



SEASONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK

Overview:

El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)-neutral conditions continued during December 2012, as reflected by near-average sea surface temperature (SST) across the central and east-central equatorial Pacific. Upper and lower-level zonal winds were also near average across the tropical Pacific. Collectively, these oceanic and atmospheric features reflect ENSO-neutral conditions.

It is expected that ENSO-neutral condition will prevail through April-May-June 2013 season as suggested by most climate models.

January to March 2013

The period is the peak of the Northeast (NE) monsoon season, locally known as “Amihan”. Weather systems that may affect the country are the tail-end of a cold front, inter-tropical convergence zone (ITCZ), low pressure area (LPA), ridge of high pressure area (HPA) and two (2) to three (3) tropical cyclones that are likely to develop/enter the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR). Cold surges are likewise to be expected during the period

For January-February-March 2013 season, rainfall conditions will likely be near to above normal in most parts of the country except in Central Luzon which is likely to receive below normal rainfall. Gradual weakening of the northeast monsoon is expected during the latter part of February and early part of March.

April to June 2013

The period covers the continuing shift of wind from northeast to east and to the first half of the Southwest (SW) monsoon. The weather systems likely to prevail over the country are the ridge of HPA, ITCZ which may oscillate over Mindanao and Visayas, SW monsoon, and two (2) to four (4) tropical cyclones. During this season, mean track of tropical cyclone is located between central Visayas – southern Luzon towards the West Philippine Sea.

For the month of April, below to near normal rainfall condition is expected in most parts of the country. However, above normal rainfall conditions will be likely in MIMAROPA, Western Visayas and Zamboanga Peninsula. During the month of May, below normal rainfall conditions maybe experienced in Western Luzon including Metro Manila, Central Visayas, Biliran, Leyte and Maguindanao while the rest of the country will likely experience near normal rainfall condition. Generally near normal rainfall conditions will be likely over the whole country in June. The onset of rainy season is expected during the latter part of May or early part of June.

PAGASA will continue to closely monitor these conditions and regular updates and advisories shall be issued as appropriate. Concerned agencies are advised to take precautionary measures to mitigate the potential adverse impacts of these weather systems. For further information, please contact the Climatology and Agrometeorology Division (CAD) at telephone numbers 434-1675 or 434-0955.

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