



**KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT
DEKADAL AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN
WEATHER AND CROP REVIEW FOR DEKAD 11, 2012
11 – 20 APRIL 2012**

1. HIGHLIGHTS ON RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE

During the current dekad, most stations countrywide, reported significant amount of rainfall compared to the previous dekad. The highest rainfall received during the dekad was 207.1mm at Kisii station in the Nyanza region, compared to 39.8 mm received in the last dekad. The second highest rainfall recorded in the country was 201.0mm at Marsabit station in the Eastern Kenya region. Kericho station in the Rift Valley region recorded 192.5mm, while Kakamega in Western received 173.1mm. The highest rainfall observed in the Nairobi region was 164.1 mm at Ngong station. Nyahururu station in Central Kenya region received 117.3 mm. In North Eastern region, Moyale station recorded 73.1 mm. The least amount of rainfall recorded countrywide was 0.7mm at Lamu station in the coastal strip while the highest in the coastal region was 29.3mm at Voi station

There was a decreasing trend in both Maximum and Minimum temperatures in most stations but a few stations still reported an increase in the two temperatures. The highest maximum temperature recorded countrywide, was 37.8c at Garissa in North Eastern. This was a decrease from the previous highest maximum temperature of 38.0^oc recorded at Mandera station in the last dekad. Nyahururu station in Central Kenya, just as in the previous dekad reported the lowest maximum temperature of 23.6 ^oc, which was a reduction from 25.2 ^oc recorded previously.

For 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 11; 11 – 20 APRIL 2012

2.1 NYANZA AND WESTERN REGIONS

2.1.1 Kakamega

This station received 173.1 mm of rainfall which was a great improvement compared to 15.0 mm received in the previous dekad. The mean air temperature and total pan evaporation recorded were 21.2^oc and 44.9 mm respectively. *There was no report on sunshine hours.*

Weeding was going on in most farms during the dekad, and crops were in good condition due to sufficient rainfall received currently.

2.1.2 Kisii

As mentioned above in the highlights, the station received the highest rainfall amount countrywide of 207.1 mm compared to 69.2 mm which was the highest rainfall reported in the previous dekad. The mean air temperature and total pan evaporation recorded were 20.5⁰C and 44.1 mm respectively. There was no report on Sunshine hours.

Weeding is underway in most farms, and plants are doing well due to sufficient rainfall in this dekad.

2.2 RIFT VALLEY REGION

2.2.1 Kitale

The station received a significant amount of rainfall of 119.9 mm compared to 5.3 mm reported in the previous dekad. The average air temperature recorded was 20.5⁰C. There was no report on sunshine hours and pan evaporation.

Most plants are at emergence stage and in fair condition. Some farmers were still planting.

2.2.2 Eldoret-Kapsoya

The station recorded 16.5 mm of rainfall compared to dry conditions in the previous dekad. The average air temperature and total pan evaporation recorded were 18.5⁰c and 48.5 mm respectively. There was no sunshine hours report.

Crops are at emergence stage in most farms.

2.3 CENTRAL KENYA HIGHLANDS AND NAIROBI AREA REGION

2.3.1 Nyeri

The station reported 60.5 mm of rainfall as compared to 0.01 mm reported in the previous dekad. The average air temperature and total pan evaporation recorded were 20.3⁰c and 48.5 mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine hours.

Crops are at emergency state in most farms and in fair conditions.

2.3.2 Kabete

The station recorded 82.7mm compared to dry conditions in the previous dekad. The average air temperature and pan evaporation recorded were 19.9⁰c and 37.2 mm respectively. There was no report on Sunshine hours.

Planting is underway in most farms.

2.3.3 Thika

The station recorded 93.4 mm of rainfall compared to dry conditions in the previous dekad. The total mean air temperature and pan evaporation recorded at the station were 21.7⁰c and 43.9 mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine hours.

Planting is going on in most farms.

2.3.4. Nyahururu

The station received significant rainfall amount of 117.3mm compared to 0.01mm reported in the previous dekad. The mean air temperature recorded was 16.8⁰c. There was no report on pan evaporation and sunshine hours.

