



Thai Meteorological Department

Ministry of Information and Communication
Technology

The Seasonal forecast of Thailand during the Rainy Season of 2016

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The rainy season of Thailand this year is expected to begin as nearly usual around the 3rd week of May. The total rain will be slightly below normal in May, then the total rain will be near normal but above that of last year. For during August and September, Thailand often experiences heavy to very heavy rain at many areas causing flash flood, forest flood and inundation overflowing at some areas. Thus, the public should be cautious from these natural hazards and should follow weather forecast news closely. The rainy season of this year will end at around middle October.

General Weather Characteristics:

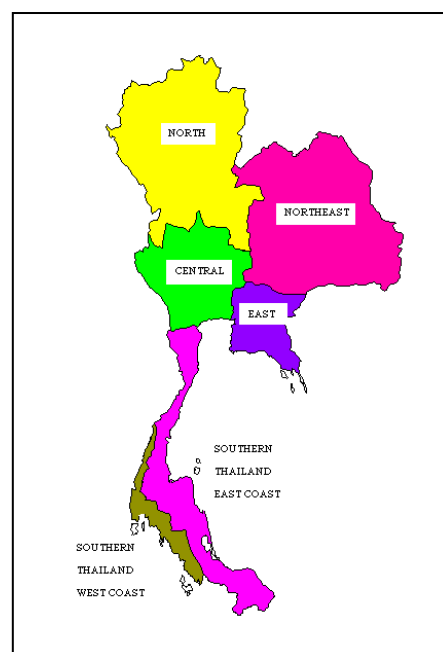
May, low pressure air mass cells may develop around the Andaman Sea, and strengthen to become depressions or cyclones. Then, they will move northerly to easterly toward the western portion of Thailand about middle May until middle June. Moreover, moderately active southwest monsoon will prevail over the Andaman Sea and Thailand from time to time. Furthermore, a monsoon trough may place over the Upper Thailand at some periods. These characteristics will influence Thailand to experience abundant rain during June and July with heavy rain happening at some areas.

Then from about June until middle July, the southwest monsoon prevailing over the Andaman sea and Thailand will weaken whereas a monsoon trough moves upward to place over the lower portion of China. Consequently, the amount and distribution of rainfall of Thailand will lessen causing the dry spell period. This event will bring about water shortage for agriculture at many areas, especially at those areas outside irrigation zones.

For during middle July until September, the southwest monsoon prevailing over the Andaman Sea and Thailand will return back as more actively and more continuously from time to time. Moreover, the monsoon trough will move downward to place over the Upper Thailand periodically. Thus, Thailand will experience densely abundant rainfall with heavy to very heavy rain occurring at many areas. As a result, flash flood, forest flood and inundation will overflow at many areas.

For October, some high pressure air mass areas from China will prevail over the upper portion of both of the northern and northeastern parts periodically. Additionally, the monsoon trough will move downward to place over the eastern part and the upper portion of the Southern Thailand. Also, the prevailing southwest monsoon over Thailand will change to be the prevailing northeastern monsoon instead. For these reasons, the Upper Thailand will experience less rain and starts to face cool or cold weather in the morning, especially at the upper portion of both of the northern and northeastern parts. However, the Southern Thailand will still experience densely abundant rainfall, especially at the eastern coast.

The rainy season of this year for the Upper Thailand will end at about middle October whereas that of the Southern Thailand still exhibits continuous rainfall until late January. Specifically, during November and December, heavy to very heavy rain will occur at many areas.



Tropical cyclones (depressions, tropical storms and typhoons): Two tropical cyclones are expected to move toward Thailand this year with a high possibility to move pass the northeastern and northern parts during August or September for 1 tropical cyclone and moving pass the Southern Thailand during October until November for another 1 tropical cyclone.

Cautions:

1. May: Summer thunderstorms appear often as thunder rain, gusty wind and possibly hail falling at some areas causing damage to household buildings and agricultural areas.

