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# EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR FOOD SECURITY

No. 2013/03

## IN THE GAMBIA

Period: May 21 - 31, 2013

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Government of The Gambia

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Focal Point: Department of Water Resources

TEL: (+220) 4227631 / 4224122 / 8905229 - FAX: (+220) 422 50 09

E-MAIL: [dwr@mofwrnam.gov.gm](mailto:dwr@mofwrnam.gov.gm) / WEB: [www.mofwrnam.gov.gm](http://www.mofwrnam.gov.gm)



AGRHYMET Regional Programme

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### 1. PROGRESS OF RAINY SEASON

The surface position of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) (imaginary boundary separating warm and moist winds from dry northerly winds over West Africa) during the dekad was on average above 2 degree latitude north of the Gambia as in the previous dekad, thus resulting to the rains recorded across during the last day of the Dekad (31 May).

### 2. RAINFALL OUTLOOK FOR JUNE 1 - 10, 2013

Cloudy, sunny and humid conditions are expected to prevail accompany with thunderstorms and / or rain during the period.

### 3. RAINFALL SITUATION

During this dekad, rainfall was recorded across the country; however amounts were lowest in the west of the country recording 0.2 to 0.5mm at Banjul and Yundum and highest in the Middle Third, where 32mm was recorded at Sapu. Basse and Fatoto each recorded 4.6 and 16.9mm respectively. Seasonal total varied from 0.2mm to 23.5mm.

Meanwhile, this year's seasonal totals compared to the long-term mean (1981 - 2010) during the same period, deficits ranging from 0.2mm to 8.3mm were observed across the country and surplus of 6.1mm to 27.1mm were equally observed.

### 4. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SITUATION

Average temperature varied during the dekad between 26.3 °C and 30.8 °C at the Western Third, 31.9 °C and 32.7 °C in the Middle Third and 33.2 °C and 33. 6 °C in the Eastern Third of the country. Highest temperatures were between 34 °C and 40 °C in the Western Third, 40.5°C and 42 °C in the Middle Third and 41 °C in the Eastern Third.

Minimum temperatures have increased significantly to a lowest of 19.5 °C at Banjul to 25.5 °C at Janjanbureh.

Average maximum relative humidity (RH) was above 70% and the minimum dropped between 33% around the coast to 11% further inland.

Winds during the dekad were generally moderate to light in speed (37km/hr maximum). .

## 5. AGRICULTURAL SITUATION

The dominant on-field activities by farmers continued to be field clearing, acquisition and preparation of seeds. Recent recorded rains will facilitate weeds to grow and will impede farmers, when regular rains start particularly farmers without farm implements.

## 6. SITUATION OF MARKETS

The table below shows cereals, vegetables, fruits, roots and meat was in supply in markets in the Greater Banjul Area, however the prices fluctuate from one market to another.

**Table 1: Average market prices**

<b>CEREALS</b>	<b>Banjul</b>	<b>Latrikunda</b>	<b>Brikama</b>	<b>Bakau</b>	<b>Serrekunda</b>	<b>Average</b>
Maize	21.75	20.61	20.04	20.22	17.94	20.11
Millet	21.25	19.22	23.06	18.70	18.91	20.23
Sorghum	20.38	18.75	19.45	N/A	19.23	19.45
Local Rice	N/A	28.00	28.00	28.05	28.00	28.01
Broken Rice	19.23	20.15	24.00	21.07	20.00	20.89
Long Grain Rice	25.00	24.00	26.00	24.44	25.00	24.89
Findo	76.14	71.00	75.00	72.07	69.65	72.77
<b>VEGETABLES</b>						
Cabbage	30.00	29.67	29.04	27.49	30.00	29.24
Lettuce	21.73	19.08	19.95	19.67	45.00	25.09
Large Papper	80.00	19.14	68.08	56.62	N/A	55.96
Chilli papper	118.20	115.00	113.00	110.00	114.00	114.04
Okra	50.00	49.09	33.80	37.21	48.21	43.66
Egg Plant	20.36	13.95	13.23	15.24	15.33	15.62
Sorrel	19.23	17.99	15.35	14.44	18.89	17.18
Ammaranthus	13.15	12.22	12.55	12.00	12.33	12.45
Kerenkereng	28.22	N/A	N/A	16.93	20.20	21.78
Wonjo	80.00	73.44	71.00	75.13	73.15	74.54
Bitter Tomato	32.00	29.99	28.11	25.50	30.00	29.12
Tomato Big	30.60	25.12	27.12	20.69	30.00	26.71
Tomato Small	20.83	18.55	N/A	17.79	18.31	18.87
Imported Onion	25.00	30.00	30.00	25.00	30.00	28.00
Local Onion	24.70	20.00	25.00	20.57	25.00	23.05
<b>ROOTS &amp; TUBERS</b>						
Carrot	38.46	35.00	32.14	32.21	35.00	34.56
Cassava	17.77	14.51	14.01	17.09	14.55	15.59
Sweet Potato	25.15	24.00	22.00	24.00	23.00	23.63
Irish Potato	28.16	30.00	30.00	30.00	31.50	29.93
<b>FRUITS &amp; LEGUMES</b>						
Mangoes	10.90	10.00	9.90	10.52	10.10	10.28
Lemon	N/A	N/A	N/A	26.18	25.00	25.59
Melon	N/A	N/A	N/A	20.00	N/A	20.00
Pumpkin	37.85	36.00	34.00	36.66	36.60	36.22

Banana	45.65	35.00	45.00	35.00	35.00	39.13
Pawpaw	29.09	28.00	28.88	26.00	28.88	28.17
Orange	35.00	33.00	32.00	34.00	32.32	33.26
Decorticated G/Nut	33.41	36.78	28.94	38.16	26.92	32.84
Undecorticated G/nut	34.75	30.85	29.99	32.58	30.00	31.63
Beans	46.40	45.00	43.33	43.75	37.50	43.20

<b>LIVESTOCK</b>	<b>Banjul</b>	<b>Latrikunda</b>	<b>Brikama</b>	<b>Bakau</b>	<b>Serrekunda</b>	<b>Average</b>
Beef Meat&Bones	110.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	116.00
Beef Steak	140.00	150.00	140.00	150.00	140.00	144.00
Mutton	150.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	155.00

*Source: Planning Services Unit, Department of Agriculture in collaboration with the Early Warning Systems (EWS), here present the 4 week of May 2013 Agricultural commodity Average Prices per KG of selected markets For more information please contact: Planning Services MIS on 4225210/9938218/7618921*

<b>Composition of MWG:</b> Department of Water Resources Planning Services - Department of Agriculture (DOA) Communication, Extension & Education Services - DOA Animal Health & Production Services - DOA Plant Protection Services - DOA National Environment Agency	<b>Direct your comments and questions to:</b> The Director Department of Water Resources 7 Marina Parade, Banjul The Gambia Tel: (+ 220) 422 76 31 / 422 41 22 / 890 52 29 Email: <a href="mailto:dwr@mofwrnam.gov.gm">dwr@mofwrnam.gov.gm</a>
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