

# LESOTHO METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES (LEKALA LA TSA BOLEPI)



## Ten-Day Agrometeorological Bulletin

11 – 20 January 2014



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

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## Highlights

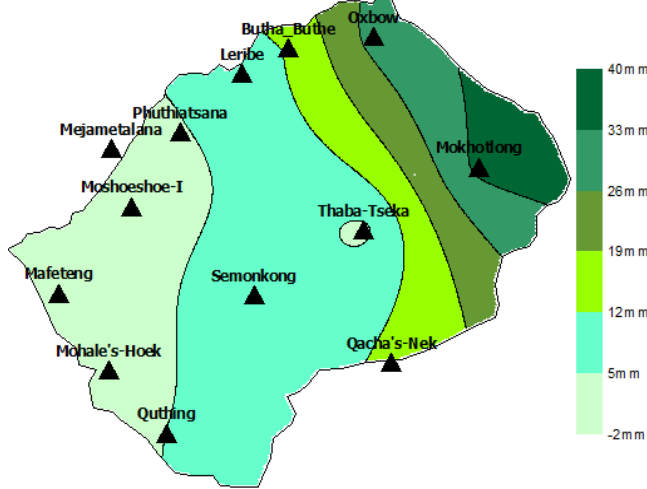
- ❑ Below normal rainfall across the country for this dekad
- ❑ Cumulative rainfall dropping for most places
- ❑ Normal to above normal mean temperatures experienced in most places.
- ❑ Weeding in progress.
- ❑ Crops at flowering stages

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**RAINFALL SITUATION**

Most parts of the country recorded good rains during the first dekad of January 2014 but the second dekad recorded below normal rainfall across the whole country with only Mokhotlong recording above normal rainfall of 34.8mm. (See Map1).



Map 1: Rainfall for January 2nd dekad 2014

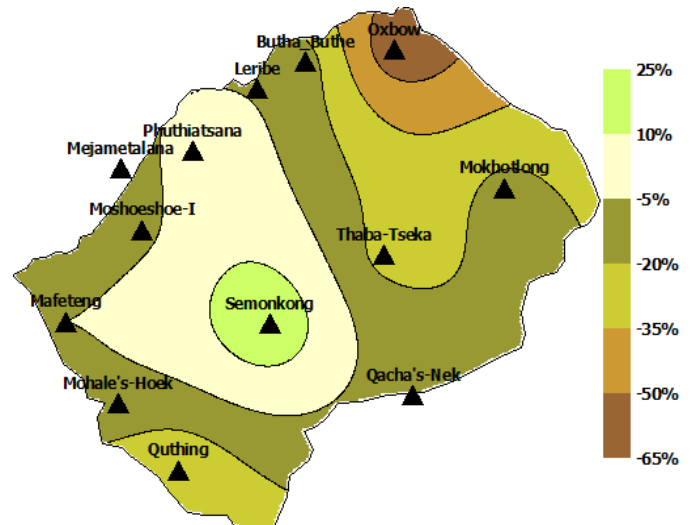
Most of the country had rains for only one day with exceptions of Mokhotlong and Oxbow who had two (2) and four (4) days of rainfall respectively (See Figure 3).

**Cumulative Percentage Rainfall Departure from Normal**

Cumulative rainfall since the first dekad of September is below normal in most places. Semonkong and Phuthiatsana are the only places who recorded above normal cumulative rainfall.

Highest and lowest cumulative rainfall amounts were recorded at Semonkong and Thaba-Tseka at 402.9mm and 237mm respectively (See Figures 1 & 2).

