



KMD

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

13th Dekad, 1st to 10th May 2008

Issue No. 13/2008, Season: MAM

HIGHLIGHTS

- *During the 13th Dekad i.e. 1st to 10th May 2008 moderate to heavy rainfall was experienced over the western and the coastal region. The rest of the country experienced light to moderate rainfall except for parts of Northwestern districts and South Eastern Lowlands, which remained generally sunny and dry during the review period with Kakamega, Kisii, Kericho, Thika, Dagoretti, Embu, Moyale and Mtwapa recording 115.5, 137.1, 36.4, 108.7, 63.2, 205.7, 91.4 and 118.1mm respectively*
- *Maximum (daytime) temperatures continued to fall over most parts of the country due to the overcast sky conditions. Night temperatures were relatively warmer especially over some parts of Central Rift Valley, with Nyahururu recording a Dekadal minimum mean of 14.9 deg. Celsius. (Fig.2)*
- *The pastoral regions and game parks of Southern Rift Valley, North Eastern and South Eastern lowlands, experienced light to moderate rainfall and this resulted in improved pasture regeneration and water sources. However, for the pastoral and game parks of Northern Rift Valley, hot and dry condition prevailed resulting in poor pastures regeneration and water sources. (Figs.1 & 3).*

CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW

(1st to 10th May 2008)

Central Province and Nairobi area:

Light rainfall was received over Central province, Nairobi area and its environs. Weeding and top dressing is taking place. Most crops are at the 9th leaf stage and are corresponding to normal growth and with crop performance above normal in some areas around Nyeri with no adverse effects reported.

Eastern Province:

Light rainfall was received over these region during the Dekad especially in areas bordering Mt Kenya. Weeding and top dressing is taking place in most places of these regions and crops are at the 9th leaf stage and are corresponding to normal growth and with no adverse incidences reported.

To the south (Machakos, Mwingi and Kitui), light or no rainfall at all was experienced in several areas. Weeding is taking place in most parts of these regions and the maize crop is at the 9th leaf stage. Beans are in the flowering stage and are corresponding to normal growth. During the review period the only adverse effect reported was too much sun in areas around Makindu where crops are experiencing water stress due to insufficient rainfall. For the mixed type of farming (crops and livestock, there was a improvement in pastures regeneration and water sources.

Coast Province:

Moderate to heavy rainfall was received in several areas in the region during the review period. Weeding is taking place in most areas and crops are corresponding to normal growth.

North Eastern Province:

Light rainfall was experienced in most parts except Moyale which received dekad rainfall of 56.9mm. Despite the reduction in rainfall the soil moisture reserve was enough to sustain improved pasture regeneration and improved water sources for both domestic and animal use. (Figs.1, 2, 3)

Western Province:

Light to Moderate rainfall was received in several places in this region (Kakamega, Bungoma and Busia). Weeding and top dressing is taking place in most parts of these regions and most crops are at the shooting stage with crop performance above normal being reported. (Fig.1).

Nyanza and Central Rift Valley:

Moderate to heavy rainfall was received in several places in this region. Weeding is taking place in several areas of these regions. Crops are at the shooting stage and are corresponding to normal growth. (Figs 1)

Northern and Southern Rift Valley:

Light or no rainfall at all was experienced in the Southern Rift and North Western regions resulting in depressed pastures regeneration and water sources for both domestic and animal use. (Figs.1, 2, 3)

