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Ministry of Digital Economy and Society

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The seasonal forecast of Thailand during the 2018-summer season

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Weather characteristic prediction for the 2018-summer season of Thailand during about late February until middle May of 2018:

The summer of Thailand this year is expected to begin at about late February which is 1-2 weeks later than usual and will end at about middle May. The weather will not be so sweltering as mean maximum temperature of the Upper Thailand is to be about 35 – 36 C. which is near normal (Normal: 35.4 C.) and near that of last year (35.3 C.). Furthermore, the mean total rain will be near normal to slightly above normal.

However, summer thunderstorms often happen during the summer at many areas as thunder rain, gusty wind and hail at some areas. This results in loss of life and damages of property and agricultural product. Additionally, the rainfall of this summer will not suit demands at many areas in consumption and agricultural usages, specifically at repeated drought areas outside irrigation zones. As a result, people should maximize water utilization and prepare for the above-mentioned summer thunderstorms further.

General climate characteristics:

The Upper Thailand (The northern, northeastern, central and eastern parts of Thailand):

During the 1st period about late February until middle March, hot weather occurs commonly at daytime with thick fog at many areas on some days. Even though morning cool weather still occurs at the northern and northeastern parts, the reason is that weakly high-pressure air mass areas from China will prevail over the northern and northeastern parts.

Then during about middle March until late April, sweltering weather occurs almost widely with very hot weather at some areas on some days whereas extreme maximum temperatures may reach 42 – 43 C. Nevertheless, summer thunderstorms often occur at many areas during some periods as thunder rain, gusty wind and possibly falling hail, thus helping reduce some heat. This results from prevailing southerly or southeasterly wind bringing about moisture from the Gulf of Thailand for almost all of this period. In addition, heat low-pressure air mass cells will prevail from time to time.

During late April until the 1st half of May, weather will fluctuate as sweltering weather occurring almost widely with very hot weather happening at some areas on some days and thunder rain at many areas. This results from prevailing southerly or southeasterly wind transforming to become southwestern monsoon prevailing over Thailand instead.

The Southern Thailand

During late February until about late April, rainfall distribution occurs as 20 – 30% of the area with hot weather at many areas. While wind waves in the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea will be about 1 meter high due to easterly or southeasterly wind prevailing over the Gulf of Thailand and the Southern Thailand for almost all of this period.

Then since late April onwards, more rain is going to happen at the Southern Thailand. Specifically, around the western coast, 60-80% rainfall distribution with heavy to very heavy rain at some areas will occur together with wind waves in the Andaman Sea become more active as 2 – 3 meters high during some periods comparing to wind waves in the Gulf of Thailand being about 1 meter high. This results from easterly or southeasterly wind prevailing over the Gulf of Thailand and the Southern Thailand transforming to become the southwestern monsoon prevailing over the Andaman Sea and the Southern Thailand instead.

+++ Cautions +++

Fires and forest fires: During this summer, the weather will favor for generating fires and forest fires easily. People should be cautious for fuel usage for any activities.

Cyclones: During late April until May, low-pressure air mass cells may develop in the Andaman Sea and strengthening to become depressions, tropical storms and cyclones further. Their movements are toward northeasterly and may be near the western side of Thailand. This results in more rain at the western portion at both of the northern and central parts including with that of the Southern Thailand. As a result, flash or forest flood may inundate further.

- Remarks:**
- Daily rainfall distribution (% of the area) criteria:

Isolated:	> 0 until < 20%
Widely scattered:	>=20 until < 40%
Almost widespread:	>=60 until < 80%
Scattered:	>= 40 until < 60%
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.
 - 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,

A table showing details of the weather prediction, maximum temperature and rain amount for each part of Thailand:

Part	The weather prediction	Maximum temperature
Northern and northeastern	Hot weather appears almost all of these parts with very hot weather happening at some areas on some days. However, for some periods, some rain occurring as thunder rain, windy gust and possible hail helps reduce some heat.	40 – 43°C. around provinces: Mae Hong Son, Chiang Mai, Lamphun, Lampang, Phrae, Nan, Tak, Uttaradit, Sukhothai, Kamphaeng Phet, Phitsanulok, Phetchabun, Pichit, Loei, Nong Khai, Bueng Kan, Nong bua Lam Phu, Udon Thani, Mukdahan, Chaiyaphum, Khon Kaen, Mahasarakham, Kalasin, Roi Et, Yasothon, Amnat Charoen, Nakhon Ratchasima, Buriram, Surin, Si Saket and Ubon Ratchathani.
Central and eastern (including with coastal areas)	Hot weather appears almost all of these parts with very hot weather happening at some areas on some days, particularly at the upper portion. But during some periods, some rain occurring as thunder rain, wind gust and possible hail at some areas helps reduce some heat.	40 – 42°C. around provinces: Nakhon Sawan, Uthai Thani, Chainat, Sing Buri, Ang Thong, Suphan Buri, Lop Buri, Saraburi, Ayutthaya, Kanchana Buri, Prachin Buri and Sa Kaew.
Southern	Hot weather will happen at many areas and rainfall distribution will occur at 20-30% of the areas. Wind waves in the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea will be about 1 meter high. But since late April, more rain will happen at the Southern Thailand (the western coast) with heavy to very heavy rain at some areas. For wind waves in the Andaman Sea, they will be more active as 2-3 meters high.	38 - 39°C. around provinces: Prachuap Khirikhan, Chumphon, Surat Thani, Nakhonsi Thammarat, Yala, Krabi, Trang and Satun.
Bangkok and vicinity	Hot weather will happen at almost all of this area, especially middle May to late April. However, during some periods, some rain occurring as thunder rain, wind gust and hail helps reduce some heat on some days.	38 – 39 °C.