Most farmers have started planting.

2.3.5. Dagoretti

The station recorded 116.5 mm of rainfall compared to dry conditions reported in the previous dekad. The average air temperature and total pan evaporation recorded were 20.4⁰c and 54.5 mm. Sunshine hours reported were 6.1 hrs per day.

Most farmers are still planting but some crops are already at emergence state.

2.4 EASTERN KENYA REGION

2.4.1 Meru

The station received 50.8 mm of rainfall compared to dry conditions in the previous dekad. The average air temperature recorded was 19.9⁰c. There was no report on Sunshine hours and evaporation pan.

Crops are at emergence state and in fair conditions in most farms due to the ongoing sufficient rainfall.

2.4.2 Embu

The station reported significant amount of rainfall of 110.3 mm compared to dry conditions in the previous dekad. The average air temperature and evaporation pan recorded were 21.0⁰c and 42.9 mm respectively. Sunshine hours reported were 5.9 hrs per day.

Crops are at emergence state and in fair conditions due to ongoing sufficient rains.

2.4.3 Katumani (Machakos)

The station recorded 39.5 mm of rainfall compared to dry conditions in the previous dekad. The average air temperature recorded was 21.3⁰c. There was no report on evaporation pan and sunshine parameters.

Planting is underway in most farms.

2.5.0 COASTAL REGION

2.5.1. Msabaha

The station received 16.4 mm of rainfall compared to dry conditions in the previous dekad. The average air temperature and pan evaporation recorded were 29.3⁰c and 57.9 mm respectively. There was no sunshine report.

Most farmers have finished planting, and there is good rainfall distribution in this dekad.

2.5.2 Mtwapa

This station recorded 3.9 mm of rainfall compared to dry conditions in the previous dekad. The average air temperature and pan evaporation recorded were 28.9⁰c and 63.7 mm respectfully. There was no report on sunshine hours.

Land preparation for the next season is still underway.

