

DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 36 2016/17 Cropping season

Review for September 21-30 and Outlook for October 1-10, 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- Rains are likely to peak during October 1-10, 2017 specifically Lake Victoria basin and northern coast.
- Farmers in bimodal areas are continuing with land preparation and planting mainly in Kagera region.
- Due to ongoing dry conditions over most parts of northeastern highlands and unimodal areas, livestock keepers are advised to make good use of the available water and pastures.

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2017

During the period under review, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) continued to relax thus caused the East African Ridge also to relax. The north systems (Azores and Siberian) continued to intensify, which allows the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) to migrate towards southern hemisphere. Sea Surface Temperature (SSTs) over the tropical western Indian Ocean was slightly warm. The Southeast Atlantic Ocean (closer to Angola coast) experienced slightly warm to neutral SSTs.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2017

In view of the observed synoptic features, rains ranging from 20 to 100 millimeters (mm) were experienced over the Lake Victoria basin, western and highgrounds of southwestern highlands as shown in Figure 1.

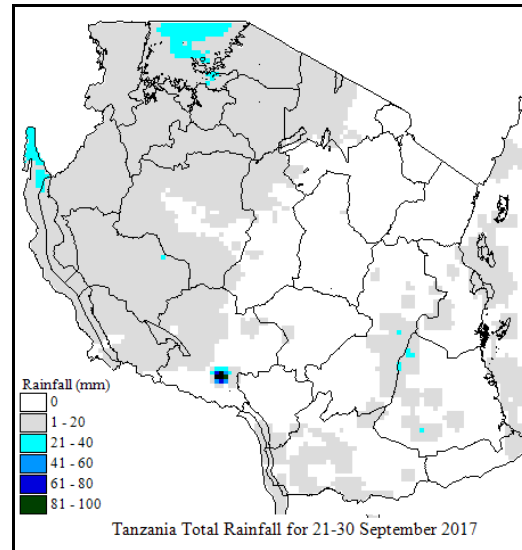


Figure 1: Total rainfall during September 21 – 30, 2017

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2017

Farmers in bimodal areas were continuing with land preparation and planting specifically in Kagera region. Over the unimodal areas, farmers are continuing with planning for the coming *msimu* rainy season which starts normally between November and December. Water and pasture availability for livestock declined over much of Mwanza, Mara, Simiyu, Shinyanga, Singida, Arusha, Manyara and Dodoma regions. Other areas had moderate water and pasture conditions.

HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2017

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges continued to decrease over most areas of the country due to the ongoing dry conditions.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING OCTOBER 1-10, 2017

Southern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to relax while the northern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to intensify. This situation will cause the ITCZ to continue migrating towards southern hemisphere. SSTs over the Tropical Western Indian Ocean are expected to remain slightly warm and this is likely to keep Southerly to Southeasterly winds along the coast, resulting into isolated rain showers along the coast of Tanzania. The Southeast Atlantic Ocean is expected to experience significantly warm SSTs, which are likely to reduce rains over western areas of Tanzania

EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING OCTOBER 1-10, 2017

In view of the expected synoptic conditions, the **Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mwanza, Mara, Geita, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions)** is expected to have occasional rain showers and thunderstorms while **Northeastern highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions)** and **Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Iringa, Njombe and Songwe and Mbeya regions)** are expected to feature dry conditions, occasional rain showers especially over high grounds and cool temperatures over some areas. **Northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions, the isles of Unguja and Pemba)** is expected to have isolated rain showers.

Western regions (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions) are expected to feature dry conditions and occasional rain showers over some areas. **Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions)** are expected to feature dry conditions. **Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions)** is expected to feature dry conditions with isolated rain showers over few areas. **Southern region (Ruvuma region)** is expected to feature dry conditions and cool temperatures.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING OCTOBER 1-10, 2017

Over the bimodal areas mainly Lake Victoria basin and northern coast, rains are likely to peak during the dekad. Farmers are advised to make use of these rains for planting. However over Kagera region and much of the northern coast are advised to plant drought tolerant crops due to the expected normal to below normal Vuli rains. Northeastern highlands and unimodal areas the expected off seasonal rains are not adequate for planting seasonal crops. Pastoralists are also advised to use the available water and pasture resources sparingly in consultation with extension officers.

HYDROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING OCTOBER 1-10, 2017

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges will continue to decrease over most parts of the country due to ongoing dry conditions. Water users are advised to use available water carefully.

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