Mean maximum temperature (° C.) prediction of Thailand during the summer of 2018
and normal (average of the 30-year period: 1981 - 2010, ° C.)

Part	The 2 nd half of February		March		April		The 1 st half of May	
	Mean max temp. of 2018	Normal	Mean max temp. of 2018	Normal	Mean max temp. of 2018	Normal	Mean max temp. of 2018	Normal
North	34-36	34.6	35-37	36.1	36-38	37.1	35-37	35.4
Northeastern	33-35	33.9	34-36	35.1	35-37	36.1	34-36	34.9
Central	34-36	35.2	35-37	36.1	36-38	37.0	35-37	35.8
Eastern	33-35	33.3	33-35	33.8	34-36	34.7	33-35	34.1
Southern Thailand (East Coast)	31-33	31.8	32-34	32.6	33-35	33.7	33-35	33.6
Southern Thailand (West Coast)	33-35	34.1	33-35	34.4	33-35	34.2	32-34	33.0
Bangkok and Vicinity	33-35	33.6	34-36	34.3	35-37	35.4	34-36	34.8

Rain amount (millimeters) prediction of Thailand during the summer of 2018
and normal (average of 30-year period: 1981 – 2010, millimeters.)

Part	The 2 nd half of February		March		April		The 1 st half of May	
	Rain amount of 2018	Normal	Rain amount of 2018	Normal	Rain amount of 2018	Normal	Rain amount of 2018	Normal
North	5-10	6.9	20-40	28.1	60-90	71.3	70-100	80.2
Northeastern	5-15	9.7	30-50	44.7	70-100	86.3	70-100	83.6
Central	5-10	5.9	30-50	36.0	60-90	79.5	70-100	83.5
Eastern	10-20	17.0	50-80	62.1	80-110	98.9	80-110	98.6
Southern Thailand (East Coast)	5-15	10.7	50-80	68.4	60-90	75.4	60-90	71.7
Southern Thailand (West Coast)	10-20	13.2	70-100	88.8	150-180	160.6	130-170	147.0
Bangkok and Vicinity	5-15	9.3	30-50	42.1	80-110	91.4	100-140	116.4

The extreme maximum temperature (° C.) statistics of Thailand during February – May of the past year (2016)

Part	February			March			April			May		
	° C.	Date	Location	° C.	Date	Location	° C.	Date	Location	° C.	Date	Location
Northern	40.0	24	Toen district, Lampang	41.3	26	Toen district, Lam Pang	42.0	8,11	Muang, Mae Hong Son	42.2	3	Muang, Tak
Northeastern	38.6	23	Kosum Phisai dist. Mahasarakham	40.5	13	Loei Agromet., Loei	40.6	22	Muang, Chaiyaphum	40.2	4	Muang, Chaiyaphum
		23	Tha Phra Agromet. Khon Kaen		14	Tha Phra Agromet. Khon Kaen						
Central	38.5	23	Muang, Kanchanaburi	41.0	14	Muang, Kanchanaburi	41.2	22	Chai Badan distict, Lopburi	41.2	4	Muang, Nakhon Sawan
		24	Thong Pha Phum, Kanchanaburi									
Eastern	37.6	23	Aranyaprathet, Sa Kaew	39.5	14	Kabin Buri distict, Prachin Buri	39.5	22, 23	Kabin Buri distict, Prachin Buri	39.6	2	Muang, Prachin Buri
Southern Thailand (East Coast)	36.4	6	Chawang, Nakhon Si Thammarat	38.1	17	Nong Plub, Prachuab Kirikhan	39.9	23	Nong Plub, Prachuab Kirikhan	38.5	1	Nong Plub, Prachuab Kirikhan
Southern Thailand (West Coast)	36.1	5	Muang, Phuket	37.0	12	Trang airport, Muang, Trang	36.3	15	Nuea Khlong distict, Krabi	36.6	9,10	Nuea Khlong distict, Krabi
The whole country of Thailand	40.0	24	Toen district, Lampang	41.3	26	Toen district, Lampang	42.0	8,11	Muang, Mae Hong Son	42.2	3	Muang, Tak
Bangkok and Vicinity	36.6	6	Klong Toei Port, Klong Toei	37.5	13	Don Muang Airport	39.1	25	Queen Sirikit NCC, Klong Toei	37.7	2	Don Muang airport, Don Munag district
					21	Klong Toei Port, Klong Toei						

Map of provinces with possibly very hot weather occurring on some days.
Especially during middle March until late April 2018:

