These characteristics will influence the Upper Thailand to experience sweltering weather commonly. Also, very hot weather happens at many areas on some days, especially from the 2nd half of March until middle April. Maximum temperature may be extremely high as 43 – 44 °C. However, thunder rain will appear at many areas during some periods, and thus reducing some heat.

The mean rain amount will be mostly slightly below normal while mean temperature will be mostly above normal.

The Southern Thailand:

During February until late April: The easterly or southeasterly winds will prevail over the Gulf of Thailand and the Southern Thailand almost all of this period. Consequently, the Southern Thailand (both of the eastern and western coasts) will experience isolated to widely scattered rainfall as well as hot weather at many areas on some days. For wind waves in the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea, they will be about 1 meter high.

Afterward, during late April: The southwest monsoon will start to prevail over the Andaman Sea and the Southern Thailand. Then, the Southern Thailand (the western coast) will begin to experience more rainfall. In addition, wind waves at the Andaman Sea will be more active with 2 meters high.

The mean rain amount will be mostly slightly below normal while mean temperature will be mostly above normal.

*** Cautions ***

February: Maybe, the westerly wind waves from Myanmar direction may pass by the Upper Thailand causing some thunder rain and gust occurring at some areas and possibly falling hail.

March and April: Often, summer thunderstorms may occur as thunder rain, wind gust, and hail at some areas causing damages to housing properties and agricultural zones. Thus, the public should follow the weather forecast news from the Thai Meteorological Department closely further.

During late April: Possibly, some low pressure air mass cells may develop at the Andaman Sea and strengthen to become some depressions, tropical storms and cyclones. Their directions will move northerly toward easterly and may move toward the western side of Thailand. For this reason, the western side of the northern and central parts of Thailand including with the Southern Thailand will experience more rainfall.

- Remarks:
- Daily rainfall distribution (% of the 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 10.0 |
| Moderate: | >=10.1 until <=35.0 |
| Heavy: | >=35.1 until <90 |
| Very heavy: | >= 90.1 |
 - Daily minimum temperature criteria for the winter season:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|---|-------------|-----|
| Cool weather | = | 18.0 - 22.9 | °C. |
| Moderately cold weather | = | 16.0 - 17.9 | °C. |
| Cold weather | = | 8.0 - 15.9 | °C. |
| Very cold weather | = | <= 7.9 | °C. |
 - Daily maximum temperature criteria for the summer season:

| | | | |
|------------------|---|-------------|-----|
| Hot weather | = | 35.0 - 39.9 | °C. |
| Very hot weather | = | >= 40.0 | °C. |
 - Normal means average during the 30-year period (A.D. 1981 - 2010 or B.E. 2524 - 2553)
 - These long range expectations are utilized by applying some climatic models and statistical methods, the public then should follow the daily weather news from the Thai Meteorological Department further.
 - The next 3-month climate expectations will be at the last week of February 2016.
 - Further enquiry of monthly climate, 3-month climate and seasonal forecasts can be preceded at Tel: 02-398-9929 or Fax: 02-383-8827.
 - Please follow monthly climate, 3-month climate and seasonal forecasts at www.tmd.go.th/en/ at the climate tab.

Climatological Center,
Meteorological Development Bureau,
Thai Meteorological Department,
Ministry of Information and Communication Technology

Rain amount (millimeters) & rainy day (days) prediction – comparing with normal:

