
EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR FOOD SECURITY

No. 2018/01

IN THE GAMBIA

Period: May 1-10, 2018



Government of The Gambia

Produced and Published by The Gambia National
Multidisciplinary Working Group

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1. SYNOPTIC SITUATION

The mean surface position of the Inter Tropical Discontinuity (ITD), separating the dry north easterly trade winds from the moist south westerly winds is on its northward motion with its western axis lying over Guinea Bissau, stretching across the edge of south-eastern Senegal, southern Mali and then north-west Niger onto Chad.

The places to the north of this position were characterized by dry and stable atmosphere, with patches of dust haze reported over central Algeria, Niger and Ethiopia. To the south, rain and thunderstorm was reported particularly over the Gulf of Guinea States that includes southern locations of Nigeria, Benin, Ghana, Ivory Coast and Liberia.

2. RAINFALL OUTLOOK FOR MAY 11 – 20, 2018

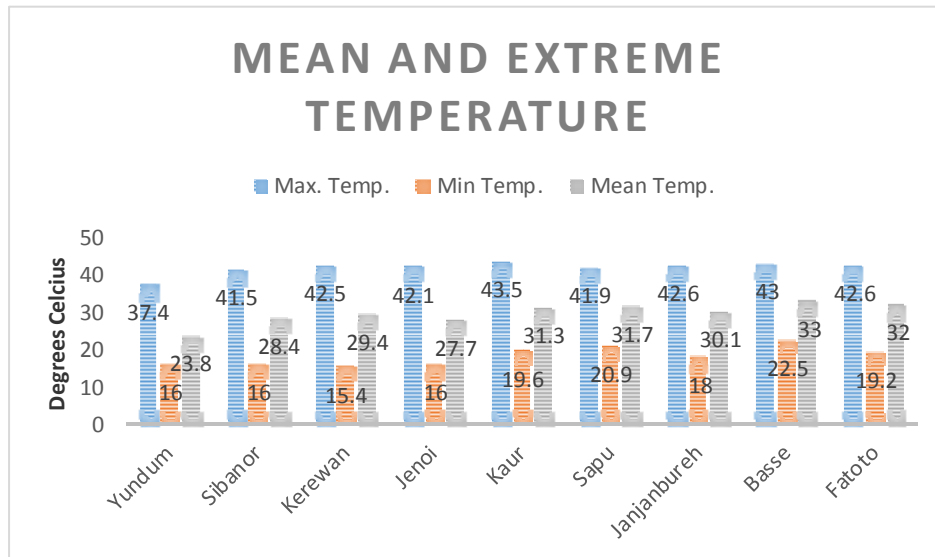
The atmosphere will remain generally dry and stable with cool nights, especially over the Coastal Areas, and warm in the afternoons.

3. RAINFALL SITUATION

No rainfall was recorded throughout the country, depicting the same scenario as that of last year (2017) of the same period.

4. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SITUATION

Mean temperatures recorded during the dekad ranged from 23.8°C over Yundum in the Western Third to 33.0°C over Basse in the Eastern Third of the country. However, extreme temperatures recorded showed a minimum of 15.4°C over Kerewan in the Western Third and a maximum of 43.5°C over Kaur in the Middle Third of the country as shown in the figure below.



Winds were light to moderate in speed.

Average sunshine duration recorded ranged from 6.7 hours over Janjanbureh to 11.0 hours over Yundum and Kaur.

Relative Humidity (RH) recorded during the dekad were 34% over the Eastern Third, 49% in the Middle Third and 56% over the Western Third of the country.

5. AGRICULTURAL SITUATION

Agricultural activities throughout the country include field clearing, seeds acquisition and preparation of farming implements. Vegetable gardening in lowland fields is still in progress.

4. SITUATION OF MARKETS

4.1 Cereal Prices

The situation in cereal markets is characterized by a general availability of stocks in both retail and weekly markets. However, commodity prices differ from one market to the other depending on the availability.

The price of maize varied from about 23.20 to 26.90 Dalasis/Kilo in Urban markets while in Rural markets it varied from 15.00 to 20.00 Dalasis/Kilo. The price of imported rice (broken) followed the same trend as maize, higher in rural markets (D26.00/kg) and lower in urban markets (D24.00/kg). The long grain rice also varied from D26.00/kg in the urban areas to D28.00/kg in the rural markets.

4.2 Price of beef and mutton

The price of beef (all categories) continued to remain stable during the period under review. In the Greater Banjul Area (Banjul, Bakau and Serekunda), the price of beef (meat and bone) is D200.00/kg whilst at Brikama the price is D175.00, and D150.00/kg in the rest of the country. The price of stake varied from D225.00/kg in the Greater Banjul Area to D150.00/kg in the rural markets.

The price of mutton ranged from D250.00 in the Greater Banjul Area and D200.00/kg in the rest of the country.

Banjul, May 15, 2018

National MWG of The Gambia

Composition of MWG:

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Planning Services - Department of Agriculture (DOA)
Department of Livestock Services
Plant Protection Services - DOA
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