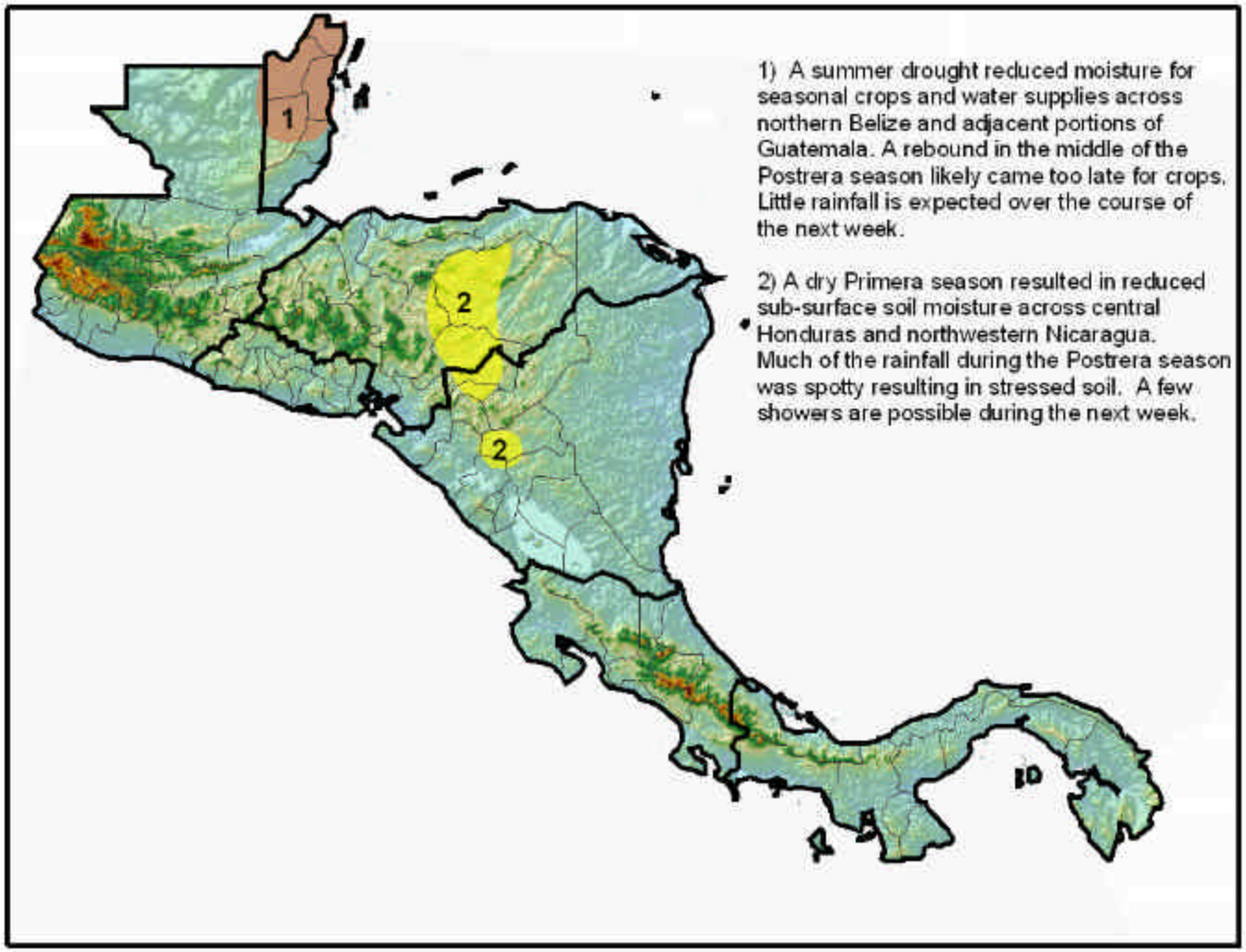
MFEWS Mesoamerican Food Security Early Warning System
Sistema Mesoamericano de Alerta Temprana para Seguridad Alimentaria

The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards Assessment

For

December 2 - 8, 2004



Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

1. The drought across northern Belize during June, July and August received some relief in September and early October with above normal rainfall amounts. While the September/October rains helped to recharge water supplies, they likely came too late for the crops. As a result, significant crop yield reductions are possible in the area. The past week has been dry and the forecast suggests continued dryness for the next week.

2. Dry conditions during the Primera season resulted in reduced sub-surface soil moisture levels across much of central Honduras and northwestern Nicaragua and likely resulted in crop yield reductions during the Primera season. Rainfall has Been light during September, early October, and all of November across western Olancho and El Paraiso in Honduras and the surrounding region. This has also reduced moisture for Postrera crops and the stress on the soil may have led to reduction in yields. The Postrera season is more or less over but some harvesting of the Postrera crops, along with coffee, is still occurring. There are no signs of improvement as the past week has been dry and the forecast indicates the potential for light showers during the next week.

AUTHOR: John M. Dickens