| Parts | prediction | | | | | | | | | normal | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|------|-----------------------|-------------|------|-----------------------|-------------|------|-----------------------|-------------|------|-------------|------|-------------|------|
| | February | | | March | | | April | | | February | | March | | April | |
| | Rain amount | Days | Comparing with normal | Rain amount | Days | Comparing with normal | Rain amount | Days | Comparing with normal | Rain amount | Days | Rain amount | Days | Rain amount | Days |
| Northern | 5-15 mm | 1-2 | Near normal | 15-30 mm | 2-3 | Slightly Below normal | 40-70 mm | 4-6 | Slightly Below normal | 10.4 | 1.4 | 28.1 | 3.1 | 71.3 | 7.0 |
| Northeastern | 15-30 mm | 2-3 | Near normal | 20-40 mm | 3-4 | Slightly Below normal | 60-90 mm | 6-8 | Slightly Below normal | 18.5 | 2.5 | 44.7 | 4.8 | 86.3 | 8.0 |
| Central | 10-20 mm | 2-3 | Near normal | 20-40 mm | 3-4 | Slightly Below normal | 50-80 mm | 4-6 | Slightly Below normal | 12.3 | 1.6 | 36.0 | 3.4 | 79.5 | 6.4 |
| Eastern | 20-40 mm | 3-4 | Near normal | 50-80 mm | 4-6 | Near normal | 80-110 mm | 6-8 | Near normal | 29.1 | 3.1 | 62.1 | 5.4 | 98.9 | 8.3 |
| Southern (East Coast) | 20-40 mm | 3-4 | Near normal | 40-70 mm | 4-6 | Slightly Below normal | 50-80 mm | 6-8 | Slightly Below normal | 34.5 | 3.7 | 68.4 | 5.4 | 75.4 | 7.3 |
| Southern (West Coast) | 20-40 mm | 3-4 | Near normal | 60-90 mm | 6-8 | Slightly Below normal | 130-170 mm | 9-12 | Slightly Below normal | 27.5 | 3.6 | 88.8 | 7.6 | 160.6 | 12.7 |
| Bangkok and Vicinity | 15-30 mm | 2-3 | Near normal | 30-50 mm | 3-4 | Near normal | 80-110 mm | 6-8 | Near normal | 20.0 | 2.5 | 42.1 | 3.6 | 91.4 | 6.5 |

Mean maximum and minimum temperature (° C) prediction comparing with normal:

| Parts | Expectation | | | | | | | | | Normal | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | February | | | March | | | April | | | February | | March | | April | |
| | Mean Max. | Mean Min. | Comparing with normal | Mean Max. | Mean Min. | Comparing with normal | Mean Max. | Mean Min. | Comparing with normal | Mean Max. | Mean Min. | Mean Max. | Mean Min. | Mean Max. | Mean Min. |
| Northern | 34-36 | 18-20 | Above normal | 36-38 | 21-23 | Above normal | 37-39 | 24-26 | Above normal | 33.7 | 17.2 | 36.1 | 20.4 | 37.1 | 23.4 |
| Northeastern | 34-36 | 20-22 | Above normal | 35-37 | 23-25 | Above normal | 36-38 | 25-27 | Above normal | 33.0 | 19.7 | 35.1 | 22.4 | 36.1 | 24.5 |
| Central | 34-36 | 23-25 | Above normal | 36-38 | 25-27 | Above normal | 37-39 | 26-28 | Above normal | 34.6 | 22.6 | 36.1 | 24.4 | 37.0 | 25.8 |
| Eastern | 33-35 | 24-26 | Above normal | 34-36 | 25-27 | Above normal | 35-37 | 26-28 | Above normal | 32.9 | 23.4 | 33.8 | 24.9 | 34.7 | 25.9 |
| Southern (East Coast) | 32-34 | 23-25 | Slightly above normal | 32-34 | 24-26 | Slightly above normal | 33-35 | 25-27 | Slightly above normal | 31.4 | 22.7 | 32.6 | 23.7 | 33.7 | 24.6 |
| Southern (West Coast) | 33-35 | 23-25 | Slightly above normal | 34-36 | 24-26 | Slightly above normal | 34-36 | 24-26 | Slightly above normal | 33.8 | 23.0 | 34.4 | 23.7 | 34.2 | 24.4 |
| Bangkok and Vicinity | 33-35 | 25-27 | Above normal | 34-36 | 26-28 | Above normal | 35-37 | 26-28 | Above normal | 33.3 | 24.4 | 34.3 | 25.9 | 35.4 | 26.9 |