



Ministry of Information and
Communication Technology,
Thai Meteorological Department

Three-Month Climate Characteristic Expectations of Thailand During December 2015 – February 2016 Issued on 25 November 2015

General Climate Characteristics

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

During December until January: High pressure air mass areas from China still prevail over the Upper Thailand actively and continuously from time to time. As a result, northern and northeastern parts will experience cold or cool weather generally with thick fog at some areas on some days. Moreover, central and eastern regions will be generally cool and cold at some areas, mostly at the upper portion of the parts. Furthermore, mountains and mountainous areas will experience cold to very cold weather with thick fog at many areas and possible frost on some days.

Then during February: Weakening high pressure air mass areas from China still prevail over the Upper Thailand discontinuously from time to time. Consequently, the Upper Thailand will experience warmer weather with thick fog at many areas. Also, hot weather appears during day time, mostly during the 2nd half of the month. However, many areas of the northern and northeastern parts will still experience cold or cool weather in the morning.

Total rainfall will be slightly below normal whereas mean temperature will be above normal.

Southern Thailand

During December until middle January: Active northeastern monsoon still prevails over the Gulf of Thailand and the Southern Thailand periodically including with the monsoon trough places over the lower portion of the Southern Thailand from time to time. Thus, the Southern Thailand still experiences densely abundant rainfall further. Especially from the eastern coast from the Surat Thani province downward, heavy rain occurs at many areas and very heavy rain appears at some areas. As a result, flash flood, forest flood and overflow may inundate at some areas. For wind waves in the Gulf of Thailand, they are strengthening as 2 – 4 meters high during some periods while those in the Andaman Sea will be about 1 meter high.

Then during the 2nd half of January until February: the prevailing northeastern monsoon will weaken and change its direction to be easterly or southeasterly to prevail over the Southern Thailand causing less rain and hot weather to appear during day time. For wind waves in the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea, they are about 1 meter high.

Total rainfall will be slightly below normal whereas mean temperature will be slightly above normal.

*** Cautions: ***

December: Active low pressure air mass cells may develop in the lower portion of the South China Sea and strengthen to become some tropical cyclones (depressions, tropical storms, typhoons) and they favor a high chance to move pass the Gulf of Thailand toward the lower portion of the South China Sea. Consequently, the area will experience heavy to very heavy rain at many areas. For wind waves in the Gulf of Thailand, they are active and windy as 2 – 4 meters high. Also, some storm surges may occur along the eastern coast of the Southern Thailand.

January and February: Some westerly wind waves may move from Myanmar to pass through the upper portion of the Upper Thailand causing the area to experience thunder rain and gusty wind at some areas with possible falling hail. Then, the public should follow the weather forecast news from the Thai Meteorological Department closely further.

Remarks: - Normal mean averages of the 30-year period during B.E. 2524 – 2553 or A.D. 1981 – 2010.

- Daily rainfall distribution (% area) criteria:

Isolated:	> 0 until < 20 %
Widely scattered:	>=20 until < 40%
Scattered:	>= 40 until < 60 %
Almost widespread:	>=60 until < 80%
Widespread:	>= 80%

- Daily rainfall amount (millimeters) criteria: Light: > 0 until 9.9,
Moderate: >=10until <= 34.9, Heavy: >= 35 until < 90, Very Heavy: >= 90.1

- Daily minimum temperature criteria for the winter season:

Cool weather	=	16.0 - 22.9	°C.
Cold weather	=	8.0 - 15.9	°C.
Very cold weather	=	below 8.0	°C.

- Daily maximum temperature criteria for the summer season:

Hot weather	=	35.0 – 39.9	°C.
Very hot weather	=	>= 40.0	°C.

- As long range climatic and statistical models are used in these seasonal expectations, thus readers should follow updated daily weather forecast news from the Thai Meteorological Department for more accuracy.

- Inquiry of 3-month or seasonal climate expectations or forecast can be followed at Tel. 02-3989929 or Fax. 02-3838827 or at www.tmd.go.th

Climatological Center,
Meteorological Development Bureau,
Thai Meteorological Department

Rain (millimeters) expectation – comparing with normal of rain and rainy days:

Parts	December 2015	January 2016	February 2016
Northern Rainfall / rainy days	Near normal (Less than 10 / 1-2)	Slightly below normal (Less than 10 / 1-2)	Slightly below normal (Less than 10 / 1-2)
Northeastern Rainfall / rainy days	Near normal (Less than 10 / 1-2)	Slightly below normal (Less than 10 / 1-2)	Slightly below normal (10 - 20 / 1-2)
Central Rainfall / rainy days	Near normal (Less than 10 / 1-2)	Slightly below normal (Less than 10 / 1-2)	Slightly below normal (Less than 10 / 1-2)
Eastern Rainfall / rainy days	Near normal (Less than 10 / 1-2)	Slightly below normal (10 - 20 / 2-3)	Slightly below normal (15 - 30 / 3-4)
Southern Part (East Coast) Rainfall / rainy days	Slightly below normal (190-240 / 10-13)	Slightly below normal (40-60 / 5-8)	Near normal (20-40 / 3-5)
Southern Part (West Coast) Rainfall / rainy days	Slightly below normal (50-80 / 9-11)	Slightly below normal (15-30 / 3-5)	Near normal (20-40 / 3-5)
Bangkok Metropolis and vicinity Rainfall / rainy days	Near normal (Less than 10 / 1-2)	Slightly below normal (Less than 10 / 1-2)	Slightly below normal (10 - 20 / 2-3)

Explanations: Near normal means $\pm 10\%$ of normal. Slightly above/below normal means $\pm 10 - 25\%$ of normal. And above/below normal means \pm more than 25% of normal.

Mean maximum and minimum temperature ($^{\circ}$ C.) expectation – Comparing with normal:

Parts	December 2015	January 2016	February 2016
Northern Average maximum temp. / average minimum temp.	above Normal 30-32 16-18	above Normal 31-33 16-18	above Normal 34-36 18-20
Northeastern Average maximum temp. / average minimum temp.	above Normal 30-32 17-19	above Normal 31-33 17-19	above Normal 33-35 20-22
Central Average maximum temp. / average minimum temp.	above Normal 31-33 20-22	above Normal 32-34 20-22	above Normal 35-37 23-25
Eastern Average maximum temp. / average minimum temp.	above Normal 31-33 21-23	above Normal 32-34 21-23	above Normal 33-35 23-25
Southern Part (East Coast) Average maximum temp. / average minimum temp.	Slightly above normal 29-31 22-24	Slightly above normal 30-32 22-24	Slightly above normal 32-34 22-24
Southern Part (West Coast) Average maximum temp. / average minimum temp.	Slightly above normal 31-33 23-25	Slightly above normal 32-34 22-24	Slightly above normal 34-36 23-25
Bangkok Metropolis and vicinity Average maximum temp. / average minimum temp.	above Normal 31-33 22-24	above Normal 32-34 22-24	above Normal 34-36 24-26