



KMD

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

33rd Dekad, 21st to 30th November, 2008

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HIGHLIGHTS

- *During the 33rd Dekad i.e. 21st to 30th November, 2008 significant reduction in rainfall was experienced over the entire Country. Light to moderate rainfall were experienced over Western, Nyanza, Central Rift Valley provinces, with the following stations recording rainfall Dekadal totals of; Kakamega- 26.0, Kisii-10.5, Kisumu-1.0, Kitale-2.1, Kericho-42.8, Nakuru-11.6, Narok-25.1 mm. Light rainfall were experienced over Central Highlands, Nairobi Area and its environs, with the following stations recording rainfall Dekadal totals of; Nyeri-12.9, Embu-0.9, . In Nairobi, Dagoretti-16.0,, JKIA-16.7mm. Eastern Provinces remained generally dry with Katumani and Makindu recording a Dekadal total of 3.0, and 0.3mm respectively. The Coast province experienced light rainfall with Voi and Mombasa recording 60.3 and 4.4 mm respectively during the Dekad. The rest of the Country, especially in Northeastern and Northwestern recorded light or Nil rainfall during the Dekadal. (Fig 1&2)*
- *Despite the reduction in rainfall in most parts of the Country, Floods damages and their related impacts are still being experienced in the affected regions, hygienic precautions ought to be taken to prevent outbreaks of dysentery and other water- borne diseases.*
- *Day time temperatures were relatively high over most parts of the country due to persistent sunny conditions. Night temperatures were moderately cool with Nyahururu and Narok, recording a Dekadal mean minimum of 8.9 and 9.9, deg Celsius respectively. (Fig 2&3)*
- *In pastoral regions and game parks of Northern Rift Valley, Southern Rift Valley, North Eastern and South Eastern, there has been some reduction in water sources for both human and animal use. (Figs. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5).*

CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW (21st to 30th November 2008)

Central Province and Nairobi area:

Light rainfall were experienced over several parts of Central province, Nairobi area and its environs. The maize crop is at the emergence stage (at 9th leave stage). First weeding and top dressing is taking place and the crop is doing well and corresponding to normal growth. The bean crop is at the flowering stage and is corresponding to normal growth. (Figs.1, 2, 3 & 4).

Eastern Province:

Light rainfall were experienced over areas surrounding Mt. Kenya. The maize crop is at the emergence stage (at 9th leave stage). First weeding and top dressing is taking place and the crop is doing well and corresponding to normal growth. The bean crop is at the flowering stage and is corresponding to normal growth. (Figs.1, 2, 3 & 4)

In the Southern Lowlands (Machakos, Makueni, Mwingi and Kitui districts) experienced mainly dry conditions during the Dekad. The maize and bean crops are at the emergence stage. However, signs of water stress on crops in some regions are being noted due to poor rainfall distribution. Famine and its related impacts is still being experienced in most parts of these region, due to last season crop failure, and food distribution to the most vulnerable livelihoods has been taking place to avert the current food situation.

The poor rainfall performance, both in amounts and distribution in the region has not significantly improved pastures and water situation resulting in poor pasture regeneration and inadequate water for human, livestock and wildlife use . (Figs.1, 2, 3,4,& 5).

Coast Province:

Light rainfall was received in this region during period under review. Planting is complete and the maize crop is at the emergence stages in the few farms under cultivation. Land is normally left furrow during the short rain season. (Figs.1, 2,3&4)

North Eastern Province:

Light or no rainfall at all was experienced during the Dekad resulting in depressed pasture regeneration and diminishing water sources for livestock, wildlife and human use. Despite the light rains, hunger and its related impacts is still being experienced in the region. (Figs.1, 2, 3,4& 5).

Western Province:

Light to moderate rainfall were received in few places in this region (Kakamega, Bungoma, Busia, Eldoret and Kitale). Harvesting of last season's maize crop is taking place with normal yields being reported. Rains during the harvesting season may hinder both harvesting processes and post-harvest operations. However, in Tranzoia Districts rainfall during harvesting has resulted in rotting of maize in large percentages. In Kakamega this season's bean crop is at the maturity stage and is doing well with normal yields being expected. (Figs.1,2,3 & 4).

Nyanza and Central Rift Valley:

Light to moderate rainfall were received in this region. In Nyanza maize crop is at the flowering stage, second weeding is taking place. For Central Rift Valley crops are doing well and corresponding to normal growth with normal yeilds being expected. In areas around Kisii the maize is at the fowering stages and beans crop is at the maturity stage with normal yields being expected. (Figs 1,2,3 & 4)

Northern and Southern Rift Valley:

Light or no rainfall at all were experienced in most places of the North Western Riftvalley regions during the dekad. Rainfall in the previous Dekad has slightly improved pastures and water sources for livestock, wildlife and human use. Despite the rains, hunger is still being experienced and malnutrition levels are still high, especially among youny children and the elderly. (Figs.1-5).

