



**KENYA METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE
DEKADAL AGROMETEOROLOGICAL**

BULLETIN

**WEATHER AND CROP REVIEW FOR DEKAD 24, 2014
21-31 AUGUST, 2014**

1. HIGHLIGHTS ON RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE

There was an increase in rainfall activities both in intensity and in spatial distribution during the dekad. The highest rainfall amount countrywide of 164.0 mm was received in Kisii station in Nyanza region compared to 129.3mm received in Kericho station in Rift Valley region in the previous dekad. The second highest rainfall of 97.4 mm was recorded at Kakamega station in Western region. Nyanza region received the highest amount of rainfall of 97.0 mm at Kisumu station. Rift valley region reported the highest rainfall amount of 95.7 mm at Eldoret airport station. Nyeri station in central region received the highest rainfall amount of 84.7mm. Nairobi region received the highest amount of rainfall of 53.9 mm at JKIA. Meru station in Eastern region received the highest rainfall amount of 42.1mm. In coastal region, the highest rainfall amount of 9.1mm was recorded at Msabaha station, while Lodwar station in North Eastern region reported the highest amount of rainfall of 6.3 mm.

Maximum temperatures in most stations continued with an increasing trend with Wajir station in North Eastern region recording the highest maximum temperature of 35.2mm compared to 34.9°C reported at Lodwar station in the same region in the previous dekad. The minimum temperatures was also on an increasing trend in most stations with Nyahururu station in Central region still recording the lowest temperature of 7.9°C compared to 7.0°C reported in the previous dekad.

For a more comprehensive summary of rainfall and other meteorological parameters, see Figures 3.1 to 3.4 as shown below.

2. CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW FOR DEKAD 24; 21-31 AUGUST 2014

2.1 NYANZA AND WESTERN REGIONS

2.1.1 Kakamega

The station recorded rainfall amount of 97.4mm during the dekad. The mean air temperature was 20.5°C. There was no report on Pan Evaporation and Sunshine duration.

Maize harvesting is almost over in most farms.

2.1.2 Kisii

The station recorded rainfall amount of 164.0 mm. The mean air temperature and Pan Evaporation were 20.3°C and 4.8mm respectively. There was no record on Sunshine parameter.

Most crops are at germination stage and some farmers are still planting.

2.2 RIFT VALLEY REGION

2.2.1 Kitale

The station recorded rainfall amount of 72.3mm. Pan Evaporation recorded was 3.7mm. There was no report on mean air temperature and sunshine duration.

Maize was at maturity stage and in a good state hence normal yield is expected.

2.2.2 Eldoret-Kapsoya

The station received rainfall amount of 42.1mm. The average air temperature and pan evaporation reported were 16.7°C and 3.2mm respectively. There was 10.0hrs of sunshine.

Maize was at flowering stage and in poor state having been affected by insufficient rain during the previous dekad, hence below normal yield is expected.

2.3 CENTRAL KENYA HIGHLANDS AND NAIROBI AREA REGION

2.3.1 Nyeri

The station received rainfall amount of 84.7mm. The average air temperature was 18.3°C. There was no report on pan evaporation and sunshine parameters.

Maize was at maturity stage and in fair state hence normal yield expected. Some farmers have started harvesting.

2.3.2 Kabete

The station recorded rainfall amount of 20.3mm. Mean air temperature and pan evaporation were 12.0C and 4.5mm respectively. No report on sunshine parameter.

Maize was at harvesting stage and in fair state with normal yield expected.

2.3.3 Thika

The station received rainfall amount of 32.7mm. The mean air temperature and Pan Evaporation were 20.2°C and 5.3mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine duration.

Land preparation was still under way.

2.3.4. Nyahururu

The station received rainfall amount of 68.7mm. The mean air temperature and pan evaporation recorded were 14.5°C and 4.1mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine duration.

Maize was at flowering stage and in fair state while potatoes were at emergency stage and also in fair state. Normal yield is expected for maize.

2.3.5. Dagoretti

The station reported rainfall amount of 44.8mm. The average air temperature and pan evaporation recorded were 18.9°C and 5.0mm respectively. Sunshine duration reported was 7.7hrs.

No report on phenological observations.

