



Three-month climate characteristic expectations of Thailand

January – March 2017

Issued on 28 December 2016

Thai Meteorological Department

Prediction: Thailand will meet chilly weather commonly in January especially at northern and northeastern parts with mean minimum temperature about 15-18 °C. Together with very cold weather happens at some areas at the upper portion of both parts with possible frost at valleys and mountains on some days while cool morning weather occurs widely with mean minimum temperature around 20-22 °C at central and eastern parts.

In the end of February, a general increase in temperature appears. Whereas chilly morning weather occurs at the northern and northeastern parts with dense fog in many areas, mean minimum temperature about 17-19 °C and 20-22 °C respectively. But hot weather occurs during daytime continued throughout February until March that very hot weather areas appear. Mean maximum temperature in March around the northern and northeastern parts is about 36-38 °C. Furthermore, the Upper Thailand will meet rain and thunderstorm in some areas with hail, especially in March.

While the Southern Thailand still meets rain continuously with heavy to very heavy rain in some places, mostly in the first half of January. Also, hot weather appears at some areas, particularly in the upper portion.

General Climate Characteristics:

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

In January, the northern and northeastern parts still meet chilly weather commonly with very cold weather at some areas on some days, especially at the upper portion. Furthermore, dense fog occurs in many areas on some days together with mountain tops or mountainous areas meet cold to very cold weather with frost on some days and dense fog in many areas. Moreover, the central and eastern parts will meet cool weather widely with cold weather at some areas mostly at the upper portion and dense fog in many areas on some days. Besides, thunderstorm and hail may occur at some areas during some periods together with wind waves around the eastern part are about 1 meter high due to rather actively high pressure air mass areas from China still prevailing over the Upper Thailand periodically and continuously. Additionally, westerly wind waves may pass through the Upper Thailand at some periods.

Then in February, weather will be variable as thunderstorm happens at many areas on some days, mostly during the 1st half of this month. Also, dense fog will occur at many areas because warmer weather happens. Whereas hot weather appears at many areas during daytime mostly during the 2nd half of the month, but the northern and northeastern parts still meet chilly morning weather because of prevailing high pressure air mass areas from China over the Upper Thailand weakening continuously.

For March, hot weather occurs widely with very hot weather at many areas, mostly during the 2nd half of this month. Extreme maximum temperature may reach 42 – 43 °C. But at some periods, thunderstorm will occur at many areas helping reduce some heat because the prevailing high pressure air mass areas weaken from time to time along with increasingly prevailing southerly or southeasterly wind. In addition, heat low air mass cells will cover the Upper Thailand at some periods.

The Southern Thailand:

About the 1st half of January, the Southern Thailand still meets dense rainfall with heavy rain at many areas and very heavy rain at some areas, specifically at the eastern coast from Surat Thani province downward. Whereas wind waves in the Gulf of Thailand will be rather strong as 2 – 4 meters high while those in the Andaman Sea are about 1 meter high because of rather active northeastern monsoon still prevailing over the Gulf of Thailand and the Southern Thailand. Additionally, the Southern Thailand may be influenced by actively low pressure air mass cells moving near or pass the lower portion.

Then since the 2nd half of January until March, the amount and distribution of rainfall will reduce as 20-30% of the area and hot weather appears at many areas on some days. While wind waves in both of the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea are about 1 meter high because the prevailing northeastern monsoon over the Gulf of Thailand and the Southern Thailand weakens, and transforms to be prevailing eastern or southeastern wind instead.

***** Cautions *****

January and February, westerly wind waves often move pass the Upper Thailand influencing thunderstorm and hail to occur.

March, summer thunderstorm often appears as thunderstorm, gusty wind and hail at some areas causing the loss of life and property damages. People should follow the weather forecast news from the Thai Meteorological Department closely.

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.

