

**Hot and Dry Weather Condition
In Malaysia
during February 2010**

**Prepared by
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Malaysian Meteorological Department
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1. Introduction

Malaysia is in the final phase of the northeast monsoon season which expected to be end in the middle of March 2010. During this period, the weather condition is hotter and drier compared to December and January. In February 2010, most areas in Malaysia had experienced hot and dry weather condition with almost 70% of the principal meteorological stations recorded amount of rainfall below than normal.

2. Rainfall recorded by Principal Meteorological Stations in Peninsular Malaysia

In Peninsular, most areas experienced longer dry period since early February 2010. Among the areas that received very little rainfall than normal amount with up to 90% less from average were Langkawi Island in Kedah and Batu Embun as well as Kuantan in Pahang. Other areas also received less rainfall amount about 40% to 80% below average except Butterworth in Penang, Ipoh in Perak and Subang in Selangor which received approximately 55%, 60% and 75% more that its monthly average. The amount of rainfall recorded in February 2010 by principal meteorological stations in Peninsular are as in the Table 1.

Station Name	Rainfall Amount Feb 2010	Rainfall Average Feb	Rainfall Percentage Feb 2010
Pulau Langkawi	2.2	30.9	7.1
Chuping	21.2	53.4	39.7
Alor Star	21.6	56.8	38.0
Butterworth	111	73.5	151.0
Station Name	Rainfall Amount Feb 2010	Rainfall Average Feb	Rainfall Percentage Feb 2010
Butterworth	111	73.5	151.0
Bayan Lepas	38.6	92.6	41.7
Lubuk Merbau	34.8	130.6	26.6
Ipoh	241.4	151.0	159.9
Cameron	129.4	95.8	135.1
Sitiawan	28.6	143.8	19.9
Subang	292.2	176.8	165.3
HQPJ	218	210.5	103.6
Sepang (KLIA)	83	186.1	44.6
Melaka	108	95.5	113.1
Batu Pahat	134.4	121.9	110.3
Kluang	22	118.0	18.6
Senai	66.8	134.9	49.5
Kota Bharu	34.6	61.7	56.1
Kuala Krai	13.2	65.7	20.1
Kuala Terengganu	18.8	69.7	27.0
Batu Embun	13.2	117.6	11.2
Kuantan	13.6	150.9	9.0
Temerloh	34	108.5	31.3
Muadzam Shah	36.6	132.3	27.7
Mersing	41	140.4	29.2

Table 1: Monthly rainfall amount (mm) for the month of February 2010 in Peninsular Malaysia

3. Rainfall recorded by Principal Meteorological Stations in Peninsular Malaysia

Sabah had experienced extremely dry weather condition with almost no rainfall amount recorded for February 2010. Rainy day number in Sabah is ranges from 1 (recorded by Kota Kinabalu and Sandakan meteorological stations) to 4 days (recorded by Tawau meteorological station). Monthly rainfall amount of February 2010 which recorded by Kota Kinabalu, Labuan, Kudat and Sandakan meteorological stations were 0.4 mm, 2.4 mm, 4 mm and 7 mm respectively. All divisions in Sabah including Federal Territory of Labuan recorded rainfall amount below average level on February 2010. Amount of rainfall recorded on Februari 2010 by principal meteorological stations in Sabah is shown as in Table 2.

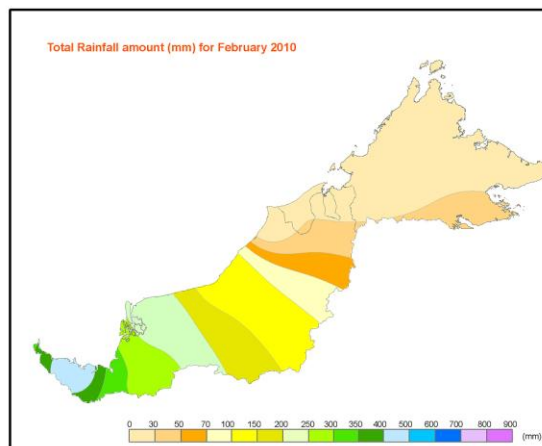
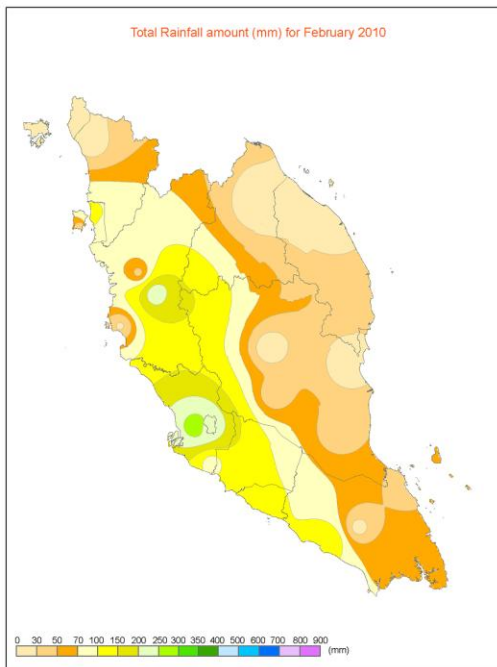
In Sarawak state, Miri and Bintulu divisions had also experienced hot and dry weather condition with amount of rainfall between 50% to 95% less than normal. Meanwhile, Sri Aman division received amount of rainfall 30% exceeding its monthly average, while other areas received total rainfall in average levels. Amount of rainfall being recorded in February 2010 in Sarawak major meteorology stations are as in Table 2.