2.4 EASTERN KENYA REGION

2.4.1 Meru

The station recorded rainfall amount of 42.1mm. The average air temperature and Pan Evaporation recorded were 19.0°C and 5.5mm respectively. Sunshine record was 8.1hrs.

Land preparation was still under way for next season.

2.4.2 Embu

The station recorded rainfall amount of 27.9mm. Mean air temperature and Pan Evaporation were 13.1°C and 4.5mm respectively. There was no sunshine duration.

Maize was being harvested in most farms.

2.4.3 Katumani (Machakos)

The station received rainfall amount of 31.4mm. The average air temperature reported was 20.0°C. There was no report on pan evaporation and Sunshine duration.

No phenological report.

2.5. COASTAL REGION

2.5.1 Msabaha

The station received rainfall amount of 9.1mm. The average air temperature and Pan Evaporation recorded were 26.1°C and 5.0mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine duration.

Maize was being harvested. Mangoes were at 100% fruit setting stage and in good state.

2.5.2 Mtwapa

The station received rainfall amount of 6.2mm. The average air temperature recorded was 25.3°C. There was no report on Pan Evaporation and Sunshine duration.

Maize was being harvested though adversely affected by insects, birds, animals, diseases mainly maize stalk borer and excessive weed growth. Mangoes were at harvesting stage and in fair state hence normal yield is expected.