2. Some periods in this rainy season: Heavy to very heavy rain will occur continuously for many days. Thus, flash flood, forest flood and flooding disasters may happen especially from August till September. Then, the public should follow daily weather forecast news closely further.

3. For the period of some tropical cyclones moving closely toward or pass Thailand: Windy gust, rainfall at wide areas with heavy to very heavy rain happening at many areas will occur. For coastal areas, wind waves will be active as 2 - 4 meters high. The public and seafarers should be cautious from these natural disasters and then should follow weather forecast news closely during the period of tropical cyclones further.

Details for each part of Thailand:

Northern: During May, rain is expected to be slightly below normal (Normal: 178 millimeters). Afterward, during June till October, rain will be near normal (Normal: 156, 176, 223, 218 and 124 millimeters consecutively).

Northeastern: During May, rain is expected to be slightly below normal (Normal: 187 millimeters). Afterward, during June till October, rain will be near normal (Normal: 203, 211, 266, 242 and 117 millimeters consecutively).

Central: During May, rain is expected to be slightly below normal (Normal: 172 millimeters). Afterward, during June till October, rain will be near normal (Normal: 145, 156, 181, 257 and 187 millimeters consecutively).

Eastern: During May, rain is expected to be slightly below normal (Normal: 224 millimeters). Afterward, during June till October, rain will be near normal (Normal: 262, 278, 303, 330 and 225 millimeters consecutively).

Southern Thailand - East Coast (the Gulf of Thailand): During May, rain is expected to be slightly below normal (Normal: 144 millimeters). Afterward, during June till October, rain will be near normal (Normal: 113, 119, 124, 150 and 255 millimeters consecutively).

Southern Thailand -West Coast (the Andaman Sea): During May, rain is expected to be slightly below normal (Normal: 310 millimeters). Afterward, during June till October, rain will be near normal (Normal: 312, 337, 399, 424 and 367 millimeters consecutively).

Bangkok and Vicinity: During May, rain is expected to be slightly below normal (Normal: 248 millimeters). Afterward, during June till October, rain will be near normal (Normal: 157, 175, 219, 334 and 292 millimeters consecutively).

Rainfall expectations of 2016 compared to normal:

| Part | May | Jun-Aug | Sep-Oct | Nov-Dec |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| North | Slightly below Normal | nearly normal | nearly normal | - |
| Northeast | Slightly below Normal | nearly normal | nearly normal | - |
| Central | Slightly below Normal | nearly normal | nearly normal | - |
| East | Slightly below Normal | nearly normal | nearly normal | - |
| Southern Thailand East Coast | Slightly below Normal | nearly normal | nearly normal | nearly normal |
| Southern Thailand West Coast | Slightly below Normal | nearly normal | nearly normal | nearly normal |
| Bangkok Metropolis and Vicinity | Slightly below Normal | nearly normal | nearly normal | - |

Rainfall amount expectations (millimeters) during the rainy season of 2016:

| Part | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
|------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| North | 140-180 | 130-170 | 160-200 | 200-250 | 200-250 | 100-140 | - | - |
| Northeast | 150-190 | 180-220 | 190-230 | 240-290 | 220-270 | 100-140 | - | - |
| Central | 140-180 | 130-170 | 140-180 | 160-210 | 230-280 | 160-210 | - | - |
| East | 190-230 | 240-290 | 250-300 | 280-330 | 300-350 | 200-250 | - | - |
| Southern Thailand East Coast | 110-150 | 900-130 | 100-140 | 100-140 | 130-170 | 230-280 | 300-400 | 210-260 |
| Southern Thailand West Coast | 250-300 | 270-320 | 300-400 | 350-450 | 400-500 | 300-400 | 170-220 | 60-90 |
| Bangkok Metropolis and Vicinity | 200-250 | 130-170 | 160-200 | 190-230 | 300-400 | 270-320 | - | - |

Remarks - 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 updated rainy seasonal forecast will be at the last week of May 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.