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### Drought affects 70 pct of Cuban Territory

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Drought affects 70 pct of Cuban territory HAVANA, Cuba, Oct 12 (acn) 70 percent of the entire geographical area of Cuba showed deficit in rainfall during the past 12 months, and the provinces of Sancti Spiritus and Granma were the most affected regions.

16 percent of affectations ranged from extreme to severe, 25 percent were moderate and 29 percent were weak, reported the Institute of Meteorology in its latest bulletin.

It noted that the municipalities of greater scarcity were La Palma and Viñales (Pinar del Río), Amancio, Colombia and Jobabo (Las Tunas), Buey Arriba (Granma), Mella, Segundo Frente and Tercer Frente (Santiago de Cuba) and Baracoa (Guantanamo).

It described as significant the shortfalls of rains, which shows the continuity of meteorological drought that currently affects throughout the country.

October is, on average, one of the rainiest months of the year in Cuba and the period that began last May ends with it, almost coinciding with the hurricane season that runs from June 1st to November 30th.

The influence of the Atlantic anticyclone decreases compared to July and August, which, combined with the frequent passage of tropical waves and low, as well as the first frontal systems, favors the increasing rainfall.

October is considered the most dangerous month of the hurricane season, mainly in its second ten days.

Even associated with direct or indirect influence of tropical cyclones, heavy rainfall events often occur, which largely determine the highest monthly totals.

However, during the last 10 years, few rainfalls have occurred in this month half the time.

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