



Three-month climate characteristic expectations of Thailand

March – May 2017

Issued on 27 February 2017

Thai Meteorological Department

Overview Prediction :

During the next three months, mean maximum temperature is expected to be slightly above normal while April is the hottest month as extreme maximum temperature reaching 42 – 43 C. on some days. Whereas mean maximum temperature are about 37 – 39 C. at northern and central parts along with that of northeastern part is about 36 – 38 C. However, eastern part and the Southern Thailand is not so sweltering.

Most total rain will be slightly above normal. Together with summer thunderstorms often occur at many areas as thunder rain, gusty wind and hail at many areas, especially during March and April. These phenomena may cause property damages and loss of life. Nevertheless, rainfall will not be sufficient for usage at some areas, specifically at repeated drought areas outside irrigation zones. As a result, the public should effectively optimize water usage and prepare for the summer thunderstorms.

General Climate Characteristics:

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

During the first half of March, warmer weather occurs with hot weather at many areas on some days while dense fog appears at many areas on some days with rainfall at some areas on some days. Furthermore, the northern and northeastern parts are still cool in the morning, especially at the upper portion. This results from weakly high-pressure air mass areas from China still prevailing over the upper portion of Thailand at some periods. Also, southerly or southeasterly wind prevails over the Upper Thailand commonly. Then during middle March until April, sweltering weather occurs commonly with very hot weather at some areas on some days. Extreme maximum temperature may reach 42 – 43 C. but thunder rain occurs at many areas at some periods, thus helping reduce some heat. This results from the southerly or southeasterly wind still prevailing over the Upper Thailand commonly along with heat low-pressure air mass cells covering the Upper Thailand at some periods. During the first half of May, weather will be unstable as thunder rain occurring at many areas and also sweltering weather happening commonly. Afterwards, more rainfall appears, specifically at the western portion of the northern, central and eastern parts. For wind waves at the upper portion of the Gulf of Thailand, they will be more active as 2 – 3 meters high. This results from the prevailing wind as the southern or southeastern wind over the Upper Thailand transforming to become the southwestern monsoon prevailing over the Andaman Sea, Thailand and the Gulf of Thailand. Besides, at the second half of May, a monsoon trough places over the central and eastern parts at some periods.

The Southern Thailand:

Since March until about late April, rainfall distribution occurs at 20 – 30% of the area with hot weather at some areas on some days. For wind waves at both of the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea, they will be about 1 meter high due to the easterly or southeasterly wind prevailing over the Gulf of Thailand and the Southern Thailand commonly. Then during late April until May, more rainfall occurs at the Southern Thailand with heavy to very heavy rain at some areas, especially at the western portion. For wind waves at the Andaman Sea, they will be more active as 2 – 3 meters high while those at the Gulf of Thailand are about 1 meter high. This results from the 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 *****

During March and April, summer thunderstorms often occur as thunder rain, gusty wind and hail at some areas possibly causing property damages and loss of life.

During late April, low-pressure air mass cells often develop in the Andaman Sea and may strengthen to become depressions, tropical storms and cyclones further. Their movements are northerly toward easterly and may reach the western side of Thailand. Therefore, more rainfall will occur at the western portion at both of the northern and central parts including with the Southern Thailand. The public then should follow up the weather forecast news from the Thai Meteorological Department closely further.

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 3-month climate expectations will be at the last week of March 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.

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					
	March 2017			April 2017			May 2017			March		April		May	
	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	30-50 mm.	3-4	Slightly Above normal	70-100 mm.	7-10	Slightly Above normal	160-200 mm.	14-17	Near normal	28.1	3.1	71.3	7.0	177.8	15.5
Northeastern	40-60 mm.	4-6	Slightly Above normal	80-110 mm.	8-11	Slightly Above normal	170-220 mm.	14-17	Near normal	44.7	4.8	86.3	8.0	187.1	15.3
Central	40-60 mm	4-6	Slightly Above normal	80-110 mm	7-10	Slightly Above normal	150-190 mm	13-16	Near normal	36.0	3.4	79.5	6.4	172.1	14.3
Eastern	60-90 mm	5-7	Slightly Above normal	100-140 mm	8-11	Slightly Above normal	200-250 mm	14-17	Near normal	62.1	5.4	98.9	8.3	223.9	15.8
Southern (East Coast)	70-100 mm	5-7	Slightly Above normal	70-100 mm	7-10	Slightly Above normal	120-160 mm	13-16	Near normal	68.4	5.4	75.4	7.3	143.7	14.3
Southern (West Coast)	90-120 mm	7-9	Slightly Above normal	160-200 mm	12-14	Slightly Above normal	280-330 mm	18-21	Near normal	88.8	7.6	160.6	12.7	310.1	19.9
Bangkok and Vicinity	40-60 mm.	4-6	Slightly Above normal	90-120 mm.	6-8	Slightly Above normal	220-270 mm.	15-18	Near normal	42.1	3.6	91.4	6.5	247.7	16.2

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

Parts	Expectation									Normal					
	March 2017			April 2017			May 2017			March		April		May	
	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	36-38	21-23	Slightly above normal	37-39	24-26	Slightly above normal	34-36	24-26	Slightly above normal	36.1	20.4	37.1	23.4	34.7	24.2
Northeastern	35-37	23-25	Slightly above normal	36-38	25-27	Slightly above normal	34-36	25-27	Slightly above normal	35.1	22.4	36.1	24.5	34.4	24.8
Central	36-38	25-27	Slightly above normal	37-39	26-28	Slightly above normal	35-37	26-28	Slightly above normal	36.1	24.4	37.0	25.8	35.2	25.7
Eastern	34-36	25-27	Slightly above normal	35-37	26-28	Slightly above normal	34-36	26-28	Slightly above normal	33.8	24.9	34.7	25.9	33.7	25.8
Southern (East Coast)	33-35	24-26	Slightly above normal	34-36	25-27	Slightly above normal	34-36	25-27	Slightly above normal	32.6	23.7	33.7	24.6	33.5	24.9
Southern (West Coast)	34-36	24-26	Slightly above normal	34-36	24-26	Slightly above normal	33-35	24-26	Slightly above normal	34.4	23.7	34.2	24.4	32.7	24.6
Bangkok and Vicinity	34-36	26-28	Slightly above normal	35-37	26-28	Slightly above normal	34-36	26-28	Slightly above normal	34.3	25.9	35.4	26.9	34.4	26.3