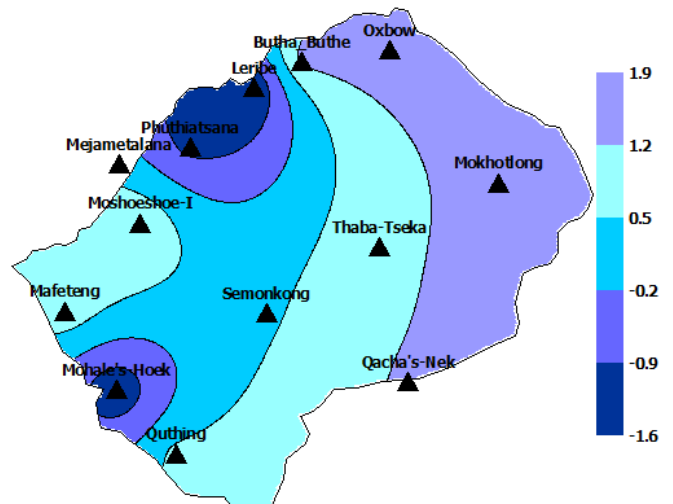
The latter also recorded above normal percentage rainfall departure from normal, while the rest of the country recorded normal to below normal percentage rainfall departure from normal (see Map 2).



Map 2: Cumulative Rainfall % Departure from Normal

**TEMPERATURE**

Temperatures remained normal to above normal during the first dekad, with only Mohale's Hoek recording deviation of normal temperature (See Map 3).



Map 3: Dekadal Mean Temperature Deviation From Normal

**CROP STAGE AND CONDITIONS**

Most of the staple foods in the fields was at flowering stage for those who were planted during the first rains and for those who were planted later are at vegetative stage. Weeding was in progress countrywide.

Pastures and livestock are generally improving.

