

DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 27: 2017/18 cropping season

Review for June 21-30 and Outlook for July 01-10, 2018

HIGHLIGHTS

- The expected dry conditions are likely to favor crop drying, harvesting and storage.
- The invasion of fall armyworms are expected to threaten food security over affected areas.

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING JUNE 21-30, 2018

The northern high pressure system (Azores and Siberian) relaxed while the southern high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) remained intense. The position of Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) was further north off the country. Apart from the intensification of the southern pressure systems, there was low pressure systems over the south which resulted into high pressure gradient and strong winds over some parts of the country. Over the south west Indian Ocean, sea surface temperatures (SSTs) were neutral to cool, resulted into non-cyclonic activities. The dominant wind flow pattern was southerly to south easterly over the most parts of the country. The southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast) SSTs was neutral to slight warm resulted into less westerly wind flow over the western parts of the country thereby reducing rainfall making mechanism over the western sector of the country.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING JUNE 21-30, 2018

During the ten days (dekad), the country was generally dry except a few areas in northern highlands, northern coast and Lake Victoria that recorded out of season rainfall between 10 mm and 100 mm. Also above 250mm out of the season rainfall was observed in western part of Morogoro region as indicated in Figure 1 below.

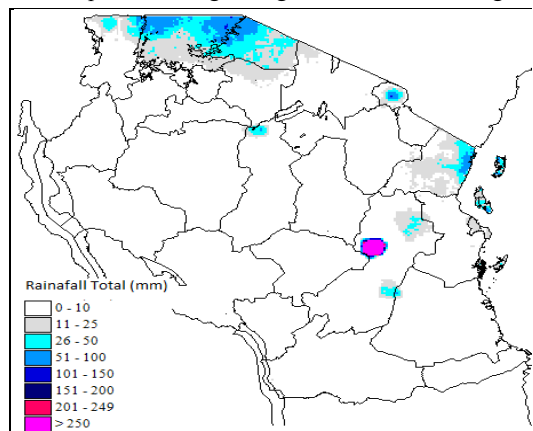


Figure 1: Rainfall Totals for the period of 21-30 June, 2018

AGROMETEROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING JUNE 21-30, 2018

During the period under review, farmers were engaged with maize harvesting in some parts of unimodal areas, particularly in Ruvuma, Mtwara, Rukwa and Njombe. In most of the unimodal areas maize crop was at full ripeness stage. Bean crop was reported in good condition and at ripeness stage in Mbeya, while in Tabora and Kigoma paddy harvesting activities are carried out.

In some areas of bimodal regime harvesting activities are in progress, paddy and potatoes are harvested in Shinyanga region, Beans harvesting in Mara and Kagera regions, and sorghum is harvested in Mara region. Maize crop were reported to be at full ripeness stage in most of the bimodal areas. Harvesting of maize crop was taking place in Simiyu, Tabora, Shinyanga, Mara and Kagera regions.

Water and pasture were in good condition over much of the country except in Dodoma and Tabora where there was a slight decrease.

The impact of floods due to masika rains and fall armyworms has caused serious damage to crops and food shortage as a result in Mwanza (Same district), where farmers are currently getting food aid from the Government.

HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING JUNE 21-30, 2018

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges were moderate across the country and good over Lake Victoria and Pangani basins.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING JULY 01-10, 2018

The Azores and Siberian highs are expected to relax further while the St. Helena and Mascarene highs are expected to remain intense. This is expected to move the ITCZ further north thereby influencing southerly to southeasterly low level winds over the country. SSTs over the southwest Indian Ocean are expected to be neutral to cool hence reducing the possibility of occurrence of tropical cyclones. The dominant wind flow pattern is expected to be southerly to southeasterly enhancing cooler temperatures over most parts of the country. Periods of easterly waves are expected to influence weather over the coastal areas. The southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast) SSTs is expected to be neutral to slight warm which is expected to result into less westerly wind flow, hence reducing precipitation making mechanism over the western sector of the country.

EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING JULY 01-10, 2018

In view of the expected synoptic conditions Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu and Mara regions) are expected to have showers and thunderstorms over few areas.

Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions), northern coast (Tanga, northern part of Morogoro, Pwani and Dar es Salaam regions together with isles of Unguja and Pemba) and southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) are expected to have light showers over few areas.

Western regions (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions) and central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions) are expected to have partly cloudy conditions.

Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe and Iringa regions) and southern region (Ruvuma and southern part of Morogoro regions) are expected to have mainly partly cloudy conditions.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING JULY 01- 10, 2018

The expected dry conditions are likely to favor crop drying, harvesting and storage. Farmers are advised to make the optimal use of surplus food to avoid famine, specifically in the areas that were greatly affected by fall armyworms damage.

Water and pasture conditions are expected to be in a good condition across the country. Farmers, fishers and livestock keepers are advised to consult extension officers for optimal use of this forecast and advisory.

HYDROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING JULY 01-10, 2018

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to remain moderate over the bimodal areas but slightly decrease is expected over the unimodal areas. Water users are advised to use available water sparingly for sustainable water usage .

Prepared by

TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY

3rd Floor - Ubungo Plaza - Morogoro Road.

P.O. Box 3056 Tel. 255 - (0) 22 - 2460706-8; Fax: 255 - (0) 22 - 2460718 E-mail: (1) met@meteo.go.tz (2) agromet@meteo.go.tz; website: www.met@meteo.go.tz

Dar es Salaam UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA