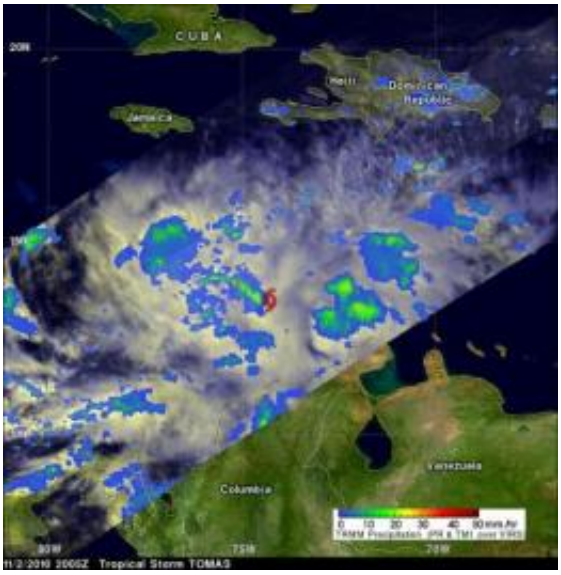
# NASA's TRMM satellite sees Tomas' power fluctuate

November 3 2010




Tomas' center of circulation wasn't evident when TRMM passed over Tomas on Nov. 3 at 2005 UTC (4:05 p.m. EDT) so a tropical storm symbol was overlaid to show its location. The yellow and green areas indicate moderate rainfall between .78 to 1.57 inches per hour. Credit: NASA/SSAI, Hal Pierce

The Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM) satellite traveled over Tomas twice on Tuesday, Nov. 2. The second time was at 2005 UTC (4:05 p.m. EDT) when it was still classified as a tropical storm. During TRMM's second overpass, Tomas' center of circulation wasn't evident. Today, Nov. 3 that center is reforming.

During the morning hours on Nov. 3, an Air Force hurricane hunter aircraft found no tropical storm force winds so Tomas was downgraded by the National Hurricane Center to a tropical depression.

At 2 p.m. EDT on Nov. 3, Tomas was undergoing some changes, and its center was re-forming farther to the northeast from where it was before. The center is now located near 14.8 North and 75.0 West, about 245 miles south-southeast of Kingston, Jamaica and 315 miles southwest of Port Au Prince, Haiti. Maximum sustained winds were still at 35 mph, making Tomas still a depression. It was moving to the north-northwest near 7 mph and had a minimum central pressure of 1006 millibars. A turn toward the north and north-northeast is expected over the next 48 hours.

A Tropical Storm Watch has now been posted for Jamaica, and Haiti, the Dominican Republic, southeastern Cuba, the southeastern Bahamas and Turks and Caicos Islands should watch Tomas' track.

Tomas is expected to produce total rain accumulations of 5 to 10 inches over much of Haiti with possible isolated maximum amounts of 15 inches.

Tomas is now predicted to strengthen into a tropical storm and not reach hurricane strength. An upper level trough is predicted to steer a stronger Tomas through the Windward Passage between Cuba and Haiti by Friday.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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