

LESOTHO METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES (LEKALA LA TSA BOLEPI)



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*...dedicated to the agricultural community
... aimed at harmonizing agricultural activities with weather and climate*

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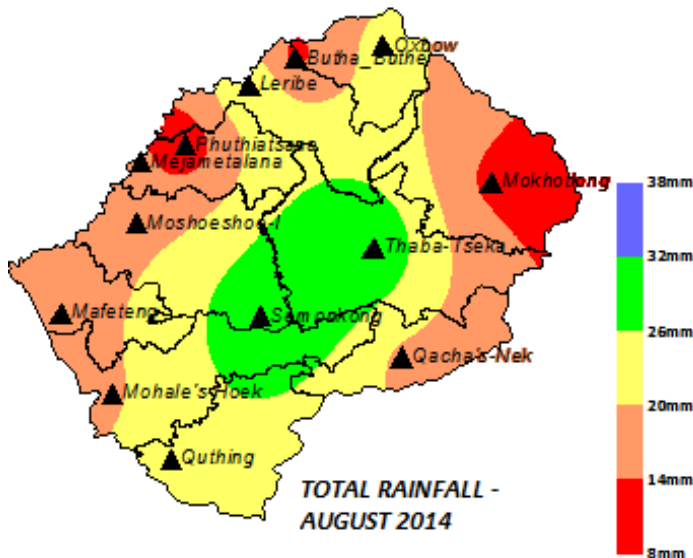
- ❑ Prevailing dry conditions
- ❑ High temperatures experienced throughout the country.
- ❑ No planting in the lowlands, some planting in the mountains.

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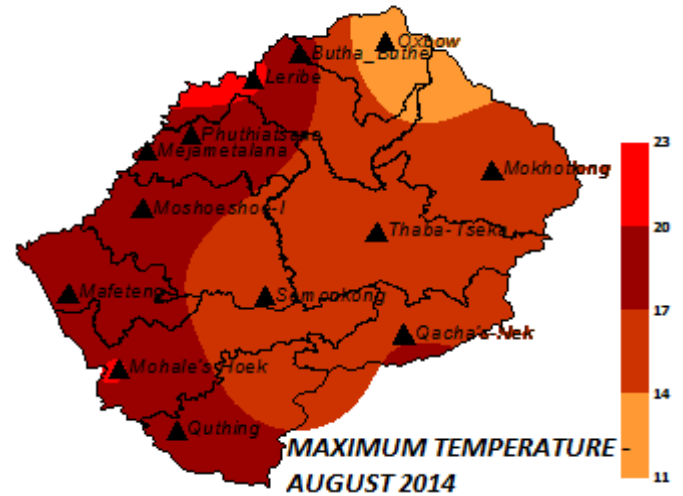
RAINFALL SITUATION

The country received below normal rainfall for the month of August. The rainfall that was received had a little impact to trigger the start of agricultural activities and to boost the improvement of the rangelands for animal feed as it provided insignificant infiltration to the soil. The country received scattered rain showers at the beginning of the month which were occurred in the mountains (Mokhotlong, Thaba-Tseka). On the 9th there was rainfall countrywide with Leribe receiving the highest of 20mm but the rainfall was followed by a long dry spell of ten days. The country again received rainfall at the end of second dekad with mountains (Thaba-Tseka, Semonkong) receiving most of the rainfall. The whole of the third dekad received no rainfall.



TEMPERATURE

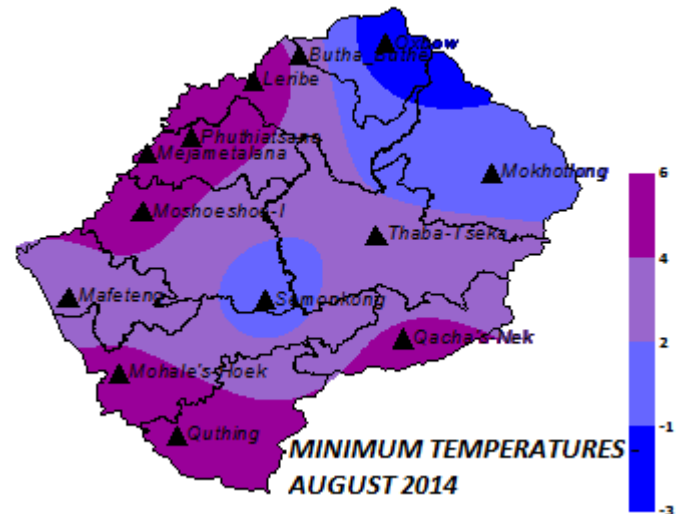
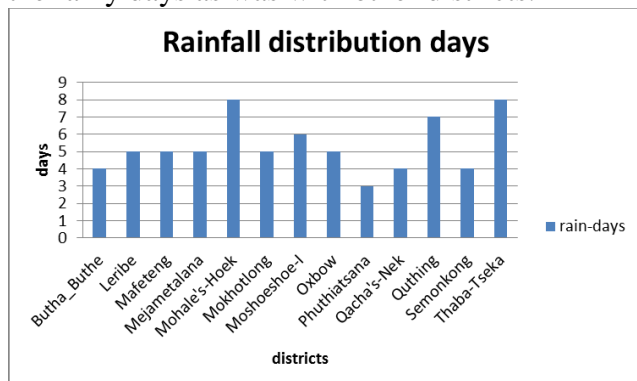
There was a prevalence of scorching high temperatures this resulted in high evapotranspiration thus retrieving all the little moisture which was provided by the little rainfall that was received during the month of August.



The minimum temperatures decreased significantly, with the mountains receiving a little lower to what is normal

RAINFALL DISTRIBUTION

Thaba-Tseka and Mohale's Hoek had the highest rainy days (8 days) although the distribution was not successive there were dry spells in between the rainy days as was with other districts.



CROP STAGE AND CONDITIONS

Moutains (thaba-tseka, mokhotlong, semonkong)

The agricultural activities began as soon as the first rains were received at the beginning of the month. People started planting but the crops did not perform well as the little rains that were received we followed by long dry spells with high temperatures with took all the little moisture.

There was no improvement on the rangelands for animal feed.

Lowlands, Foothills and Sengu River Valley

The regions received little rainfall which did not bring any relief to the dry conditions from the preceding months. No agricultural activities took place, the fields are bare, and the rangelands for animal feed are poor.

