

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE DEKADAL AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

WEATHER AND CROP REVIEW FOR DEKAD 27, 21-30 SEPTEMBER, 2015

1. HIGHLIGHTS ON RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE

There was a decrease in rainfall activities in both intensity and in spatial distribution compared to the last dekad. The highest rainfall amount countrywide was 68.9mm received at Kisii station in Nyanza region compared to 120.1mm recorded in Kisumu station in the same region in the previous dekad. Kitale station in the Rift Valley region recorded the second highest rainfall amount of 60.7mm. In Western region, the highest rainfall amount of 39.4mm was received at Kakamega station. Kabete station in Nairobi region reported the highest rainfall amount of 0.01mm. In coastal region, Lamu station received the highest rainfall amount of 9.0mm. In Central region, Nyahururu station received the highest rainfall amount of 6.5mm. Moyale station in North Eastern region reported the highest rainfall amount of 1.3mm, while stations in Eastern region reported dry conditions.

Both Maximum and Minimum temperatures were on decreasing trend compared to the previous dekad. Mandera station in North-Eastern region reported the highest maximum temperature of 36.9°C compared to 37.0°C reported in the previous dekad. Nyahururu station in Central region continued to report the lowest minimum temperature of 6.3°C.

For a more comprehensive summary of rainfall and other meteorological parameters, see Figures 3.1 to 3.4 as shown below.

2. CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW FOR DEKAD 27: 21-30 SEPTEMBER, 2015

2.1 NYANZA AND WESTERN REGIONS

2.1.1 Kakamega

The station recorded rainfall amount of 39.4mm during the dekad. The mean air temperature and total Pan Evaporation reported were 22.0°C and 41.4mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine parameter.

Beans were at emergence stage and in good state.

2.1.2 **Kisii**

The station recorded total rainfall amount of 68.9 mm. The mean air temperature and total Pan Evaporation reported were 21.6°C and 41.9mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine parameter.

Both maize and beans were at emergence stage and in fair state.

2.2 RIFT VALLEY REGION

2.2.1 Kitale.

The station received total rainfall amount of 60.7mm. The mean air temperature and total Pan Evaporation recorded were 19.7©C and 42.2mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine parameter.

Maize was at harvest stage and in good state with normal yield expected.

2.2.2 Eldoret - Kapsoya

The station recorded rainfall amount of 3.9mm. The mean air temperature and total Pan Evaporation recorded were 17.9©C and 49.9mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine parameter.

Maize was at maturity stage and in poor state with below normal yield expected due to insufficient rain.

2.3 CENTRAL KENYA HIGHLANDS AND NAIROBI AREA REGION

2.3.1 Nyeri

The station received total rainfall amount of 0.01mm. The average air temperature was 19.3°C. There was no report on total Pan Evaporation and sunshine parameters.

Farmers had completed harvesting maize and most of them had also finished land preparations and are waiting for onset of the rains to start planting.

2.3.2 Kabete

The station reported rainfall amount of 0.01mm. The total Pan Evaporation reported was 49.5mm. There was no report on Mean air Temperature and sunshine parameters.

Farmers are still preparing their farms.

2.3.3 Thika

The station continued to report dry conditions. The mean air temperature and total Pan Evaporation recorded were 20.8 ©C and 57.5 mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine duration.

Farmers are still preparing their farms.

2.3.4 Nyahururu

The station reported rainfall amount of 6.5mm. The mean air temperature and total Pan Evaporation recorded were 15.3°C and 50.0mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine parameter.

Maize was at flowering stage and in fair state with normal yield is expected while the potatoes were at maturity stage and in good state.

2.3.5 Dagoretti

The station reported dry conditions. The Mean air Temperature and total Pan Evaporation reported were 19.5°C and 55.5mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine hours.

No Phenological report.

2.4 EASTERN KENYA REGION

2.4.1 Embu

The station reported dry conditions. Total Pan Evaporation reported was 48mm. There was no report on Mean air temperature and sunshine parameters.

Land preparation is still going on.

2.4.2 Meru

The station reported dry conditions. The Mean air Temperature and total Pan Evaporation reported were 19.3°C and 56mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine parameter.

Farmers are preparing their farms in readiness for short rain season.

2.4.3 Katumani (Machakos)

The station recorded dry conditions. The Mean air Temperature and Pan Evaporation recorded was 20.4°C and 64.5mm respectively. Sunshine duration recorded was 8.7hrs/day.

No Phenological report.

2.5. COASTAL REGION

2.5.1 Msabaha

The station reported rainfall amount of 5.3mm. The average air temperature and total Pan Evaporation recorded were 26.9°C and 64.3mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine hours.

Mangoes were at 70% flowering stage and in good state.

2.5.2 Mtwapa.

The station recorded rainfall amount of 0.6mm. The average air temperature and total Pan Evaporation reported were 26.5°C and 57.6mm respectively. There was no report on Sunshine parameter.

Maize is at harvest stage with normal yield expected.