3.0 ANALYSIS OF RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE AND VEGETATION CONDITIONS

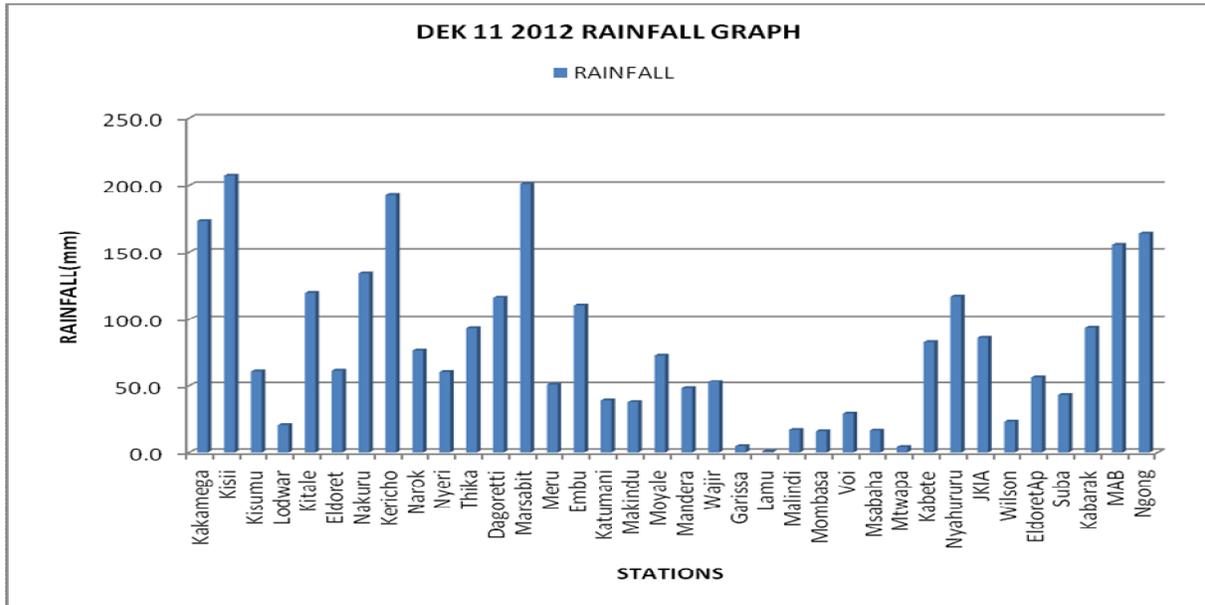


Figure 3.1: Dekadal rainfall totals for 11-20 April 2012

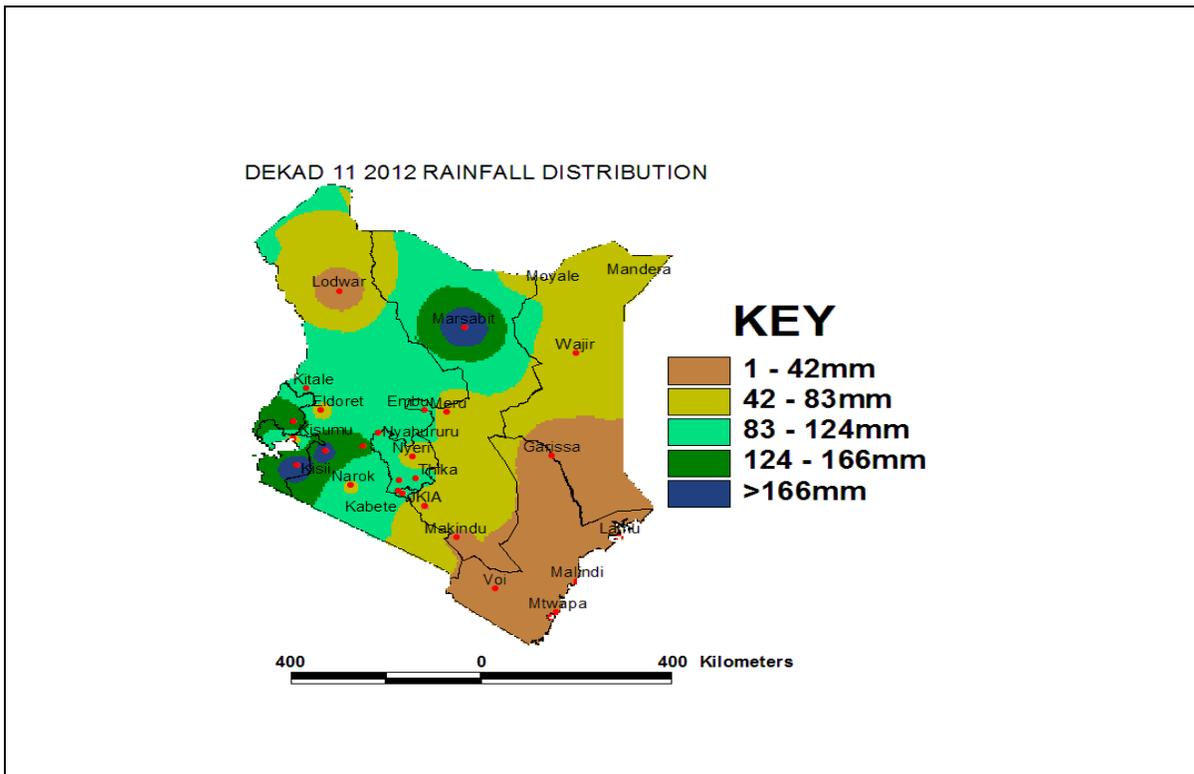


Figure 3.2: Dekadal rainfall distribution

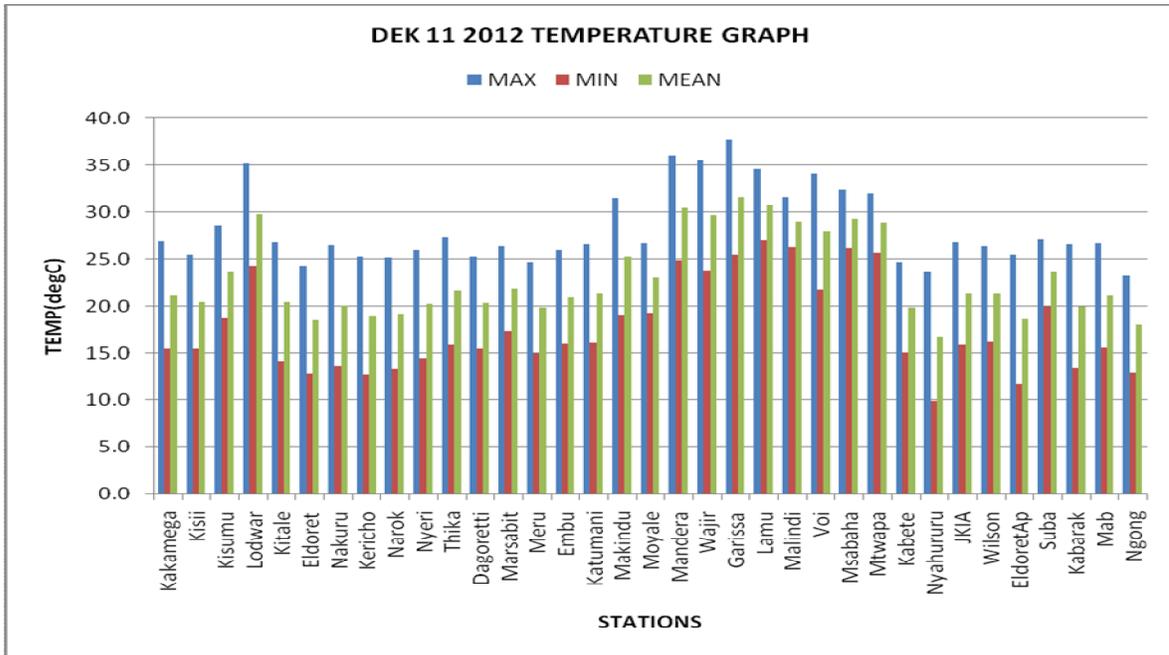


Figure 3.3: Maximum, Minimum and Average temperature in ⁰c

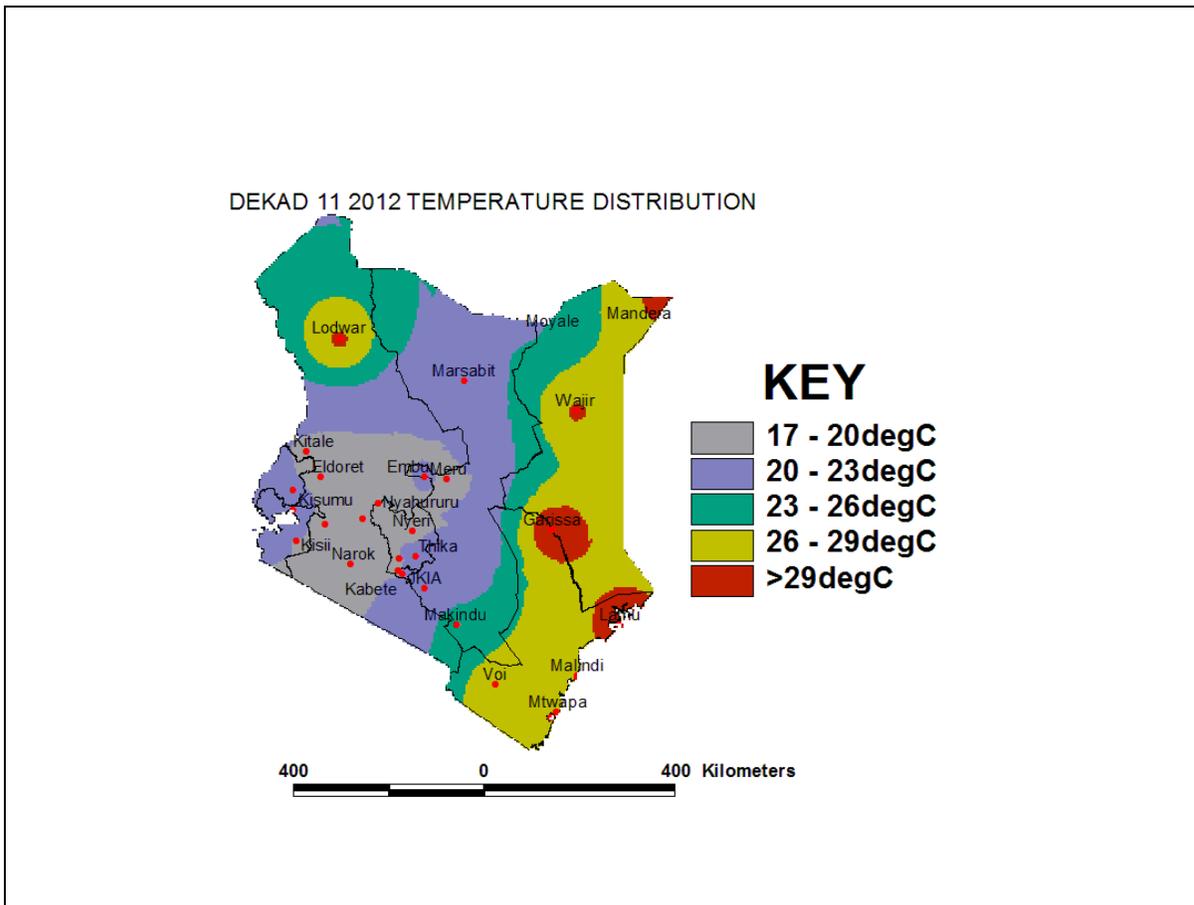


Figure 3.4: Mean temperature distribution

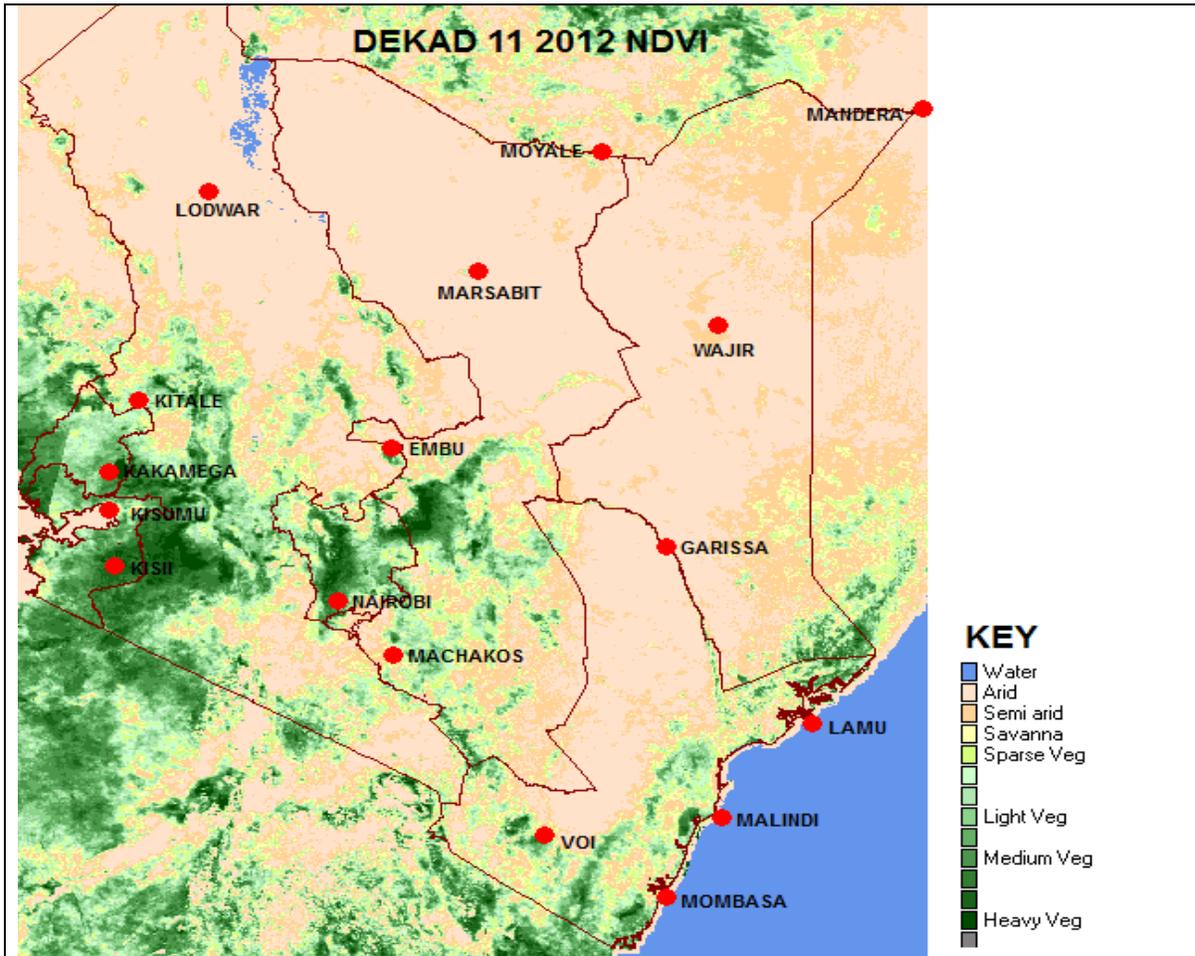


Figure 3.5: Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI)

4. EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS; 21-30 APRIL 2012

- ✚ Counties within the Lake Victoria Basin, Highlands west of the Rift Valley, Central and south Rift Valley (Kitale, Kakamega, Kisumu, Kisii, Migori, Nyamira, Kericho, Bomet, Uasin-Gishu, Nakuru, Narok, Nyandarua, etc) Will experience morning rains over few places breaking to sunny intervals