3.0 ANALYSIS OF RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE AND VEGETATION CONDITIONS

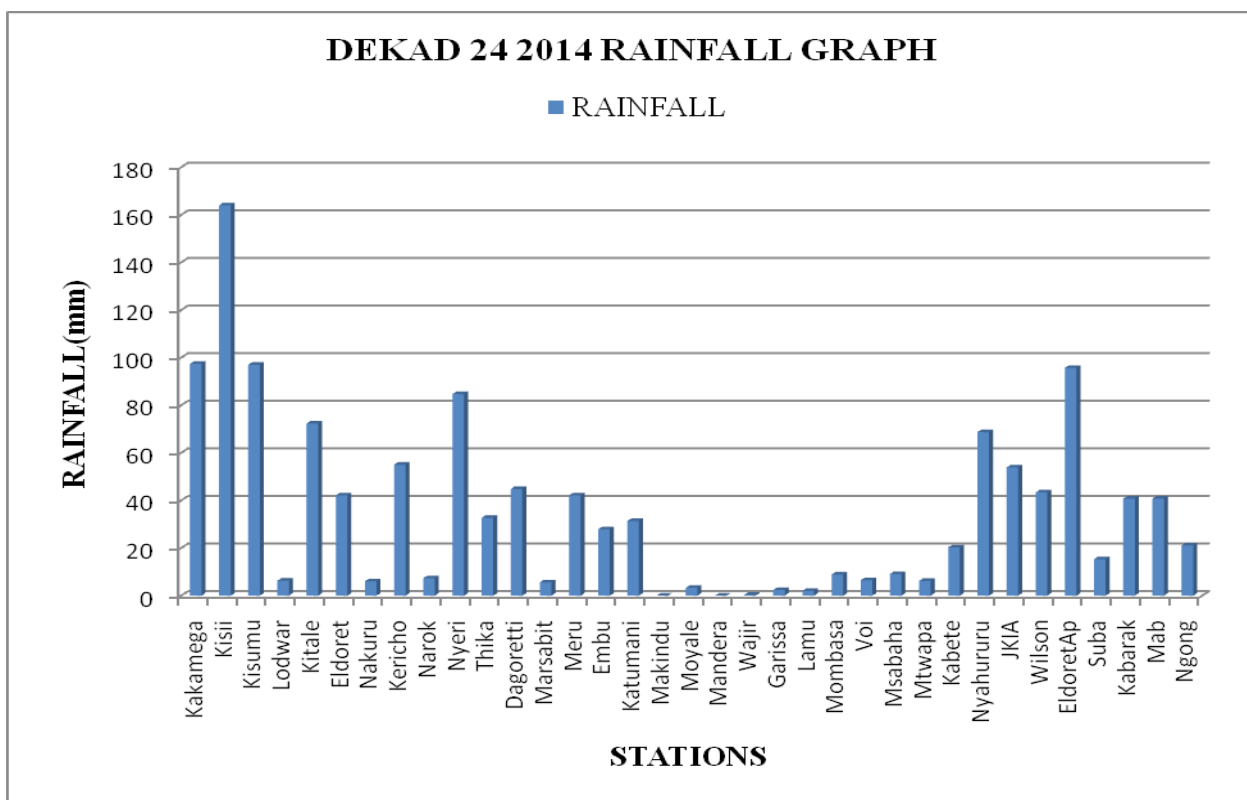


Figure 3.1: Dekadal rainfall totals for 21- 31 AUGUST 2014

DEKAD 24 2014 RAINFALL DISTRIBUTION