3. ANALYSIS OF RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE CONDITIONS.

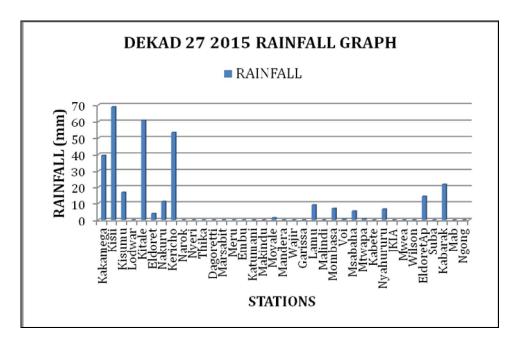


Figure 3.1: Dekadal rainfall totals for 21 –30 SEPTEMBER 2015

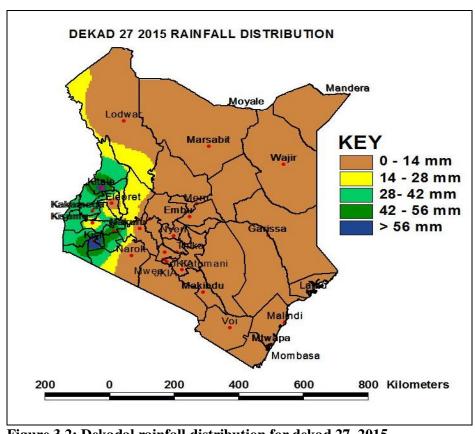


Figure 3.2: Dekadal rainfall distribution for dekad 27, 2015

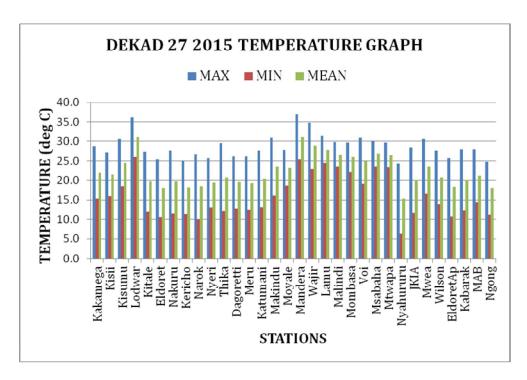


Figure 3.3: Maximum, Minimum and Average temperature for dekad 27, 2015

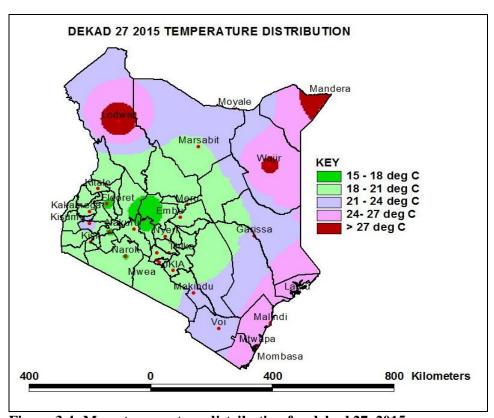


Figure 3.4: Mean temperature distribution for dekad 27, 2015

- 4. EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS; 1-10 CTOBER, 2015.
- ❖ Counties within the Lake Victoria Basin, Highlands west of the Rift Valley, (Nyamira, Kericho, Bomet, Uasin-Gishu, Nakuru, Narok, Trans Nzoia, Elgeyo Marakwet, Nandi, Laikipia, Kajiado, Vihiga and Busia), morning are expected to experience mainly sunny intervals for the first five days of the forecast period, followed by rains over few places thereafter. Afternoon showers and thunderstorms are expected to occur on the first three days of the forecast period, breaking into sunny intervals for the next three days, followed by showers and thunderstorms over few places for the next two days, increasing to several thereafter.

The afternoon showers will benefit the crops that are in emergence stages in places like Kakamega. The showers will also replenish the soil with moisture for the growth of pasture and vegetation for animals kept in this region. The sunny intervals will be of advantage to the drying of maize that is at harvesting stage in places like Kitale.

❖ The Northwestern counties (Turkana, West Pokot and Samburu), are expected to experience sunny intervals in the morning throughout the forecast period. Afternoon showers and thunderstorms are expected over few places from the eighth day to the end of the forecast period.

The afternoon showers will boost the growth of pasture and vegetation for livestock kept in these regions.

❖ The Central highlands including Nairobi area (counties of Meru, Murang'a, Kiambu, Nyeri, Nairobi, Embu, Nyandarua, Tharaka and Kirinyaga), mornings are expected to experience mainly sunny intervals for the first six days followed by occasional rains over few places thereafter. Afternoons are expected to experience showers over few places throughout the forecast period.

The afternoon showers will advantage development of maize crops that are in the flowering stage in Nyahururu.

❖ Northeastern counties (counties of Marsabit, Mandera, Wajir, Garissa and Isiolo), Mornings are expected to experience sunny intervals and rains over few places for the first five days of the forecast period, breaking into sunny intervals thereafter. Afternoons are expected to experience showers over few places for the first six days, breaking into sunny intervals thereafter.

The showers will be of great advantage to the growth of pasture and vegetation for the animals kept in these places.

❖ Southeastern lowlands (counties of Taita Taveta, Makueni, Machakos and Kitui), Mornings are expected to experience sunny intervals for the first five days, followed by rains over few places thereafter. Afternoons are expected to experience sunny intervals for the first six days of the forecast period, followed by showers over few places thereafter.

The showers will benefit the growth of pasture and vegetation for livestock in these areas.

In the Coastal strip (counties of Mombasa, Malindi, Kilifi, Lamu, Kwale, etc), Mornings are expected to receive sunny intervals for the first two days of the forecast period, followed by showers over few places for the next three days, increasing to several places thereafter. Afternoons are expected to experience sunny intervals for the first five days of the forecast period, followed by showers over few places on the sixth day, increasing to several places thereafter.

The morning showers will be of advantage to the growth of mangoes, which are at flowering stage in Msabaha, while the afternoon sun will hasten the drying of maize, which is at harvesting stage in places like Mtwapa.

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