Station Name	Rainfall Amount Feb 2010	Rainfall Average Feb	Rainfall Percentage Feb 2010
Kuching	441.4	504.0	87.6
Sri Aman	287.2	214.9	133.6
Sibu	231.2	274.4	84.3
Bintulu	88	267.7	32.9
Miri	6	160.7	3.7

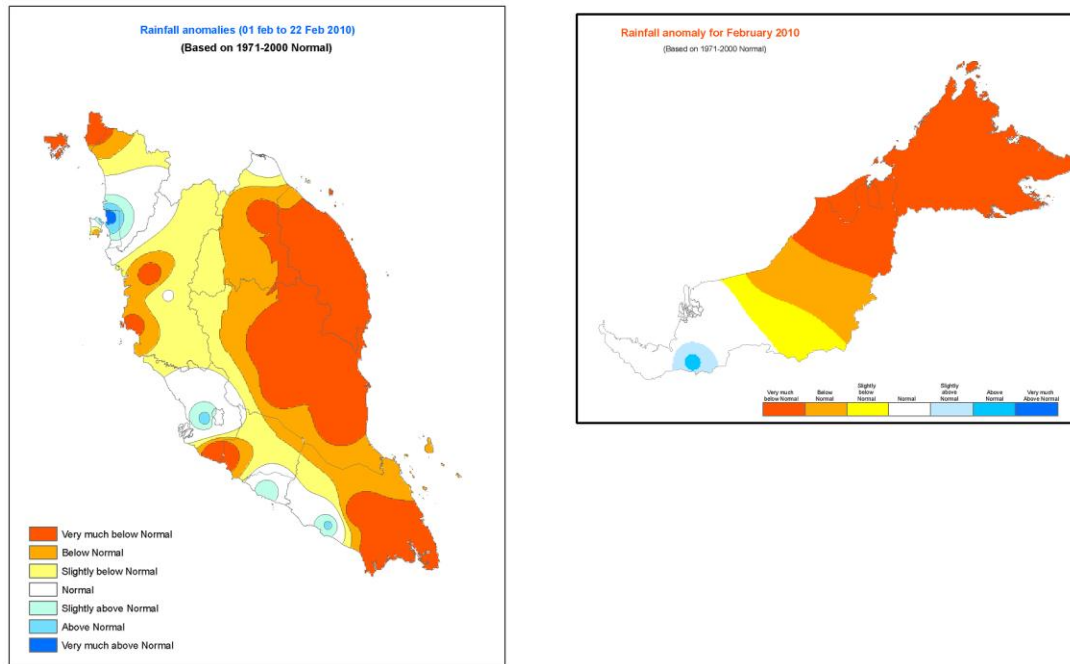
Station Name	Rainfall Amount Feb 2010	Rainfall Average Feb	Rainfall Percentage Feb 2010
Labuan	2.4	115.3	2.1
Kota Kinabalu	0.4	66.3	0.6
Kudat	4	161.7	2.5
Sandakan	7	276.5	2.5
Tawau	37	102.0	36.3

Table 2: Monthly rainfall amount (mm) for the month of February 2010 in Sabah and Sarawak

Monthly rainfall distribution and monthly rainfall anomaly for February in Peninsular, Sabah and Sarawak as in Figure 3a and 3b.



a) Monthly rainfall distribution (mm) for February 2010



b) Monthly rainfall anomaly (mm) for February 2010

Due to hot and dry weather condition, a few meteorological station has also noted new highest temperature record for the month February. Related stations are Bintulu meteorological station with 33.7°C reading on 10 February 2010 (previous record was 33.5°C on 27 February 1982), Tawau meteorological station with 35.1°C reading in 1 February 2010 (previous record was 34.6°C on 24 February 2002), Lubok Merbau meteorological station with 36.7°C recorded on 16 February 2010 (similar to previous record on 24/2/2002 and 19/2/2009) and Sri Aman meteorological station with 35.0°C reading on 7 February 2010 (similar to previous record on 24 February 1998).

Weather Outlook

Data and latest sea surface temperature information in Central Pacific Ocean region showed that El Niño phenomenon occurred in Central Pacific Ocean region since June 2009 was at moderate levels and is expected to persist until April 2010. This El Niño phenomenon then expected to change to normal condition beginning May 2010. Thus, dry weather condition is expected to continue until early April 2010 especially in Peninsular Malaysia as well as Miri and Limbang divisions in Sarawak.

Perlis, Kedah and Penang in Peninsular are expected to receive amount of rainfall of 20 - 30% below average levels until May 2010. The other states are expected to receive normal rainfall amount. Meanwhile, the dry condition occurring in Johore is expected to persist until end of March with amount of rainfall about 10% below average. However, as inter-monsoon season expected to set in around April 2010 and ends around May 2010, thunderstorms and heavy rain event can still be happened in the west coast states of Peninsular.

In Sarawak, most divisions are expected to receive normal amount of rainfall between Mac until May 2010, except for the southern area of Sarawak which expected to receive amount of rainfall of 10% to 20% above its monthly average. Pantai Barat and Pedalaman divisions as well as Federal Territory of Labuan in Sabah are expected to be drier with rainfall amount of 20% to 40% below average level for the month of May until April 2010. While Kudat, Sandakan and tawau are expected to experience normal rainfall amount during that period.