

EL NIÑO ADVISORY NO. 7 (FINAL)

The weak El Niño which started since the last quarter of 2018 has ended. The warmer than average sea surface temperatures (SSTs) in the tropical Pacific Ocean has weakened and transitioned into neutral levels in July. It is expected that ENSO-neutral conditions will likely persist through the remainder of the year.

Assessment in July 2019

The weather systems that affected the country during the month were the Southwest (SW) monsoon, low pressure areas (LPAs), localized thunderstorms and two tropical cyclones (TCs) that entered/developed in the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR), namely Tropical Storm (TS) "Falcon" (July 15-18) and Tropical Depression (TD) "Goring" (July 19). TS "Falcon" which made landfall over Gattaran, Cagayan on July 17, had enhanced the SW monsoon and brought moderate to heavy rains in most parts of western Luzon, western Visayas and some areas of western Mindanao. The passage of this TC also increased the water level of several dams in Luzon. Flooding, flashfloods, landslides and soil erosion were reported in Cagayan, CAR, Central Luzon, Western Visayas and Lanao Del Norte that have caused damage to agriculture.

Generally, rainfall conditions in most parts of Luzon were near to above normal except for the western and southern parts that received below normal rainfall. Likewise, most provinces in Visayas and Mindanao have experienced near to above normal rainfall conditions, except for Eastern Visayas, North Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat and Maguindanao, where below normal rainfall conditions were observed.

Furthermore, rainfall assessment during the past three to five months showed that the provinces of Oriental Mindoro and Sultan Kudarat still experienced meteorological drought and six provinces in Luzon have experienced dry condition. For a complete list of these provinces, please refer to the <u>Drought/Dry Spell</u> <u>Assessment map</u>.

Near average to slightly warmer than average surface air temperatures were observed in most parts the country. Observed ranges of temperature were as follows: 20.9°C to 37.0°C over the lowlands of Luzon, 15.4°C to 26.2°C in the mountainous areas of Luzon, 22.0°C to 36.0°C in the Visayas, 21.0°C to 35.8°C for the lowlands of Mindanao, 18.7°C to 32.5°C over the mountainous areas of Mindanao and 23.3°C to 35.2°C in Metro Manila.

Outlook for August 2019

The weather systems that will likely affect the country for the month are the SW monsoon, LPAs, intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ), localized thunderstorms and two (2) to four (4) tropical cyclones that may enter/develop in the PAR.

Rainfall for the month is predicted to be generally near normal with areas of above normal rainfall conditions in CALABARZON, MIMAROPA, Bicol Region, Metro Manila, most parts of Eastern Visayas, over the provinces of Nueva Viscaya, Quirino, Bataan, Aurora, Agusan del Norte and Surigao del Norte.

Generally near average to slightly warmer than average temperature is expected in most parts of the country during the month. Ranges of temperature forecast are as follows: 20.5°C to 37°C over the lowlands of Luzon, 15°C to 26.5°C in the mountainous areas of Luzon, 20.5°C to 36.5°C for Visayas, 18°C to 38°C in the lowlands of Mindanao, 15.5°C to 33.5°C over the mountainous areas of Mindanao and 23°C to 35°C in Metro Manila.

PAGASA will continue to closely monitor the climate conditions that may affect the country and updates shall be issued as appropriate. For further information, please contact the Climatology and Agrometeorology Division (CAD) at telephone number 284-0800 local 906.

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