

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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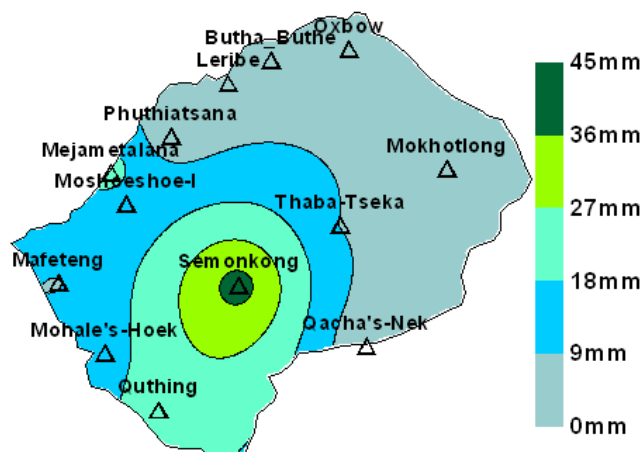
Highlights

- ❑ Wet weather conditions experienced.
- ❑ Normal to above normal temperatures recorded.
- ❑ Crops generally satisfactory.

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RAINFALL SITUATION



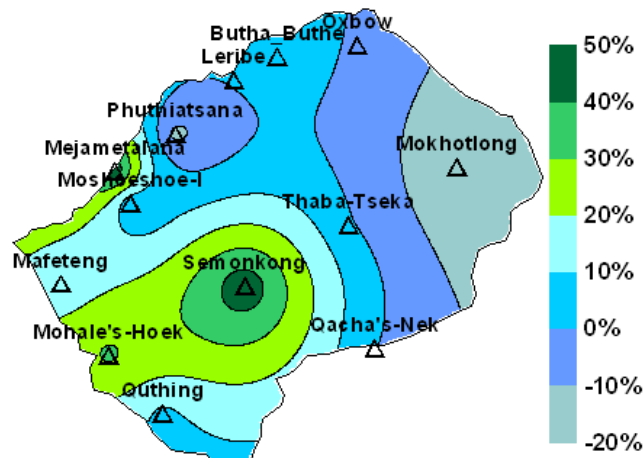
Map 1: March 1st Dekad 2010 Rainfall

First dekad of March 2010 experienced reduced rainfall activity. The dekad rains were below normal everywhere in the country except at Semonkong where it was above normal. The cumulative normal rainfalls were normal in most parts of the country and above normal at Maseru, Mohale's Hoek and Semonkong. The highest rainfall amount of 40.7mm was recorded at Semonkong for the dekad, while Qacha's Nek recorded 0.2mm of rainfall which is the lowest. The dekad rains were inclined towards the central to the southern parts of the country (see Map 1).

Cumulative Percentage Rainfall Departure from Normal

Cumulative rainfall since the first dekad of September is normal in many places, with only a few places such as Mohale's Hoek, Moshoeshoe

I and Semonkong with above normal cumulative rainfall. The lowest rainfall percentage departure from normal is at Mokhotlong, while the highest is equal at both Moshoeshoe I and Semonkong (see Map 2).



Map 2: Cumulative Rainfall (%) Dep. from Normal since Sep. 2009

TEMPERATURES

Mean dekadal temperatures were above normal in most places, with only a few places with normal mean temperatures.

CROP STAGE AND CONDITIONS

Crop conditions are satisfactory in most places. However, there are places where crops have withered due to increased temperatures and scarce rains. Crop water requirements remain adequate in some parts of the country.