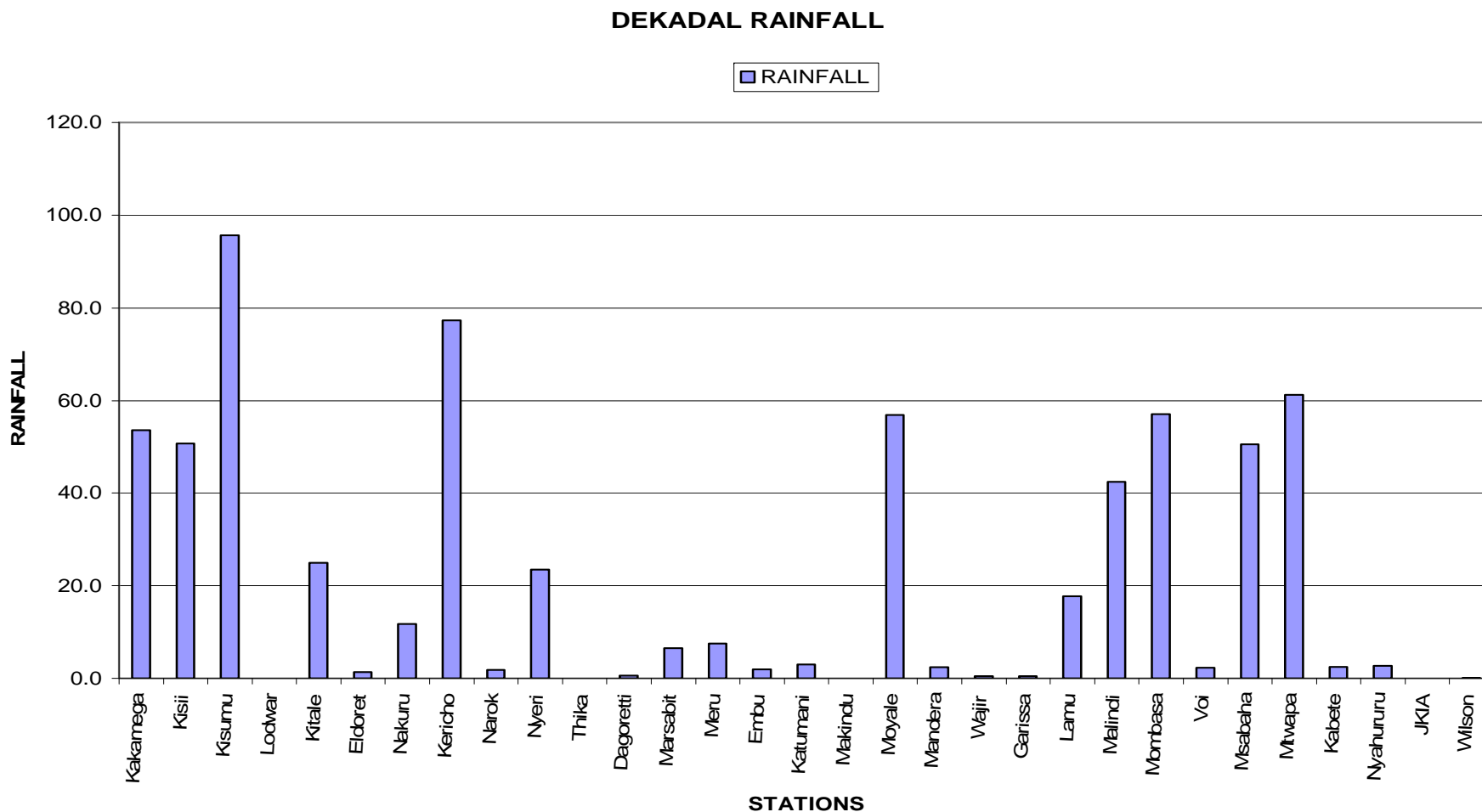


Fig. 1: Actual Rainfall (1st to 10th May 2008)

