



LESOTHO METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES

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Agro-Met Monthly Update:

June 2009

Date of issue: July 2009

Highlights

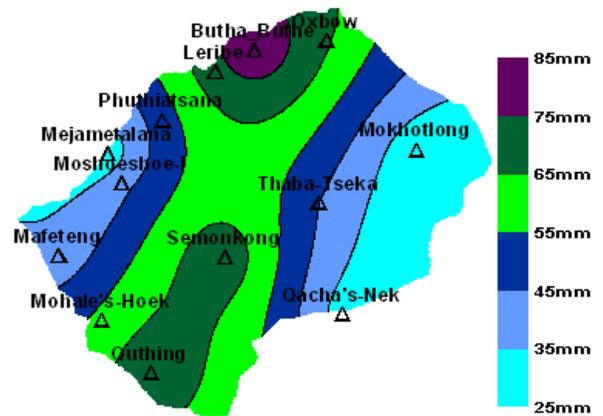
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Above normal rainfall at most parts of the country recorded 2. Normal mean temperatures experienced during the month |
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Rainfall

Monthly Actual Rainfall

The month of June 2009 was generally wet. Torrential rains were recorded during the start of the second dekad. Monthly rainfall was highest in Butha-Buthe (83.7mm). Lowest monthly rainfall was mainly recorded in the eastern parts of the country (see Map 1).

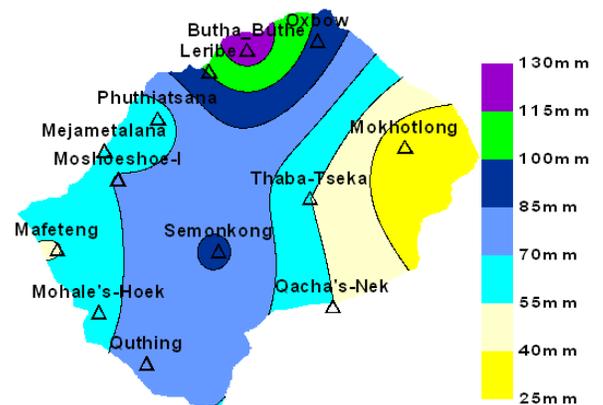
The rainfall recorded in June was above normal. Butha-Buthe, Semonkong and Quthing experienced the highest number of rain days totalling to twelve, whereas Phuthiatsana and Qacha's Nek had the least number of only six rain days.



Map 1: June 2009 Rainfall

Cumulative Rainfall since May 2009

Cumulative rainfall for the period May – June 2009 is above normal countrywide. Highest amounts of cumulative rainfall are recorded in the northern parts of the country, while the lowest amounts of rainfall are in the eastern parts of the country (see Map 2). Highest and lowest cumulative percentage departures from normal are 242% at Butha-Buthe in the north and 33% at Mafeteng in the west.



Map 2: Cumulative Rainfall since May 2009

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Temperatures

During the month of June, mean temperatures were predominantly normal countrywide, except

at Quthing in the south which recorded above normal mean temperatures.

Crop Stage and Conditions

Harvesting of cereals continued during the month of June. However, torrential rains interrupted harvesting and had potential to negatively affect some harvest.

On the other hand, the rainfall recorded in June brought some moisture which could be very important for winter cropping.

Seasonal Forecast (July – September)

Rainfall is forecasted to be normal to above normal during the combined period of the next three months.