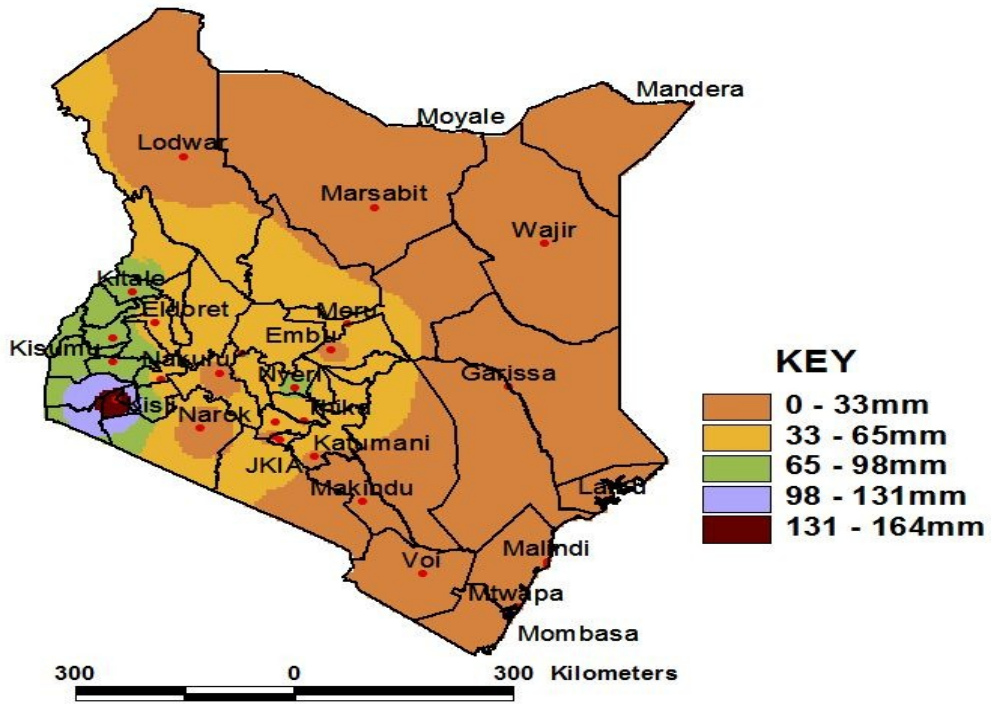


Figure 3.2: Dekadal rainfall distribution for dekad 24, 2014

DEKAD 24 2014 TEMPERATURE GRAGH

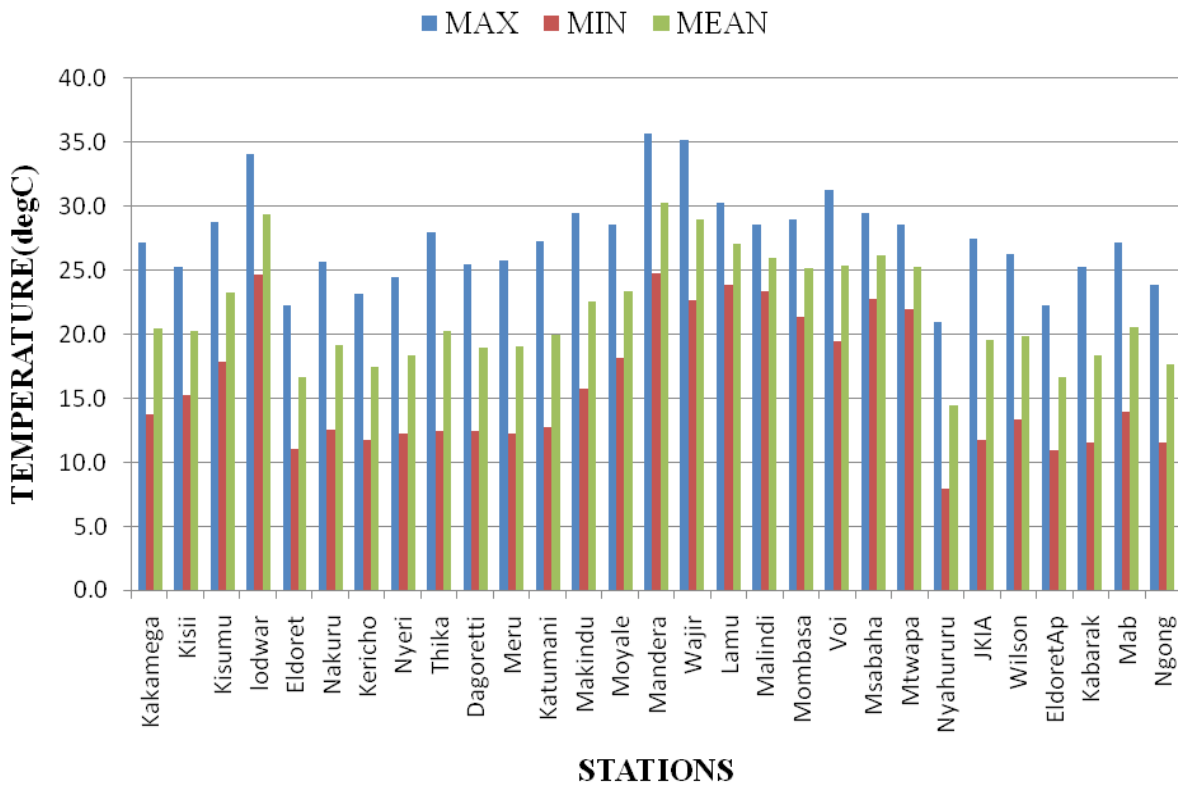


Figure 3.3: Maximum, Minimum and Average temperature for dekad 24, 2014.