In the Southern Rift Valley light rains were received during the Dekad and this was a boost to water sources for both human and animal use as well as improvement to pasture regeneration. (Figs.1-5).

DEKADAL RAINFALL

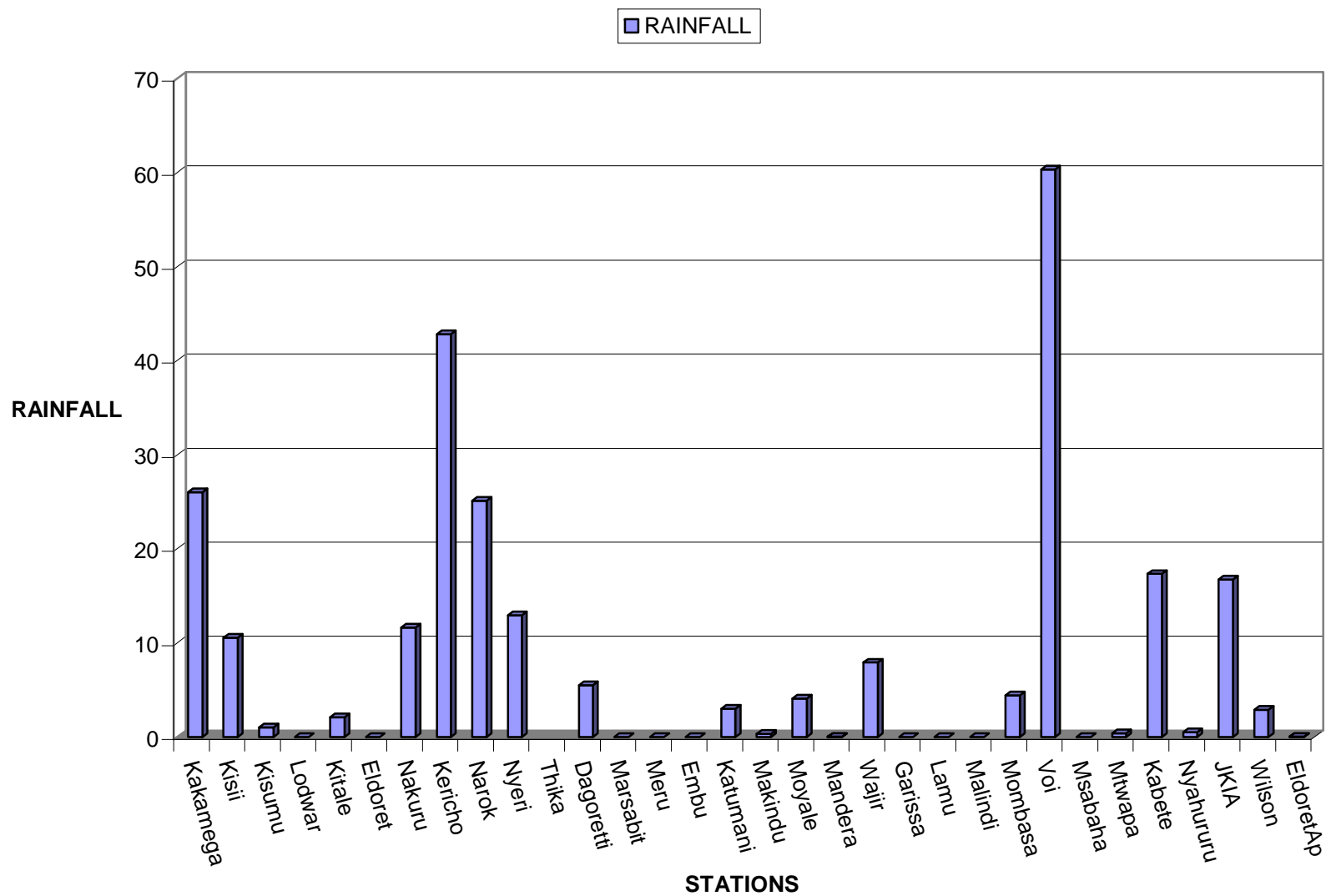


Fig. 1: Actual Rainfall (21st to 30th November 2008) in mm

DEKADAL TEMPERATURES

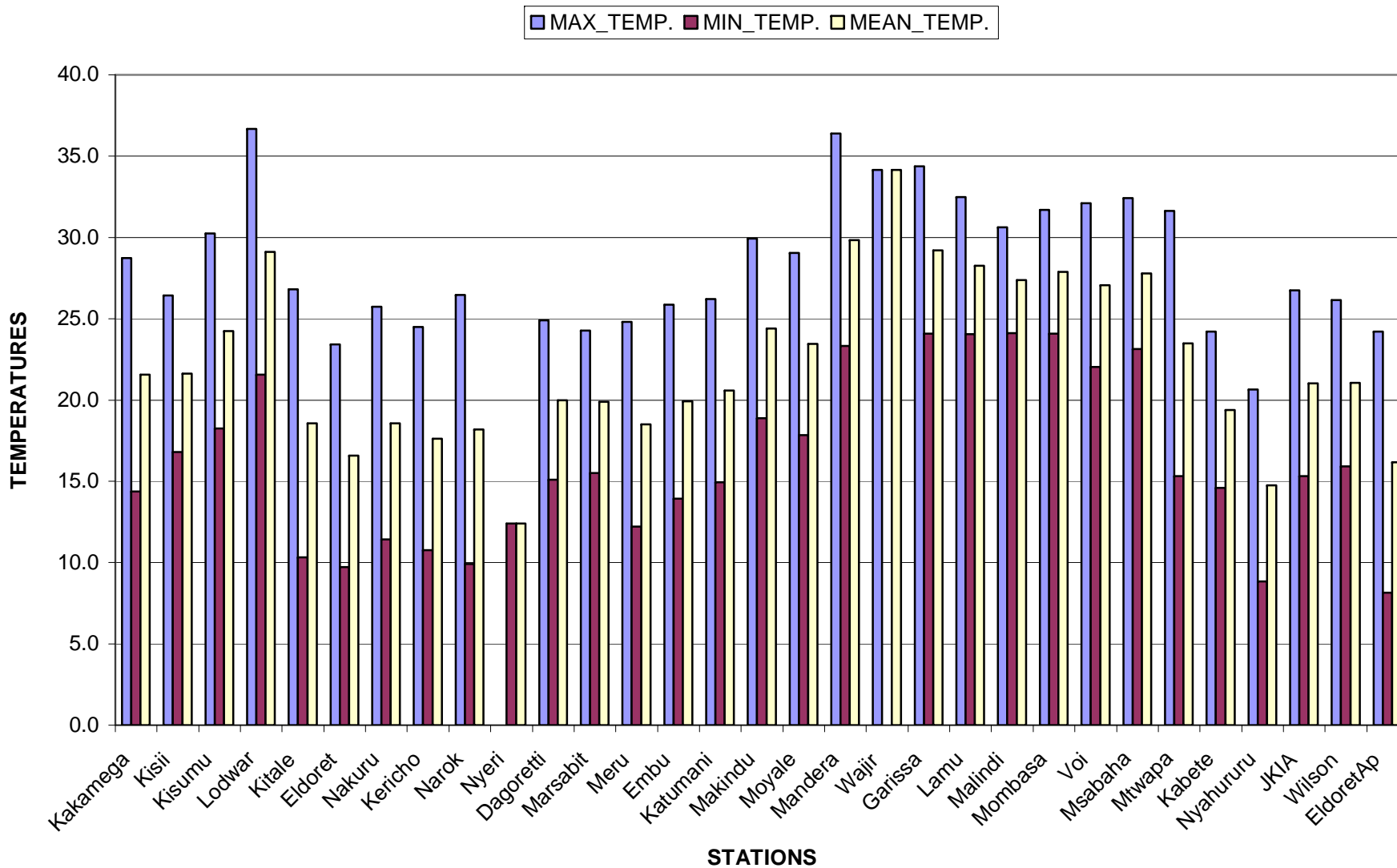


Fig 3: Mean Temperatures (21st to 30th November 2008) deg. Celsius

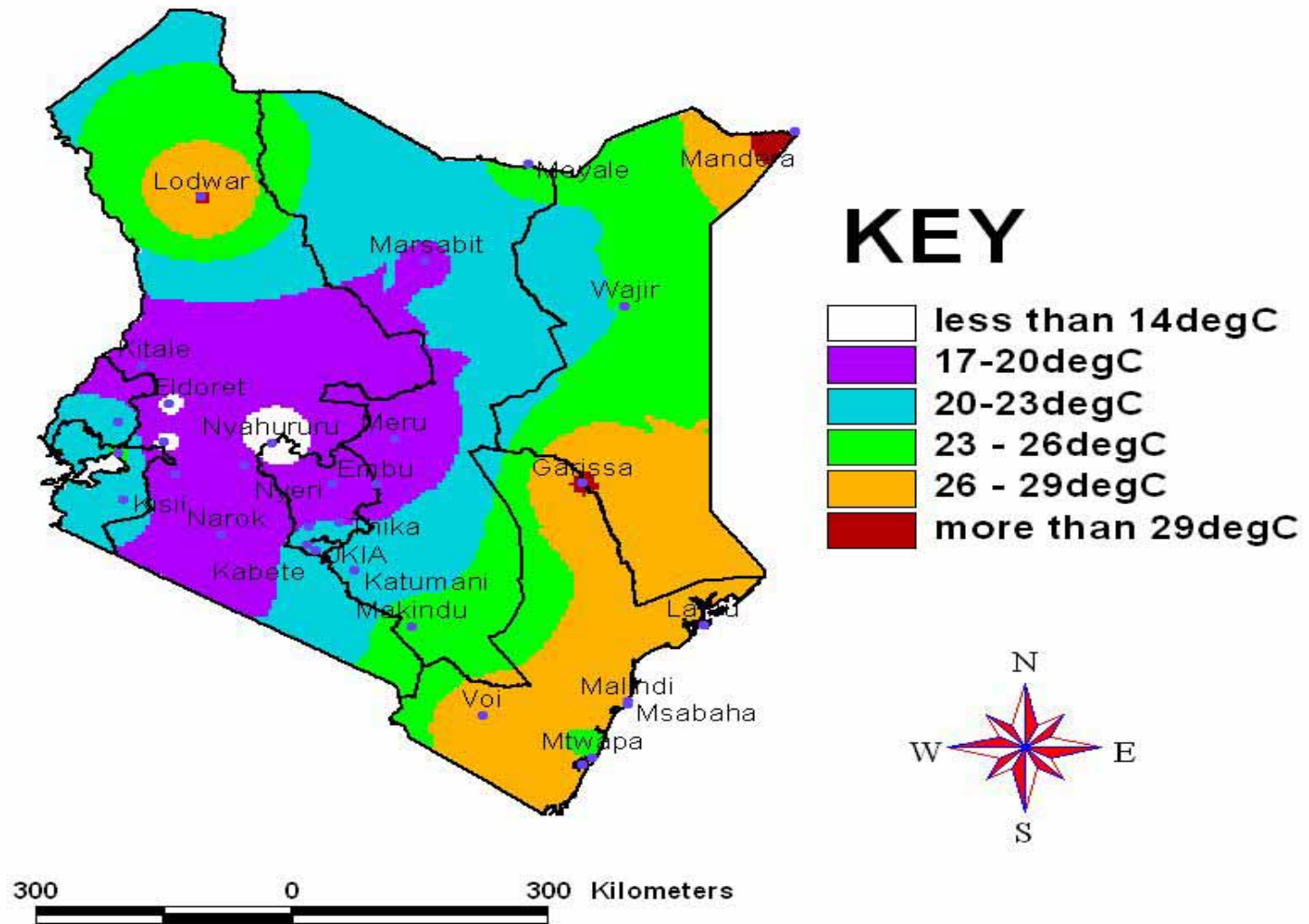


Fig 4: Mean Temperatures (21st to 30th November 2008) deg. Celsius

EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS (1st –10th December 2008).

During the next 10 days (1st –10th December 2008), Western, Nyanza and Central Rift Valley regions are expected to experience light to moderate rainfall over few places. Crops are expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth.

Central Highlands, Nairobi area and its environs, are expected to experience light to moderate rainfall in few places. Crops are expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth.

In Eastern Province regions of Embu and Meru districts, bordering Mt Kenya, are expected to experience light to moderate to rainfall in few places. Crops are expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth.

In South-Eastern lowlands, are expected to experience light rainfall over few places but generally, dry conditions will prevail over most parts of this region resulting in inadequate pastures and water sources for human, livestock and wildlife use. Crops are expected to continue experiencing water stress due to prolonged dry spells.

The Coastal region is expected to experience light rainfall but generally sunny conditions will prevail during the Dekad. Crops are expected to start experiencing water stress due to inadequate rainfall.

In the pastoral regions of Northwestern, Northeastern and South Rift Valley districts light or no rains at all are expected resulting in depressed pastures regeneration and inadequate water sources for human and animal/wildlife use.

In summary few areas will experience wet conditions. In these crops are expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth. Harvesting is expected to continue in Western Kenya around Kitale and Eldoret with normal yields being expected.

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

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