and afternoon/night showers accompanied by thunderstorms over several places for most. Heavy rainfall events (>20mm in 24 hours) are expected on diverse days over areas in south Rift, south Nyanza, the Nandi Hill, and Mt. Elgon and western Region.

The forecast weather conditions will continue to improve the germination of maize and bean in the above-mentioned counties.

- ✚ Over the Northwestern counties (Turkana, West Pokot etc), Sunny intervals will be experienced in the morning. Few places are expected to experience light to moderate afternoon/night showers and thunderstorms for much of the period. Sunny intervals will prevail in the last two days of the forecast period.

The expected showers will continue to replenish the pasture and general vegetation of the region.

- ✚ **The Central highlands including Nairobi area (counties of Meru, Murang'a, Kiambu, Nyeri, Nairobi, Embu, etc)** Cloudy morning with light rains especially in the high ground areas and afternoon/ night showers and thunderstorms over several places will be experienced for much of the forecast period. Localized heavy rainfall events (>20mm in a day) are likely to occur over few places first half of the forecast period.

This continued improvement in rainfall activities will spur and replenish the germination of maize and beans crops being planted in the region.

- ✚ **Northeastern counties (counties of Marsabit, Mandera, Wajir, Garissa, Moyale etc),** Cloudy conditions with morning rains and afternoon showers and thunderstorms over few places are expected in the extreme northeastern parts in the first half of the forecast period the second half of the forecast period will mainly be characterized by mainly sunny intervals.

The showers will continue to replenish the pasture for the animals kept in these regions.

- ✚ **Southeastern lowlands (counties of Taita Taveta, Makueni, Machakos, Kitui, Mwingi, etc)** Cloudy morning with light to rains and afternoon showers and thunderstorms are expected over few places in the western parts of the lowlands. Sunny conditions will prevail over most of the other areas for much of the forecast period.

The expected showers will replenish the pasture for livestock and wildlife in the region and also continue spurring the germination of maize and beans which have been planted.

- ✚ **In the Coastal strip (counties of Mombasa, Malindi, Kilifi, Lamu, Kwale, etc)** Light showers are expected in the morning over few places in the first two days giving way to sunny intervals and then moderate to heavy morning showers in the last two days of the forecast period.

The expected showers will continue spurring the growth of mango trees and also help the germination of other crops being planted for the long rains season.

For feedback or further guidance, Contact:

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