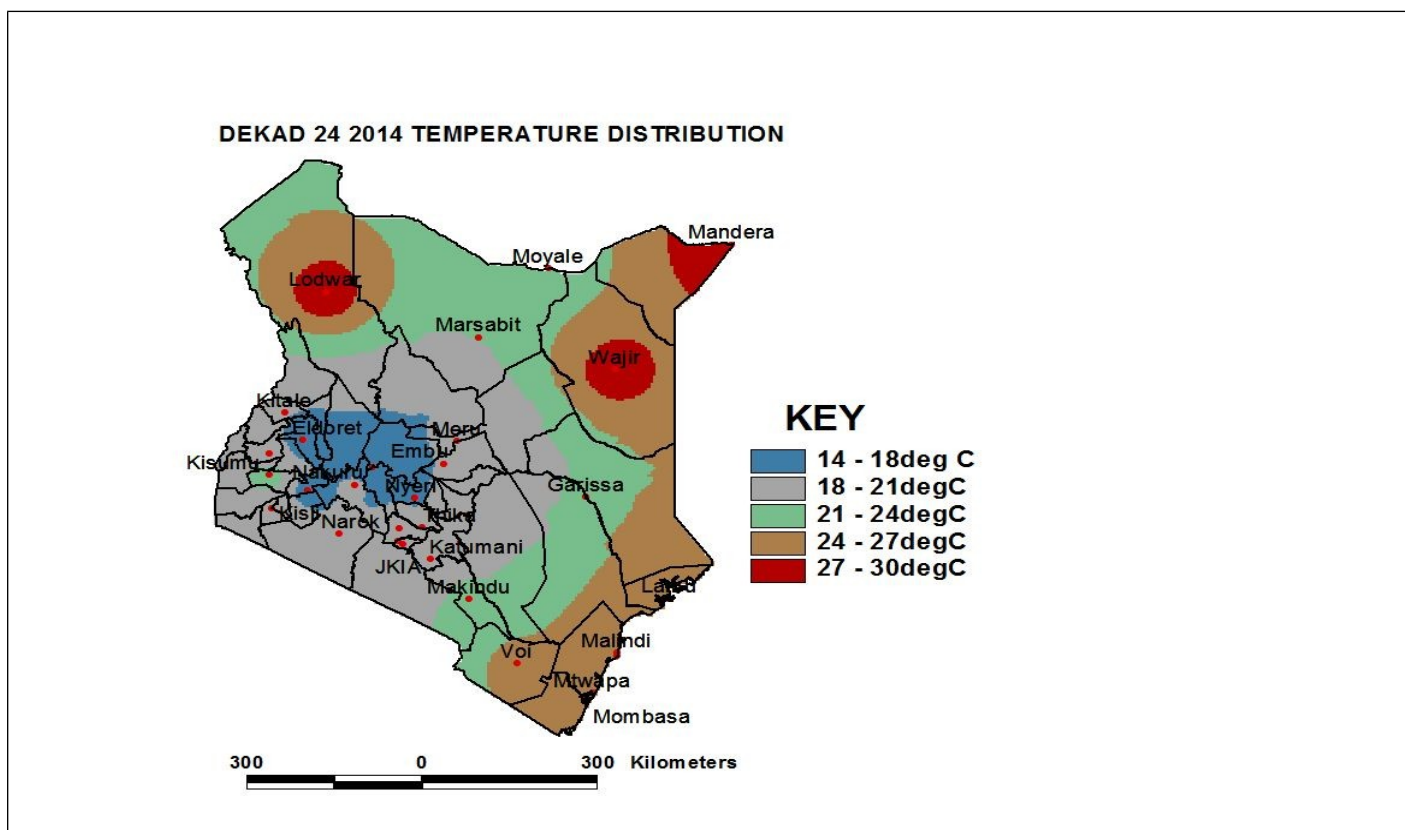


Figure 3.4: Mean temperature distribution for dekad 24, 2014

4. EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS;01-10 AUGUST 2014

- ❖ **Counties within the Lake Victoria Basin, Highlands west of the Rift Valley, Nyamira, Kericho, Bomet, Uasin-Gishu, Nakuru, Narok, Trans Nzoia, Elgeyo Marakwet, Nandi, Laikipia, Kajiado, Vihiga and Busia),** are expected to experience mainly sunny intervals in the morning with occasional rains over few places for the entire forecast period. Showers and thunderstorms are expected in the Afternoon over several places for the first five days, reducing into few places for the rest of the forecast period.

The showers are beneficial to the growth of the maize crop, which is in its emergence and flowering stages in places like Kisii and Eldoret respectively.

- ❖ **The Northwestern counties (Turkana, West Pokot and Samburu),** Are expected to experience in the morning mainly sunny intervals throughout the forecast period. Afternoons are expected to experience showers and thunderstorms over few places for the first five days of the forecast period breaking into sunny intervals for the rest of the forecast period.

The showers will continue to replenish the pasture and vegetation in this region.

- ❖ **The Central highlands including Nairobi area (counties of Meru, Murang'a, Kiambu, Nyeri, Nairobi, Embu, Nyandarua, Tharaka and Kirinyaga),** are expected to experience cloudy early mornings, giving way to sunny intervals with occasional rains over few places. Afternoons are expected to have showers over

few places for the first two days breaking into sunny intervals for the for the rest of the forecast period.

The showers will benefit the Maize crop which is in the flowering stage in places like Nyahururu, while the sunny intervals are beneficial to crops being harvested in places Embu, Kabete etc. Sunny periods are of great importance in land preparation in places Thika, Meru etc.

- ❖ **Northeastern counties (counties of Marsabit, Mandera, Wajir, Garissa and Isiolo)**, are expected to experience sunny intervals the whole day for the entire forecast period.

The expected sunny condition will continue to impact negatively on pasture and vegetation in the region.

- ❖ **Southeastern lowlands (counties of Taita Taveta, Makueni, Machakos and Kitui)**, are expected to experience sunny intervals in the morning throughout the forecast period. Afternoons are expected to experience sunny intervals for the entire forecast period, with showers over few places only on fourth day of the forecast period.

The showers will continue to benefit the pasture and vegetation in the region.

- ❖ **In the Coastal strip (counties of Mombasa, Malindi, Kilifi, Lamu, Kwale, etc)**, are expected to experience in the morning showers over few places on the first day of the forecast period, breaking into sunny intervals for the next three days, and then showers over few places for the rest of the forecast period. Afternoons are expected to experience sunny intervals throughout the entire forecast period.

The showers will benefit the development of mangoes that are in fruit setting, and the sunny intervals are of great importance to Maize harvesting in places like Msabaha and Mtwapa.

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