



KMD

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

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Dekad 09; 21- 31 MARCH, 2010

HIGHLIGHTS

- *During the 9th dekad, all stations within the country reported low to heavy rainfall except Mandera which reported nil. The highest dekadal rainfall observed was 185.7mm at Kabete.*
 - In Western and Nyanza provinces heavy rainfall was received. The highest amount observed was 149.6 mm at Kakamega while the lowest was 56.3 mm at Kisumu.
 - In central and North Rift Valley heavy rainfall was also received. The highest amount observed in the region was 183.6 mm at Kabarak while the lowest was 38.6 mm at Eldoret.
 - In Central Province and Nairobi area, very heavy rainfall was reported. The highest amount observed was 185.7mm at Kabete while the lowest was 41.2 mm at Nyeri.
 - In Eastern and North Eastern regions, low to heavy rainfall was reported. The highest amount observed was 129.5mm at Machakos while the lowest was nil at Mandera.
 - In coastal region, low to heavy rainfall was reported. The highest amount observed was 40.4mm at Mombasa while the lowest was 5.1mm at Msabaha.
- *During the dekad, day time temperatures decreased significantly across the country while night temperatures increased considerably. The highest dekadal maximum temperature observed was 35.7°C at Garissa while the lowest dekadal minimum temperature observed was 10.6°C at Nyahururu (Fig. 3 &4).*

CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW FOR DEKAD 09; 21 – 31 MARCH 2010

Central Province and Nairobi Area:

Maize crop in Nyeri is still being harvested. The exercise is being hindered by heavy rainfall in most parts of the region. In Mathira and Tetu, farmers have planted inter rows due to continuing rain. In Nyahururu and Thika, some crops have emerged and correspond to normal growth.

Eastern Province:

Crops have germinated in most areas of Machakos, Makueni and Kitui districts and are in excellent condition. In Meru and Embu districts, maize and beans have germinated with some in poor state.

Coast Province:

The coastal areas reported wet weather over the dekad (Fig 1&2). There is no main crop in the field at the moment. Land preparation for the next season is underway.

North Eastern Province:

Wet conditions were experienced in the region during the dekad (Figs.1-2). This led to improvement in pasture and general vegetation condition (Fig 5).

Western Province:

Heavy rainfall was reported in this region during the dekad (Fig 1&2). Most crops have emerged and are better than normal condition.

Nyanza and Central Rift Valley:

Heavy rainfall was experienced over most places in this region during the dekad (Figs.1&2). In Kisii and Kisumu crops have reached emergence stage and correspond to normal growth. Some farmers have started weeding their farms.

Northern and Southern Rift Valley:

Heavy rainfall was experienced in the region(Lodwar, Narok , Lokichoggio) during the dekad(Figs.1 &2). As a result, there was improvement of pasture and vegetation as can be seen in Figure 5.

