

DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

HIGHLIGHTS

- Above normal rainfall observed over most of the country during April 11-20, 2016 with cases of heavy rainfall in few places.
- Above normal rainfall performance caused excessive soil moisture and flooding conditions in some areas.
- With the expected rainfall over the bimodal area during April 21-30, 2016, farmers especially in lowland areas are advised to take precautions against water lodging conditions that may lead to flooding due stage due to excessive moisture accumulated in the soil.

No: 22. 2015/16 Cropping Season

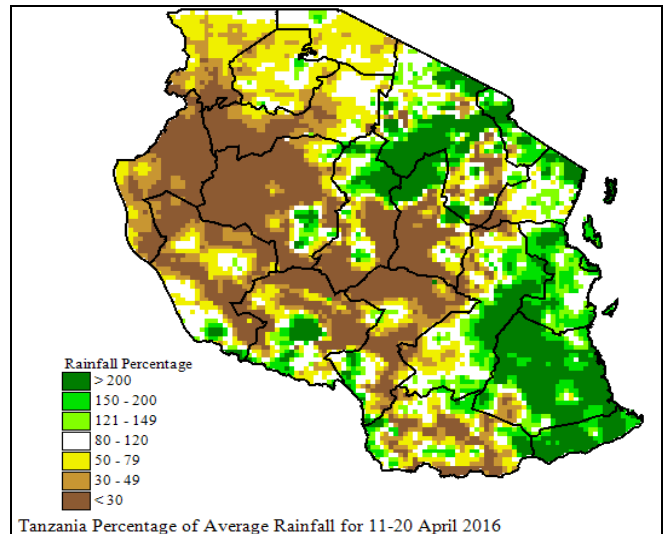
Review for April 11-20, 2016 and Outlook for April 21-30, 2016

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING APRIL 11-20, 2016

The first half of the ninth Dekad, both the southern hemisphere high-pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) slightly relaxed in their intensity while their counterparts to the north (Azores and Siberian) intensified and caused the ITCZ to retreat to southern part of the country in the southern hemisphere. The slightly warm Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the South Eastern Atlantic Ocean (SEAO) closer to Angola coast as well as those over the Southwestern Indian Ocean (SWIO) and Central Indian Ocean (CIO) were maintained. On the other hand persistently neutral to warm SSTs in the North West Indian Ocean (NWIO) (closer to Somali coast) were observed; these caused convergence of dry winds from north and westerly that influenced few wet conditions over most part of the country.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING APRIL 11-20, 2016

In view of the observed synoptic conditions during the period, the Eastern half of the country received above normal to normal rainfall whereas much of the western half of the country experienced mostly dry conditions with flooding cases in some areas including Rombo district in Mbeya region. Figure 1 is Satellite Rainfall Estimates merged from GeoWRSI model merged with gauge data from Tanzania rainfall stations network showing rainfall performance in Tanzania as percentage of long term average during the dekad whereby the green and greenish yellow legends shows above normal rainfall performance while the brownish and yellow legends show below normal rainfall performance.



Tanzania Percentage of Average Rainfall for 11-20 April 2016

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

TEMPERATURE CONDITIONS DURING APRIL 11-20, 2016

Moderate temperature conditions prevailed in most places of the country.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING APRIL 11-20, 2016

Following accumulation of large quantities of soil moisture, flooding of fields were observed to continue in some places of the country. The flooding was associated with damage of crops and erosion of soils in Rombo districts, among others. Pasture and water availability for livestock and wildlife was good.

**HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS
DURING APRIL 11-20, 2016**

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges were moderate across of the country.

**EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING
APRIL 21-30, 2016**

During the period, the southern high-pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) are expected to intensify significantly, while their counterparts to the north (Azores and Siberian) are expected to relax and allow the ITCZ to continue moving northward from its current position in the southern hemisphere. Slightly cool SSTs over the SEAO closer to Angola coast, while slightly warm SSTs over the SWIO and warm SSTs over the CIO are expected. Slightly neutral to warm SSTs in the NWIO (closer to Somali coast) are expected to persist and cause weak convergence of the northerly and westerly winds and influence wet conditions over the Lake Victoria basin, western, central and southern parts of the country, also weak easterly to southeasterly which will influence wet conditions over the northeastern highlands and coastal areas of the country. The remaining parts of the country are expected to experience few wet conditions due to these systems. However, chances of development of Tropical Cyclones in the SWIO are likely during the period. This may influence intensity of the rainfall over the country.

**EXPECTED WEATHER DURING
APRIL 21-30, 2016**

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mwanza, Mara, Geita, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions): rain showers and thunderstorms are expected. Development of thunderstorms within or near the Lake Victoria is likely to occur and result into occasional windy conditions. Northeastern highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions): few rain showers and thunderstorms are expected, especially during the first half of the period. Northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions, the isles of Unguja and Pemba): few isolated, rain showers and thunderstorms are expected, especially during the first half of the period. Western

regions (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions): rain showers and thunderstorms are expected during the period. Development of thunderstorms within or near the Lake Tanganyika is likely to occur and result into occasional windy conditions. Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions): few isolated, rain showers and thunderstorms are expected, especially during the first half of the period. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Iringa and Mbeya regions): rain showers and thunderstorms are expected. Development of thunderstorms within or near the Lake Tanganyika is likely to occur and result into occasional windy conditions. Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): few isolated, rain showers and thunderstorms are expected during the period. Southern region (Ruvuma region): rain showers and thunderstorms are expected during the period. Development of thunderstorms within or near the Lake Nyasa is likely to occur and result into occasional windy conditions.

**AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND
ADVISORY DURING APRIL 21-30, 2016**

The expected rainfall over both the unimodal and bimodal areas of the country during April 21-30, 2016 may contribute to water lodging and possibly flooding of fields especially in lowland areas due to large amount of moisture that has already accumulated in the soil. Farmers are therefore advised to ensure that the excess water is well drained if that happens. However, farmers should always consult Agricultural Extension Officers in their localities whenever they plan their agricultural activities.