DEKADAL TEMPERATURES

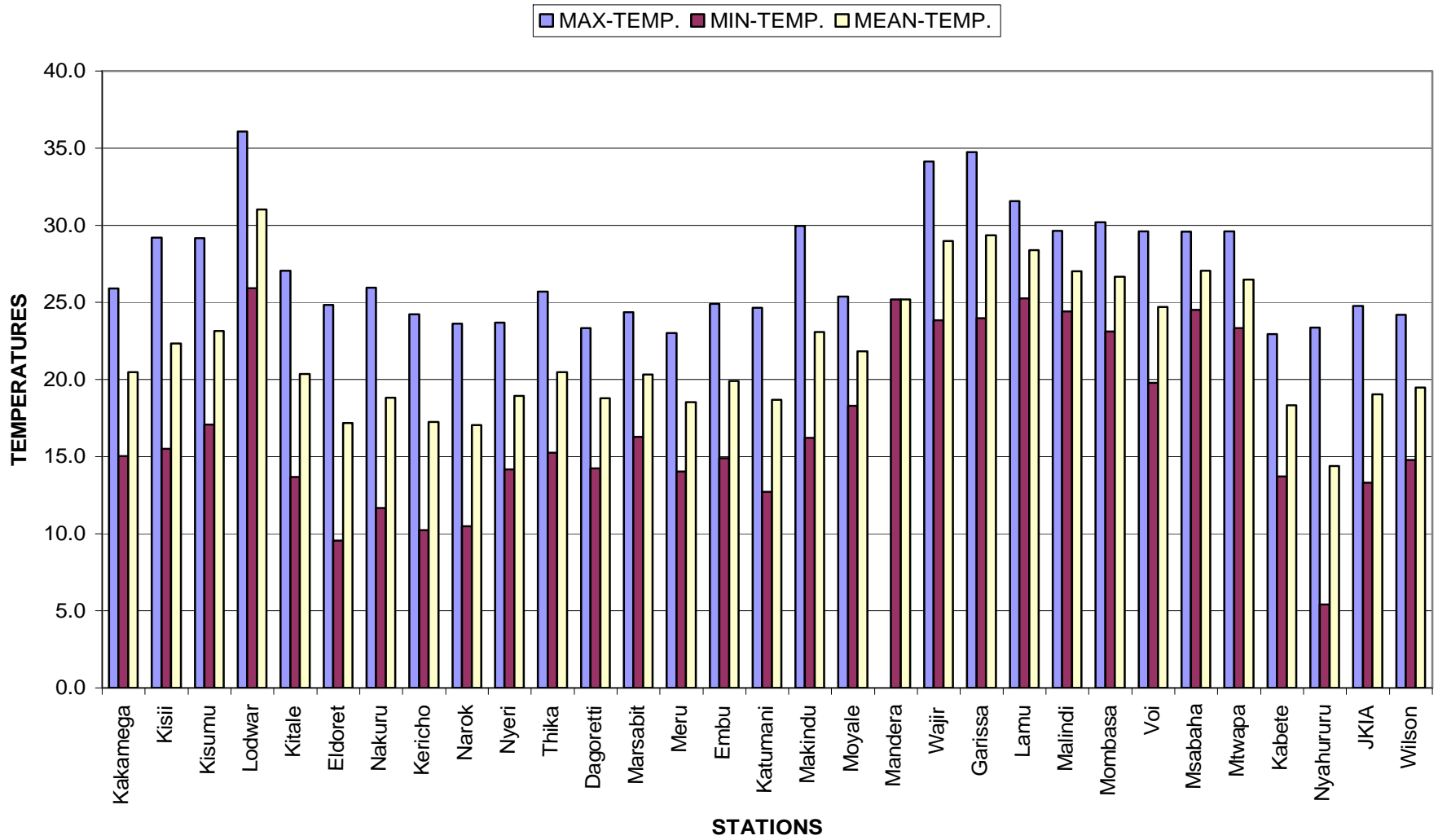


Fig 2: Mean Temperatures (1st to 10th May 2008)

