



HIGHLIGHTS

- Farmers in most parts of unimodal regions are mainly engaged with weeding activities
- Farmers in the bimodal areas are mostly engaged with land preparation for the Masika season expected to start from the fourth week of February

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING FEBRUARY 11-20, 2019

The northern high pressure systems (Azores and Siberian) continued to intensify while the southern high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) were relaxed. This allowed the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) being over the southern part of our country. Warm Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) were observed over the south west Indian Ocean which led to the formation of depression over the Mozambique Channel and caused enhanced thundershowers over the southern part of the country. On the other hand, neutral to slight cool SSTs were observed over the southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast), which caused westerly wind flow and moisture influx from Congo forest into the country.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING FEBRUARY 11-20, 2019

During the ten day (dekad) period, much of unimodal area received rains of between 10mm to 100mm and also small pockets of above 100 mm rains were experienced around lake Nyasa in Ruvuma and Njombe region. However, in bimodal area specifically Lake Victoria basin the off seasonal rainfall of about 26mm to 100mm were experienced specifically in some area of Shinyanga, Simiyu, Mara and Kagera regions as shown in Figure 1.

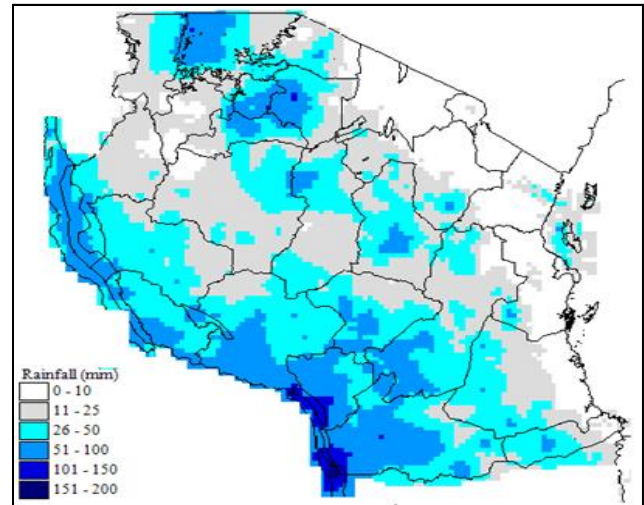


Figure 1. Total rainfall for the period of February 11 - 20, 2019.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING FEBRUARY 11 -20, 2019

During the dekad, the observed rains provided favorable moisture conditions for crops and pasture growth and development in most of the unimodal areas. Farmers over these areas were mostly engaged with weeding activities and application of fertilizers. Maize crops were at ninth leaf stages and in good state. However, in most of bimodal areas farmers are mostly engaged with harvesting activities and preparation of field for coming Masika season expected to start during the fourth week of February. Water and pasture availability for livestock have improved in most parts of the country.

HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING FEBRUARY 11-20, 2019

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges are improving slightly due to ongoing seasonal rains.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING FEBRUARY 21-28, 2019

The northern highs are still expected to continue intensifying while the southern highs are expected to continue relaxing.

This is expected to allow the ITCZ continue being over the southern part of our country. Warm SSTs over the south west Indian Ocean are expected to persist, and likely to trigger the formation of tropical cyclones which may cause enhancement of precipitation over the country. Over southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast), SSTs are expected to be neutral to slight cool, this condition is likely to cause low level westerly wind flow associated with moisture influx from Congo hence contributing to rainfall activities over the most parts of the county.

EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING FEBRUARY 21- 28, 2019

In view of the expected synoptic conditions Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu and Mara regions) and Western regions (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions) is expected to feature thundershowers over some areas.

Northern coast (Tanga, northern parts of Morogoro, Pwani and Dar es Salaam regions together with isles of Unguja and Pemba) and northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions) is expected to feature thundershowers over few areas.

Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions) are expected to feature thundershowers over few areas, accompanied with short periods of strong winds.

Southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions), southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe and Iringa regions) and southern region (Ruvuma and southern part of Morogoro regions) are expected to feature thundershowers over some areas, accompanied with short periods of strong winds.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING FEBRUARY 21-28, 2019

The expected rains will improve soil moisture conditions over most of unimodal and bimodal areas for crops development and planting activities respectively. The Masika rainfall seasonal is expected to start on the fourth week of February 2019. Farmers and livestock keepers over the bimodal and unimodal areas are advised to consult agriculture extension officer for proper utilization of Masika and Msimu rains.

HYDROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING FEBRUARY 21-28, 2019

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to improve in unimodal and bimodal areas as the Msimu and Masika rains continues over those regions. Water users are advised to use available water carefully despite expected rainfall over some areas.

Prepared by

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