



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical
Services Administration (PAGASA)

Monthly Climate Assessment and Outlook

ENSO-neutral condition persists

ENSO-neutral condition persists across the tropical Pacific Ocean. Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) remain near-to-above average yet, the atmospheric state is still within neutral levels. Majority of the climate models predict ENSO-neutral conditions will likely continue until the third quarter of 2020.

Assessment in March 2020

The weather systems that affected the country during the month were the Northeast (NE) Monsoon, low pressure area (LPA), tail end of cold front (TECF), easterlies and localized thunderstorm. No tropical cyclone had developed or entered the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR).

Assessment of rainfall for the month showed that way below to below normal rainfall conditions were experienced in most parts of the country except for some areas in Metro Manila, Batanes, Isabela, Bicol region, western section of Visayas and western portions of Mindanao including Davao Occidental, Sarangani and Sultan Kudarat, that received near to above normal rainfall.

Generally, near to above average surface air temperatures were experienced over most parts of the country. The temperature ranges were as follows: mountainous areas of Luzon: 13.0°C – 27.2°C; rest of Luzon: 15.0°C – 37.1°C; Visayas: 20.0°C – 36.5°C; mountainous areas of Mindanao: 14.8°C – 33.5°C; rest of Mindanao: 20.8°C – 37.9°C and 21.2°C to 35.6°C in Metro Manila. Meanwhile, five(5) stations have recorded their new highest maximum temperature namely, Itbayat (32.0°C/Mar. 28), Calapan (34.9°C/Mar. 29), Virac (32.0°C/Mar. 4), Guian (34.8°C) and Cotabato (37.9°C/Mar. 31).

Outlook for April 2020

The weather systems that will likely affect the country during the month are the easterlies, ridge of High Pressure Areas (HPAs), LPAs, localized thunderstorms, and zero (0) or one (1) tropical cyclone may enter/develop inside the PAR.

Rainfall forecast for the month shows that way below to below normal rainfall conditions are expected in most parts of the country except for Surigao del Sur, Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur and Basilan, where near normal rainfall will likely be experienced.

Generally, near to slightly below average temperatures are predicted in most parts of the country except for the western parts of southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao with slightly above to above average temperatures. Forecast ranges of temperature are as follows: 12.8°C to 28.2°C over the mountainous areas of Luzon, 20.1°C to 39.5°C over the rest of Luzon, 20.3°C to 37.5°C over the Visayas, 14.1°C to 35.5°C over the mountainous areas of Mindanao, 18.1°C to 38.3°C over the rest of Mindanao and 22.0°C to 37.9°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 8284-0800, local 906.

signed
VICENTE B. MALANO, Ph.D.
Administrator