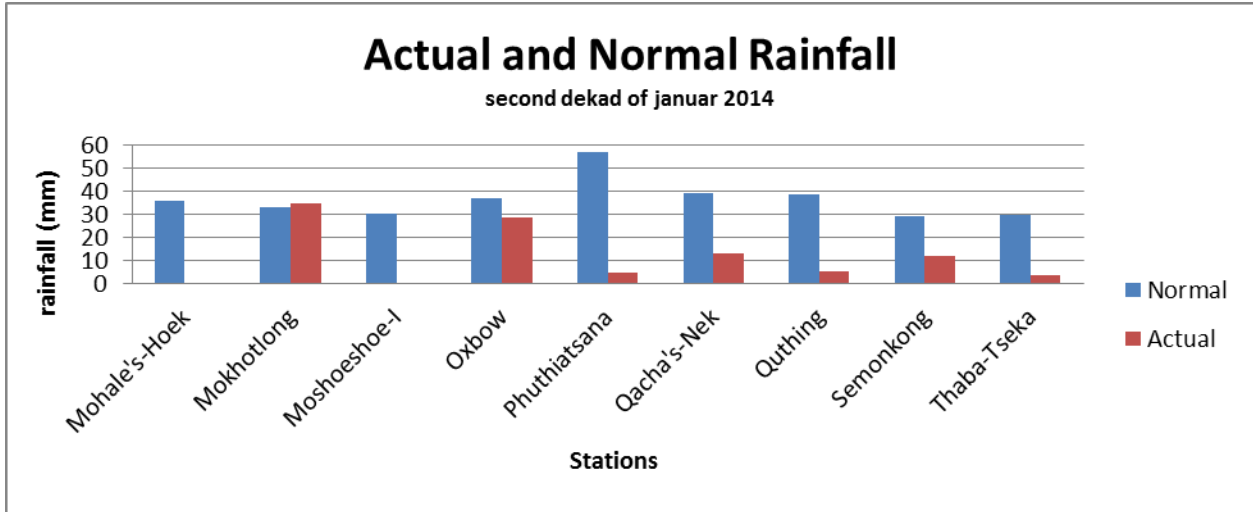


Figure 1

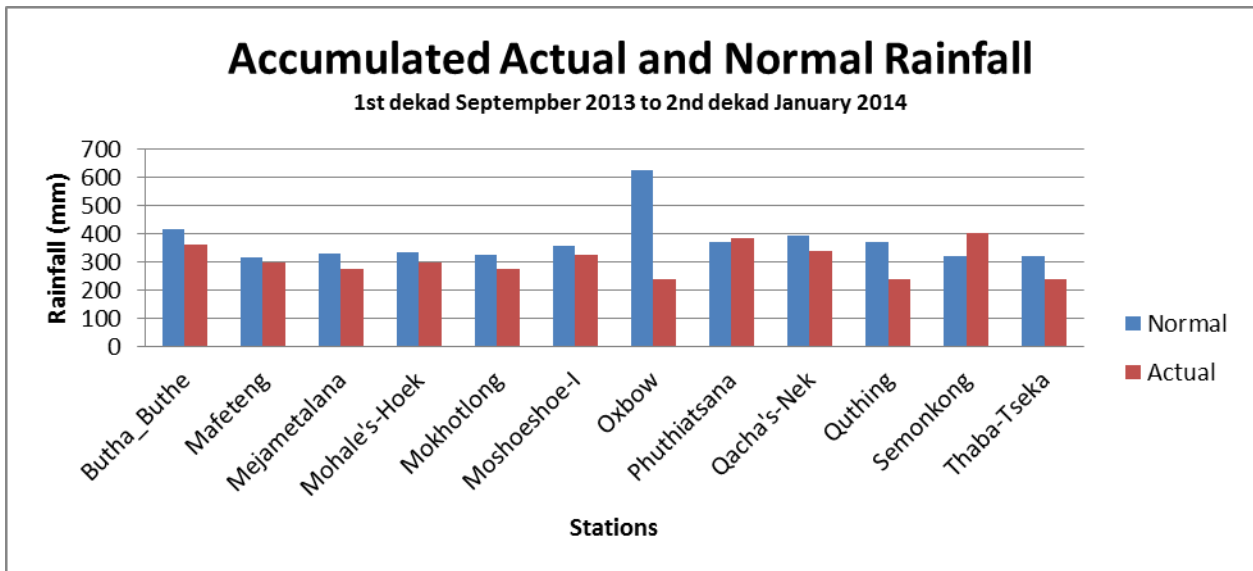


Figure 2

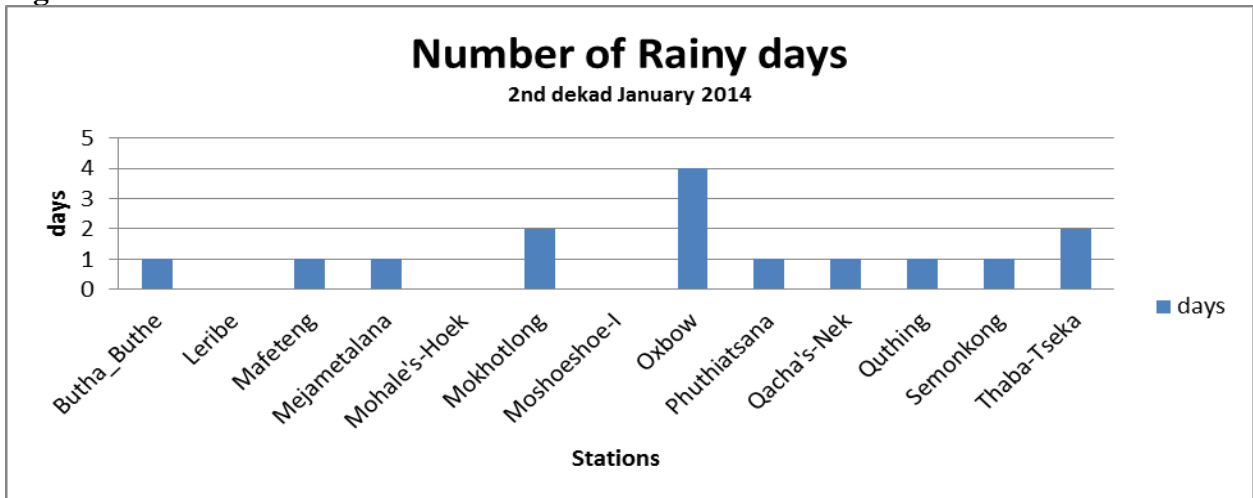


Figure 3