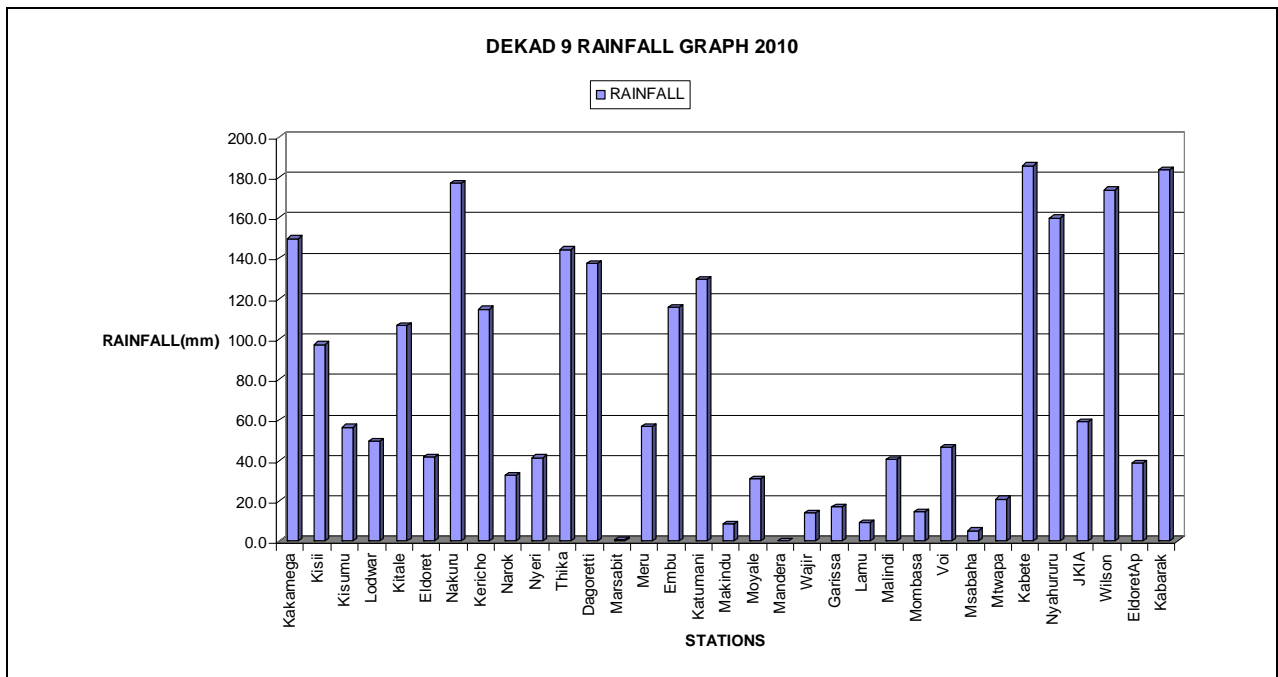


Fig. 1: Dekad 09 2010; Actual Rainfall

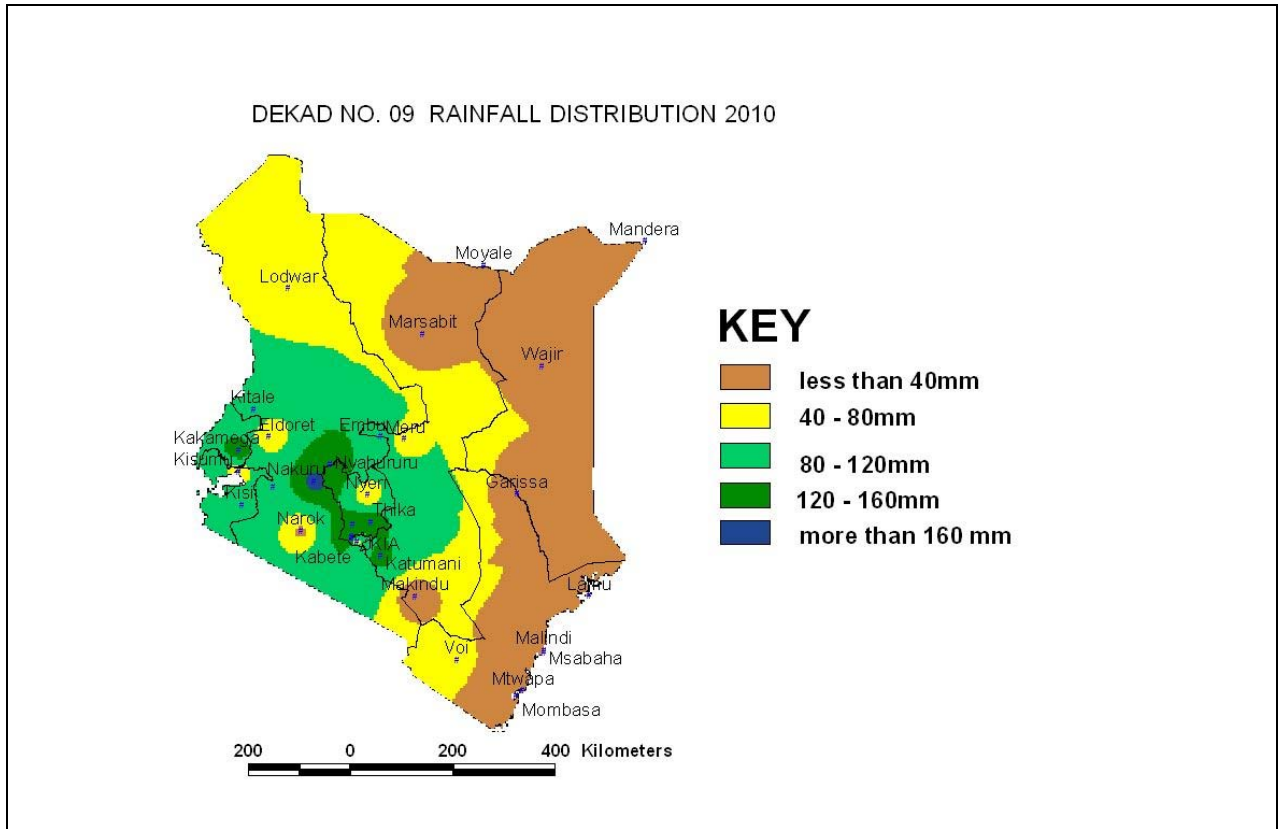


Fig. 2: Dekad 09, 2010; Rainfall distribution

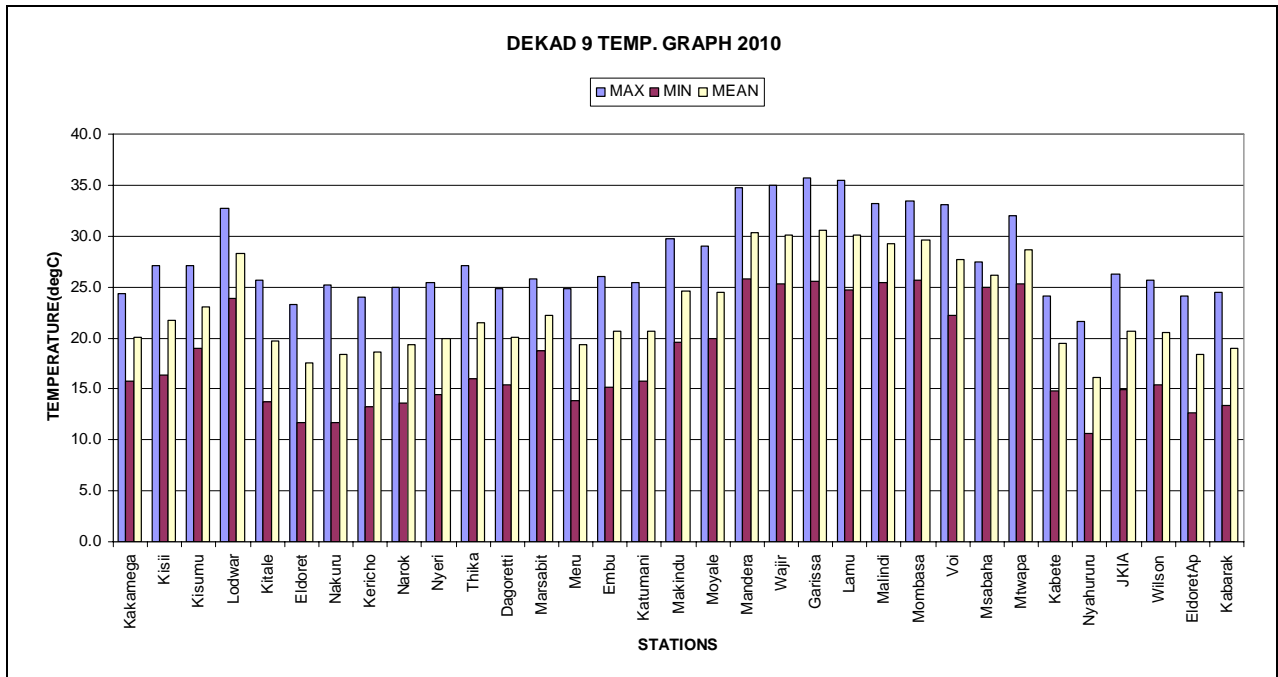


Fig 3: Dekad 09, 2010; Mean Temperatures (deg. Celsius)

EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS; (1-10 APRIL, 2010)

- ✚ During the next 10 days, the western region will experience rains in several places. Night showers and morning rains are likely to occur over few places. It is expected that most farmers will have completed planting. Others are expected to continue weeding their crops.
- ✚ Nyanza and Central Rift Valley will experience rains in several places. Night showers and morning rains are likely to occur over few places. This will continue to benefit the growth of the crops that have already germinated.
- ✚ Central Highlands, Nairobi area and its environs, will experience night showers and morning rains over several places. Occasional afternoon showers and thunderstorms will also be experienced over few places. This will benefit the emerging and growing crops.
- ✚ Eastern Province areas are expected to experience afternoon and night showers over several places. This will provide favourable conditions for the crops most which are I emergence stage.
- ✚ The Coastal region will experience morning showers over several places and occasional afternoon showers occur over few places. It is expected that land preparation will be completed and planting should start during the next ten days.
- ✚ North Western and North Eastern districts will experience morning rains, afternoon showers and thunderstorms over several places. This will lead to improved pasture condition within the region.

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