




REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

NATIONAL DISASTER COORDINATING COUNCIL

National Disaster Management Center, Camp Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Philippines

NDCC UPDATE El Niño Advisory No. 9

Releasing Officer:


GLENN J. RABONZA
Administrator, OCD and
Executive Officer, NDCC

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The moderate El Niño over the equatorial Pacific that started in June 2009 has weakened during the second half of April but still within the weak El Niño threshold. Overall, the tropical Pacific is cooling gradually and the return to neutral conditions may be expected this June 2010.

Prevalence of the tail-end of the cold front and the passage of easterly wave brought scattered rain showers and thunderstorms over most parts of Luzon and Mindanao. The occurrence of the ridge of high pressure area (HPA) resulted to below normal rainfall conditions in most areas of Visayas, southern Luzon and northern and central Mindanao. Likewise, this caused above normal temperatures in most areas of the country and brought warm and humid weather. Highest temperature for the month of April was recorded over Tuguegarao City (39.7°C), while in Quezon City, Metro Manila, the maximum reached 37.3°C. However, these did not surpass the highest temperature on record. No tropical cyclone has developed or entered the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR). (View: [Rainfall Charts](#))

Rainfall assessment for the month of April was near to above normal conditions over most areas of Northern Luzon including Palawan. This eased out the dry spell and drought conditions experienced during the previous months over the Cordillera Administrative Region, Region I, Region II and Central Luzon. Below to way below normal conditions were observed over Southern Luzon, Visayas and Northern and Central Mindanao.

Areas that experienced dry spell conditions as of April were Cebu, Negros Oriental, Leyte and Samar provinces, Bukidnon, Camiguin, Lanao del Norte, Misamis Occidental, Misamis Oriental, Davao del Norte, Surigao del Norte and Lanao del Sur. Drought conditions were observed over the provinces of Rizal, Aklan, Antique, Guimaras, Iloilo and Negros Occidental having five consecutive months (December ♦ April) of below to way below normal rainfall. Impact assessment in agriculture due to crop damage was estimated at P12 billion.

Average temperature ranges for the month of April were as follows: 23°C to 37°C over the lowlands of Luzon, 16°C to 27°C for the mountainous areas of Luzon, 24°C to 34°C for Visayas, 23°C to 34°C over the lowlands of Mindanao, and 18°C to 32°C over the mountainous areas of Mindanao.

The current El Niño is likely to continue to weaken towards the neutral condition. Likewise, the onset of the rainy season associated with the southwest monsoon is expected to be slightly delayed. Rainfall conditions in May are expected to be below normal over northern Luzon, most areas of Visayas and most portions of Mindanao while near to above normal rainfall are expected over Central and Southern Luzon. Weather systems likely to affect the country for the month of May are the intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ), low pressure area, and one (1) tropical cyclone. Air temperatures are expected to be warmer than normal in most parts of the country.

PAGASA will continue to monitor the day-to-day weather conditions and the large-scale climatic patterns that will affect the country. Updates/advisories on the ongoing El Niño shall be issued as appropriate.