

DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

HIGHLIGHTS

- Above normal rainfall performance was observed in most places of the country during *January 11-20, 2016*.
- Crops growth and development was reported to progress well over much of the country despite reported cases flooding in some areas.
- With the expected rainfall in most places of the country during *January 21-31, 2016*, farmers are advised to continue with their normal seasonal farm activities but they should take precautionary measures against flooding of cropped fields that may be attributed to the predicted frequent rainfall in some areas.

No: 13. 2015/16 Cropping Season

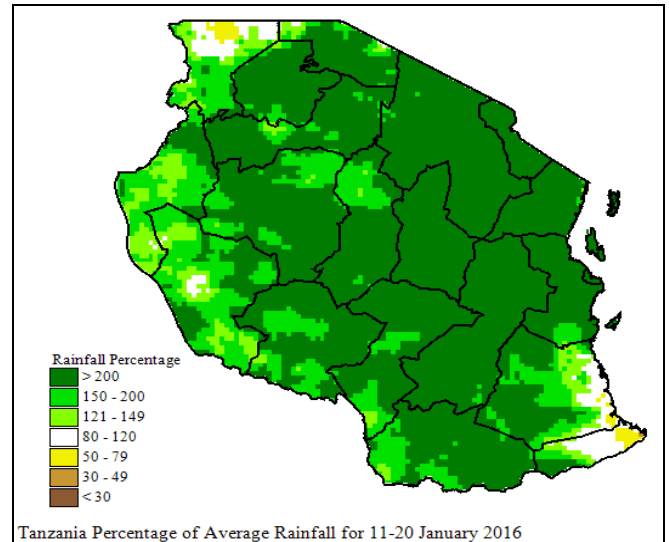
Review for January 11-20, 2016 and Outlook for January 21-31, 2016

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING JANUARY 11-20, 2016

Pressure systems in the northern hemisphere (Azores and Siberia) remained intense while their counterparts in the southern hemisphere (St. Hellena and Mascarene high pressure systems) generally maintained their strength. The observed pressure setting continued to push and strengthen the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) to the south of the country. For the case of Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs), warm SSTs persisted over both the eastern Atlantic Ocean closer to Angola coast and over South-Western Indian Ocean whereas neutral to cool SSTs persisted in the North-West Indian Ocean (closer to Somali coast). The situation resulted into northerly winds which converged with moist westerlies thus enhancing rains over much of the country.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING JANUARY 11-20, 2016

In view of the observed synoptic conditions that prevailed during the dekad, above normal rainfall performance (yellowish green and deep green regends) was observed in most places of the country, both in the bimodal and unimodal areas except few places in Mtwara and Lindi regions (southern coast) and Kagera region (Lake Victoria basin) which experienced normal rainfall performance as shown in Figure 1 (Satellite rainfall estimates showing rainfall performance during the dekad as percentage of long term average)



Tanzania Percentage of Average Rainfall for 11-20 January 2016

Figure 1: Rainfall performance in Tanzania during January 11-20, 2016 as percentage of long term average.

TEMPERATURE CONDITIONS DURING JANUARY 11-20, 2016

Mostly high temperature conditions were observed in the country during the period.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING JANUARY 11-20, 2016

With the observed rainfall performance, crops growth and development was reported to progress well in most areas, both in the bimodal and unimodal areas of the country. Over the bimodal area, maize crop in some places was in waxy ripeness while in other places was reported at full ripeness. In few places of the bimodal area including Longido district where planting delayed, maize crop had started to tassel. Over the unimodal area, maize crop was mostly at ninth leaf stage with weeding going on except. In few places of the inimodal area including Kigoma and Tabora regions, the crop was observed at flowering stage. Generally, crops were

reported in good condition despite cases of flooding in some places e.g Morogoro and Mwanza regions. Pasture and water availability for livestock and wildlife was generally good in most places of the country.

HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING JANUARY 11-20, 2016

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges were moderate in many places of the country with cases of flooding in some places.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING JANUARY 21-31, 2016

During the period, both the northern hemisphere high-pressure systems as well as their counterparts in the southern hemisphere are expected to generally maintain their intensity. Similarly, warm SSTs over the eastern Atlantic Ocean closer to Angola coast and over the South-Western Indian Ocean, and neutral SSTs in the North West Indian Ocean (closer to Somali coast) are expected to persist. The persistence of the synoptic situation is expected to cause convergence of the northerly and westerly winds and influence wet conditions over the central, south-western and southern parts of the country.

EXPECTED WEATHER DURING JANUARY 21-31, 2016

Lake Victoria Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mwanza, Mara, Geita, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions) few rain showers and thunderstorms are expected, mostly during the first half of the dekad. North-eastern highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions): frequent rain showers and occasional thunderstorms are expected. Northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions, the isles of Unguja and Pemba): frequent rain showers and occasional thunderstorms are expected. Western regions (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions): few rain showers and thunderstorms are expected. Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions): occasional rain showers and thunderstorms are expected. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Iringa and Mbeya regions): frequent rain showers and thunderstorms are expected. Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): frequent rain showers and thunderstorms are expected.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING JANUARY 21-31, 2016

With the expected rainfall in most places of the country, during January 21-31, 2016 farmers are advised to continue with their normal seasonal farm activities. However, the community is advised to take precautionary measures against flooding of cropped fields that may be attributed to the predicted frequent rainfall in some places. Farmers are therefore advised to carry out their activities with consultation from Agricultural Extension Officers in their localities.

HYDROLOGICAL OUTLOOK DURING JANUARY 21-31, 2016

Due to the expected rainfall over most parts of the country during the dekad, water levels in dams and river flow are expected to improve further in many parts of the country.

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