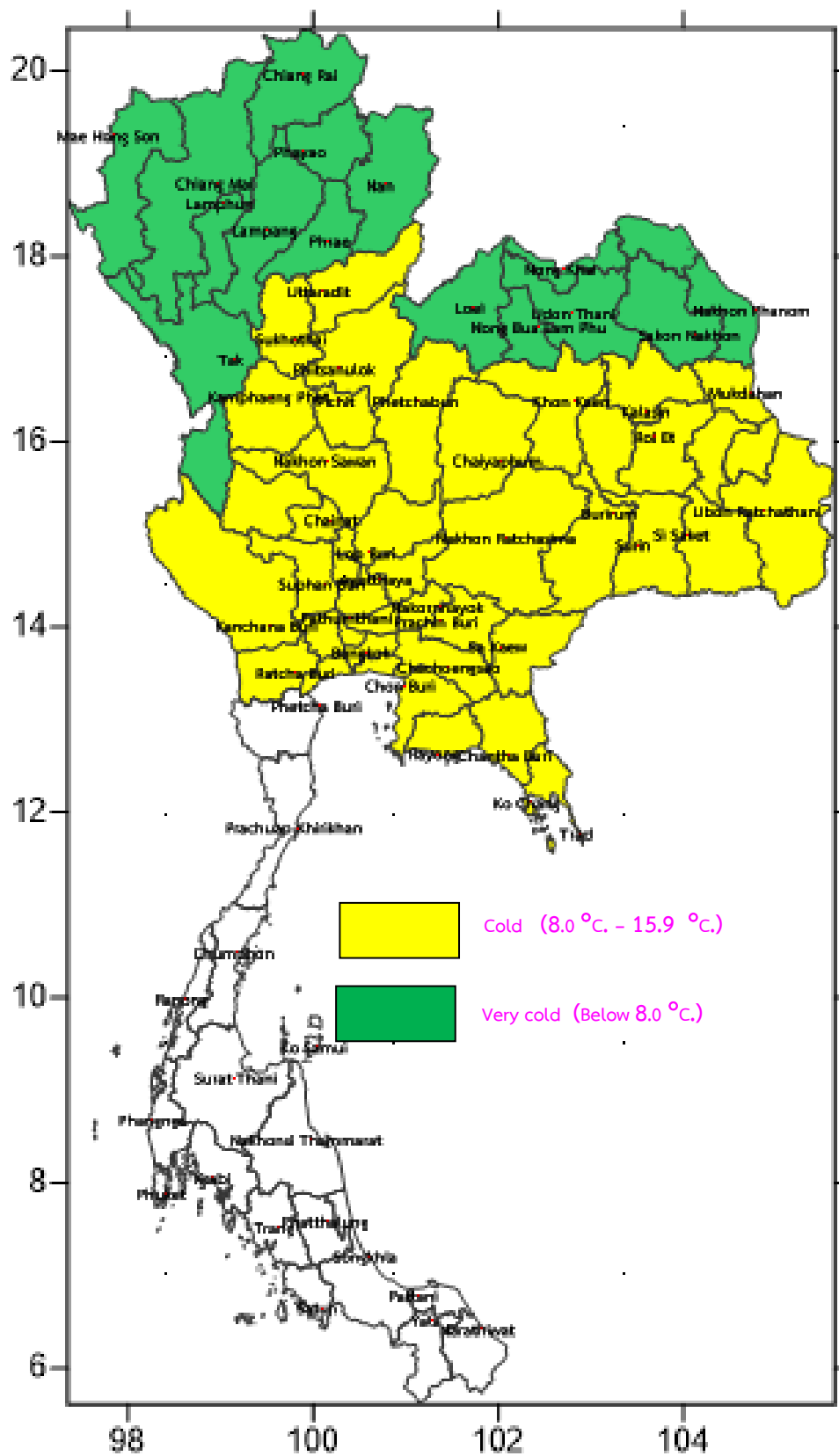
- The next 3-month climate expectations will be at the last week of January 2017.

- 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

Map for possible areas for cold air In January 2017



Notes:

1. This map is for the long range prediction purpose. Thus, please follow up daily weather forecast news further for more accuracy.
2. This map does not include mountain top and mountainous area data.

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

Parts	prediction									normal					
	January 2017			February 2017			March 2017			January		February		March	
	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	Less than 10 mm.	1-2	near normal	5-15 mm.	2-3	near normal	20-40 mm.	3-5	near normal	4.6	1.0	10.4	1.4	28.1	3.1
Northeastern	Less than 10 mm.	1-2	near normal	10-20 mm.	2-3	near normal	30-50 mm.	4-6	near normal	4.8	1.1	18.5	2.5	44.7	4.8
Central	10 - 20 mm.	2-3	Slightly Above normal	15-30 mm	2-3	Slightly Above normal	40-60 mm	4-6	Slightly Above normal	6.7	1.1	12.3	1.6	36.0	3.4
Eastern	15 - 30 mm.	2-3	Slightly Above normal	30-50 mm	3-5	Slightly Above normal	60-90 mm	5-7	Slightly Above normal	16.1	1.8	29.1	3.1	62.1	5.4
Southern (East Coast)	60-90 mm	7-10	Slightly Above normal	30-50 mm	3-5	Slightly Above normal	60-90 mm	5-7	Slightly Above normal	59.7	7.2	34.5	3.7	68.4	5.4
Southern (West Coast)	20-40 mm	3-5	near normal	20-40 mm	3-5	near normal	70-100 mm	7-9	near normal	26.4	4.2	27.5	3.6	88.8	7.6
Bangkok and Vicinity	10-20 mm.	2-3	Slightly Above normal	20-40 mm.	2-3	Slightly Above normal	40-60 mm.	3-5	Slightly Above normal	13.3	1.7	20.0	2.5	42.1	3.6

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

Parts	Expectation									Normal					
	December 2016			January 2017			February 2017			December		January		February	
	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	30-32	15-17	Near normal	34-36	17-19	Slightly above normal	36-38	20-22	Slightly above normal	31.6	15.6	33.7	17.2	36.1	20.4
Northeastern	30-32	16-18	Near normal	33-35	20-22	Slightly above normal	35-37	22-24	Slightly above normal	30.6	17.1	33.0	19.7	35.1	22.4
Central	32-34	20-22	Near normal	35-37	23-25	Slightly above normal	36-38	25-27	Slightly above normal	32.7	20.6	34.6	22.6	36.1	24.4
Eastern	31-33	20-22	Near normal	33-35	23-25	Slightly above normal	34-36	25-27	Slightly above normal	32.1	21.4	32.9	23.4	33.8	24.9
Southern (East Coast)	29-31	21-23	Near normal	31-33	23-25	Slightly above normal	33-35	24-26	Slightly above normal	30.3	22.2	31.4	22.7	32.6	23.7
Southern (West Coast)	32-34	22-24	Near normal	33-35	23-25	Slightly above normal	34-36	24-26	Slightly above normal	32.6	22.8	33.8	23.0	34.4	23.7
Bangkok and Vicinity	32-34	22-24	Near normal	33-35	25-27	Slightly above normal	34-36	26-28	Slightly above normal	32.5	22.6	33.3	24.4	34.3	25.9