



The Seasonal forecast of Thailand during the Rainy Season of 2017

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The rainy season of Thailand this year is expected to start as normal around middle May and will end at about middle October. The general weather characteristics will be quite the same as those of 1999. As the total rain of this rainy season will be near normal (about 5% above normal) and lower than that of last year (the total rain of last year was slightly above normal or 12% above normal). While during late June until early July, the amount and distribution of rain is little; thus, water shortage for agricultural consumption happens at many areas, especially at those areas outside irrigation zones. The public then should utilize water most effectively. Later in August until September, heavy to very heavy rain will happen in Thailand for many areas. As a result, overflowing from flash and forest flood will inundate some areas.

General Weather Characteristics:

Since middle May until late June, more rain will appear in Thailand continuously with rain distribution as 40 – 60% of the area together with heavy rain occurs at many areas and very heavy rain at some areas, specifically around the eastern part and the Southern Thailand (west coast). In other words, rather actively southwestern monsoon will prevail over the Andaman Sea and Thailand periodically. Moreover, some low-pressure air mass cells may develop at the Andaman Sea in May and strengthen to become depressions, tropical storms or cyclones. They will move closer to the western side of Thailand. Besides, a monsoon trough will place over the Upper Thailand at some periods.

Furthermore, during late June until early July, the amount and distribution of rain will lessen. Thus, the dry spell period will occur causing water shortage for agricultural consumption at many areas, specifically at the repeated drought areas outside irrigation zones. In other words, the southwestern monsoon prevailing over the Andaman Sea and Thailand will become weakening while the monsoon trough moves upward to place over the southern portion of China.

While during middle July until September, more rain will appear again in Thailand along with heavy to very heavy rain at many areas, mostly during August and September. Consequently, overflowing from flash and forest flood will inundate many areas. In other words, the southern monsoon prevailing over the Andaman Sea and Thailand will become more active periodically together with the monsoon trough moves downward to place over the Upper Thailand periodically and more continuously.

In October, rain in the northern and northeastern parts will reduce and chilly morning weather starts to appear, specifically at the upper portion. Whereas densely abundant rain in the central and eastern parts and the Southern Thailand will occur further due to high-pressure air mass areas from China starting to prevail over the northern and northeastern parts. Additionally, the monsoon trough will move downward to place over the lower portion of the central part, the upper portion of the Southern Thailand, and the eastern part. Besides, the southwestern monsoon prevailing over Thailand will transform to become the prevailing northeastern monsoon instead.

Tropical cyclones (depressions, tropical storms and typhoons) For the rainy season of this year, two tropical cyclones are expected to move toward Thailand. They favor a high chance to move pass the northeastern and northern parts in August or September.

Cautions:

- 1. During May, summer thunderstorms often develop. Their appearances are thunder rain, gusty wind and possible hail falling at some areas possibly causing property damages and losses at agricultural areas.*
- 2. At some periods, heavy to very heavy rain occurs continuously for many days. Thus, possible overflowing from flash and forest flood will inundate, specifically in August till September. The public then should follow weather forecast news closely.*
- 3. During the period of tropical cyclones moving close or pass Thailand, their appearances are gusty wind, widely raining, and heavy to very heavy rain at many areas. Furthermore, active wind waves happen at coastal zones as 2 – 4 meters high. As a result, the public and mariners should be cautious with this natural hazard and should follow weather forecast news closely during the tropical cyclone periods.*

Details for each part of Thailand:

Northern: Since May until October, rain is expected to be nearly normal (Normal: 178, 156, 176, 223, 218 and 124 millimeters consecutively).

Northeastern: Since May until October, rain is expected to be nearly normal (Normal: 187, 203, 211, 266, 242 and 117 millimeters consecutively).

Central: In May, rain is expected to be slightly above normal (Normal: 172 millimeters). Then in June until October, rain is expected to be near normal (Normal: 145, 156, 181, 257 and 187 millimeters consecutively).

Eastern: In May, rain is expected to be slightly above normal (Normal: 224 millimeters). Then in June until October, rain is expected to be near normal (Normal: 262, 278, 303, 330 and 225 millimeters consecutively).

Southern Thailand – East Coast (the Gulf of Thailand): In May, rain is expected to be slightly above normal (Normal: 144 millimeters). Then in June until October, rain is expected to be near normal (Normal: 113, 119, 124, 150 and 255 millimeters consecutively).

Southern Thailand –West Coast (the Andaman Sea): In May, rain is expected to be slightly above normal (Normal: 310 millimeters). Then in June until October, rain is expected to be near normal (Normal: 312, 337, 399, 424 and 367 millimeters consecutively).

Bangkok and Vicinity: In May, rain is expected to be slightly above normal (Normal: 248 millimeters). Then in June until October, rain is expected to be near normal (Normal: 157, 175, 219, 334 and 292 millimeters consecutively).

Rainfall expectations of 2017 compared to normal:

Part	May	Jun-Aug	Sep-Oct	Nov-Dec
North	nearly normal	nearly normal	nearly normal	-
Northeast	nearly normal	nearly normal	nearly normal	-
Central	Slightly above 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 2017:

Part	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
North	160-200	140-180	160-200	200-250	200-250	100-140	20-40	Less Than 10
Northeast	170-210	180-220	190-230	240-290	220-270	100-140	15-30	Less Than 10
Central	170-210	130-170	140-180	160-200	230-280	160-200	30-50	Less Than 10
East	220-270	240-290	250-300	280-330	300-400	200-250	40-60	Less Than 10
Southern Thailand East Coast	140-180	90-130	100-140	100-140	130-170	230-280	330-380	210-260
Southern Thailand West Coast	300-400	290-340	310-410	350-450	400-500	300-400	170-220	60-90
Bangkok Metropolis and Vicinity	240-290	140-180	160-200	190-230	300-400	270-320	40-60	Less Than 10

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 June 2017.

- 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.