

## DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 31. 2013/14 Cropping Season

Review for July 11-20, 2014 and Outlook for July 21-31, 2014

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Cool to cold temperatures at nights and early mornings are expected over the entire country
- Strong winds over the Lake Victoria basin are expected

### SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING JULY 11-20, 2014

During the second dekad of July, 2014 the depressions over the Euro-Asia deepened significantly while the Azores high pressure system intensified slightly. The Mascarene high pressure system continued to intensify and extended a ridge over most parts of the country which continued to hold the zonal arm of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) further north. Such configurations resulted into dry conditions, moderate to strong winds and cool nights over most parts of the country.

### WEATHER SUMMARY DURING JULY 11-20, 2014

During this period, seasonal dry conditions prevailed over much of the country except for a few localized areas in Kilimanjaro and Tanga regions that received light rains between 2 mm and 10 mm.

### AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING JULY 11-20, 2014

During July 11-20, 2014, the observed seasonal dry conditions that prevailed over much of the country were favorable for crop harvesting, drying and storage activities over both the unimodal and bimodal areas. Pastures and water availability for livestock and wildlife have decreased due to prevailing seasonal dry conditions.

### HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING JULY 11-20, 2014

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges have decreased due to prevailing seasonal dry conditions and strong winds attributing to predominantly water loss through evaporation.

### ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITION DURING JULY 11-20, 2014

During the period, cool to cold temperature conditions prevailed in the country, especially during the nights and early mornings. Figure 1 shows minimum temperature distributions during the dekad with temperature ranging from about 6°C to about 22°C. The lowest minimum temperature was 6.1°C observed at Igeri in southwestern highlands whereas the highest minimum temperature was 22°C observed at Pemba in the northern coast.

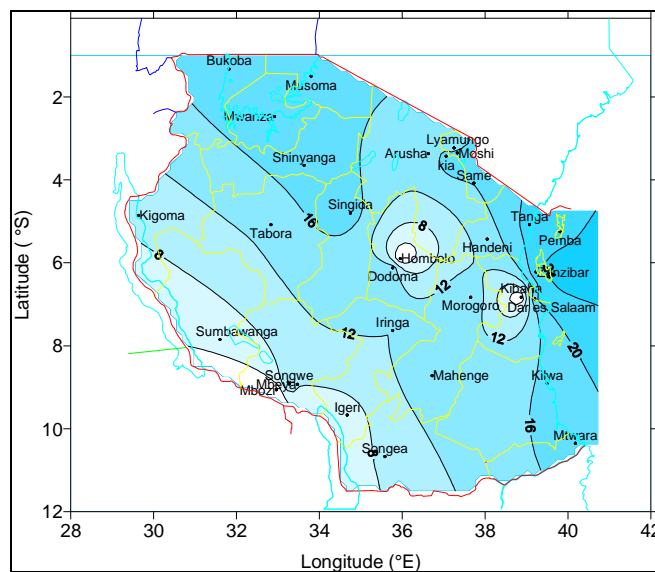


Figure 1: Minimum temperature distributions during July 11-20, 2014.

### EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING JULY 21-31, 2014

During the third dekad of July, 2014 high pressure systems over the northern hemisphere are expected to relax significantly while depressions are expected to deepen further. In the southern hemisphere, both the St. Helena and the Mascarene high pressure systems are expected to intensify. During the dekad the intensification of the southern hemisphere high pressure systems is

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expected to increase the strength of the East Africa Ridge. The meridional arm of ITCZ is expected to maintain its position further west over Congo basin favouring dry conditions over the country. However, intensification of the southern pressure systems is expected to influence the wind speed regime over most parts of the country. The continuing neutral to warm Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) in South West Indian Ocean, close to Tanzanian coast, are likely to induce embedded convection over some areas and therefore influence rainfall activities over the northern strip of the coastline. The above situation is expected to influence mainly dry and cold conditions over most parts of the country with periods of cloudy and light rains over few areas of the country especially over high grounds and northern coast areas.

### EXPECTED WEATHER DURING JULY 21-31, 2014

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Mwanza, Mara, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions including northern parts of Kigoma region): Mainly dry, and few isolated cases of rain showers and thunderstorms are expected over few areas especially during the second half of the period. Cool nights are expected, and periods of strong winds are likely over the Lake Victoria Basin. Northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions together with the Isles of Unguja and Pemba): Rainshowers over few areas especially during the second half of the period and cool nights over few areas are likely. Northeastern highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha, and Manyara regions): Rainshowers over few areas during the second half of the period and cold conditions especially over high ground are expected. Western regions (Kigoma, Rukwa and Tabora regions): Mainly dry conditions, cool nights are expected during the dekad. Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions): Mainly dry conditions, cool weather conditions are expected. Southwestern highlands (Southern Rukwa, Katavi, Njombe, Iringa and Mbeya region) and southern region (Ruvuma region): Mainly dry and cold

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night conditions are expected during the period. Southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): Mainly dry conditions and cool nights, and occasional rainshowers are expected during the first half of the period.

### AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING JULY 21-31, 2014

Persistent periods of strong winds and dry conditions during July 21-31, 2014 are likely to favour fire outbreaks and further decrease of water due to high evaporation. Due to cold nights expected over high ground areas in the southwestern and northeastern highlands, heating up of homes by using charcoal stoves, firewood, etc. should be done with great care to avoid asphyxiation from carbon monoxide.

#### BIMODAL AND UNIMODAL AREAS

- Bimodal areas:* Areas which experience two rainfall seasons (Oct - Dec/Jan and March - May). These are areas covering Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Mwanza, Mara, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions including northern parts of Kigoma region), northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions together with the Isles of Unguja and Pemba) and northeastern highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions).
- Unimodal areas:* Areas which experience one rainfall season (Nov - Apr). These are areas covering western areas (Kigoma, Rukwa, Katavi and Tabora regions), central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions), southwestern highlands (Njombe, Iringa and Mbeya region), southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) and southern areas (Ruvuma region).

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