



T.S. CLAUDETTE UPDATE

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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TROPICAL STORM CLAUDETTE FORMS IN EASTERN CARIBBEAN. POTENTIAL EXISTS FOR REACHING HURRICANE STATUS LATER TODAY...

The third tropical storm of the 2003 hurricane season formed off the Windward Islands in the Eastern Caribbean on Tuesday. At 8:00 AM Tropical Storm Claudette was located at 15.3 N 76.9 W with sustained winds around 70 MPH. Claudette is currently moving quickly to the west at 25 MPH.

Claudette is forecast to gradually begin moving to the west-northwest during the next 24 hours, reaching the Yucatan Peninsula as a weak Category 1 Hurricane by early Friday morning. Above normal tides accompanied by dangerous winds are expected along the south coast of Jamaica today. Storm rainfall is expected to total 3-6 inches along the path of Claudette. Although there is potential for Claudette to strengthen to a hurricane today, recent satellite imagery suggest the storm may be losing organization. Claudette is not expected to substantially affect the weather of the United States at this time.

For the latest information and forecasts on Claudette, please visit the National Hurricane Center Website at www.nhc.noaa.gov.

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