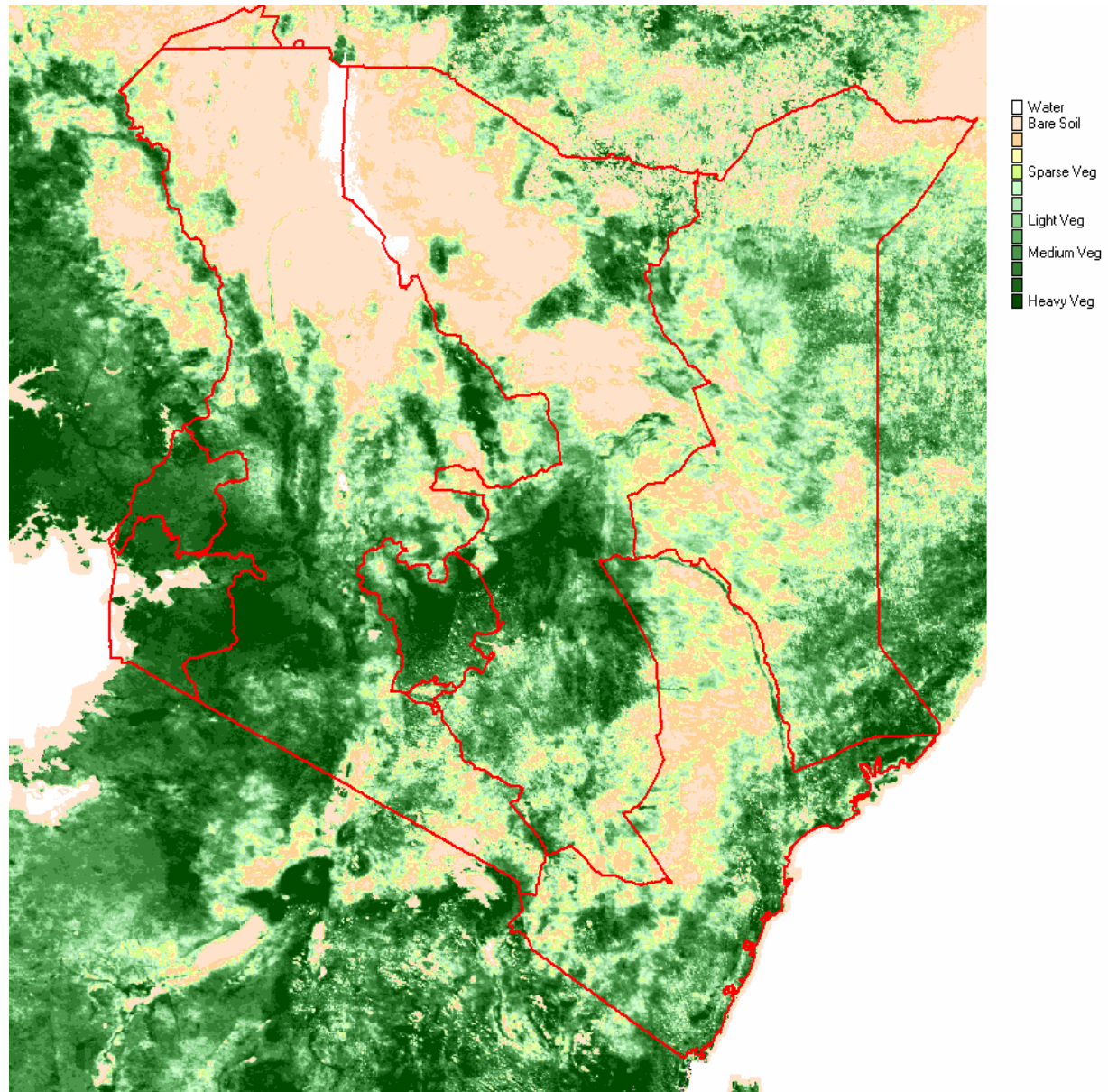


Fig. 3: Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (1st to 10th May 2008)

EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS (10th –20th May 2008).

During the next 10 days Western, Nyanza and Central Rift Valley regions are expected to experience moderate rainfall over several places. Crops are expected to continue doing well. Weeding and top dressing is also expected to continue.

Central Highlands, Nairobi area and its environs, are expected to receive light to moderate rainfall in few places. Most crops are at the shooting stage and are expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth. Weeding and top dressing is also expected to continue.

In Eastern Province regions bordering Mt Kenya are expected to experience light to moderate rainfall. Crops are expected to continue doing well. In South-Eastern lowlands, light or no rainfall at all is expected over several places. Crops are expected to start experiencing water stress due to insufficient rainfall accompanied by the prevailing hot conditions. Weeding and top dressing is also expected to continue in both regions.

The coastal regions are expected to experience moderate rainfall. Weeding is expected to continue in several places.

In the pastoral regions of Northwestern and South Rift Valley districts hot and dry conditions are expected to prevail, resulting in poor pasture regeneration and inadequate drinking water for both human and animal use. However, the pastoral regions of North Eastern light rainfall is expected over several places, resulting in improved pastures regeneration and water sources for domestic, wildlife and animal use.

In summary weeding and top dressing are expected to continue in most parts of the country. Crops are at the shooting stage in most places and are expected to continue doing well.

In the pastoral regions and game parks improved pasture regeneration and water sources are expected, except for Northwestern and South Rift Valley where dry and hot conditions are expected to prevail resulting in depressed pasture regeneration and inadequate water sources.

This product should be used in conjunction with Kenya Meteorological Department weather forecasts

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