

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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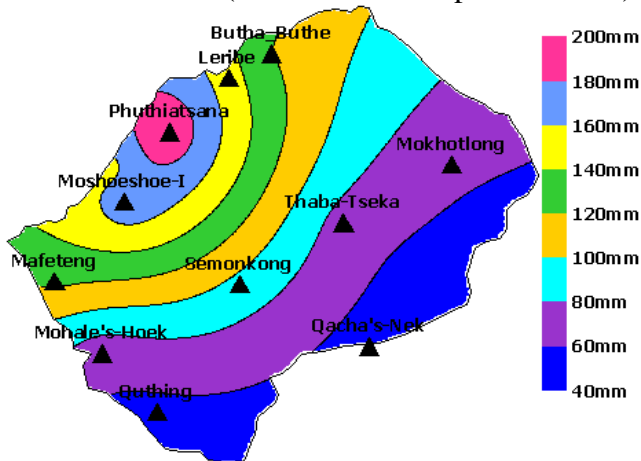
- ❑ Wet conditions at most place.
- ❑ Cumulative rainfall normal to above normal.
- ❑ Normal temperatures experienced at most parts.
- ❑ Crops in fair to poor conditions

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RAINFALL SITUATION

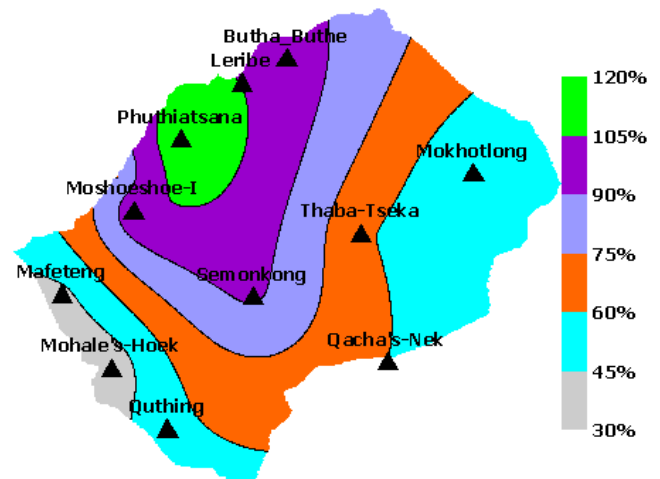
The third dekad of January 2011 recorded above normal rainfall countrywide. The highest dekadal rainfall was 198.7mm (Phuthiatsana) while 52.7mm was recorded at Qacha’s Nek as the lowest (see Map 1).



Map1: Rainfall for January 3rd Dekad 2011

Cumulative Percentage Rainfall Departure from Normal

Cumulative rainfall since the first dekad of September is above normal at all places (see Map 2). Cumulative rainfall percentage departure from normal has increased drastically with Phuthiatsana, Butha Buthe and Leribe exceeding 100% while Semonkong reached 100%.



Map2: Cumulative Rainfall % Dep from Normal Since Sept 2010

TEMPERATURES

Temperatures were cool but normal during the second dekad. The northern western parts of the country were generally cooler than eastern parts. That may be due to precipitation and clouding which were concentrated in the west.

CROP STAGE AND CONDITIONS

Crops in the western lowlands continued to experience water-logging at some parts of the country. Crop stages range from vegetative to early flowering stages. Crops are generally in fair to bad conditions at most places.

Fig.1

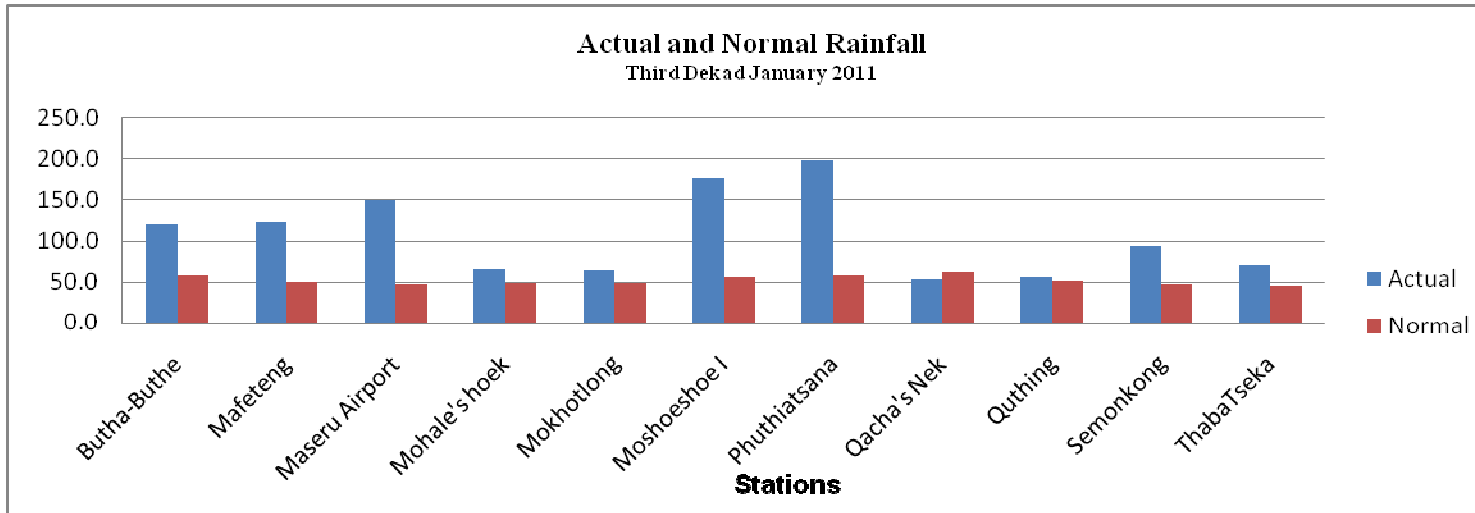


Fig.2

