

# LESOTHO METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES (LEKALA LA TSA BOLEPI)



## Ten-Day Agrometeorological Bulletin

11 – 20 March 2014



Issue No.17/2013-14

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

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## Highlights

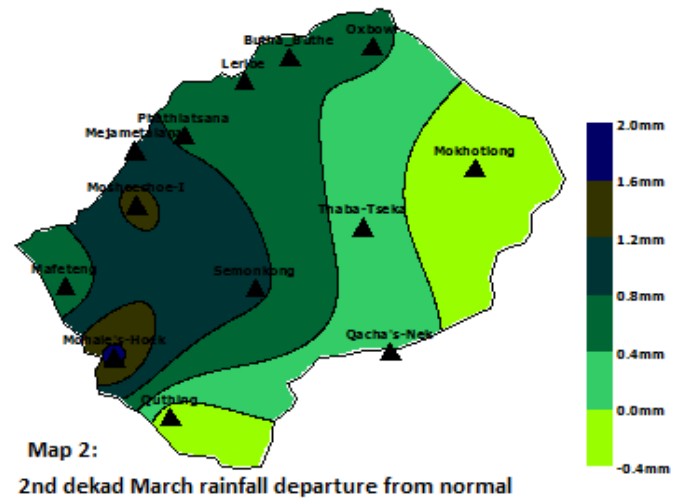
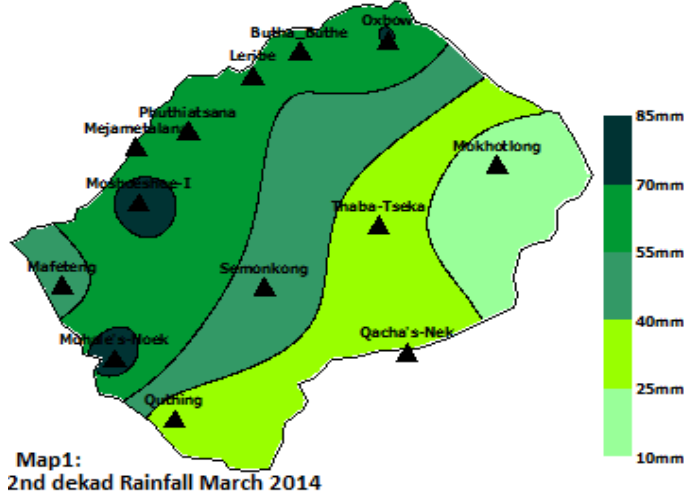
- ❑ Above normal rainfall recorded countrywide
- ❑ Cumulative rainfall improving.
- ❑ Normal mean temperatures experienced in most places.
- ❑ Crops at grain filling to maturity stages.

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**RAINFALL SITUATION**

Heavy rains from February and the first dekad of March continued to the second dekad of March. The whole country recorded above normal rainfall with only Mokhotlong recording below normal rainfall of (13mm - see Map 1 and figure 1).



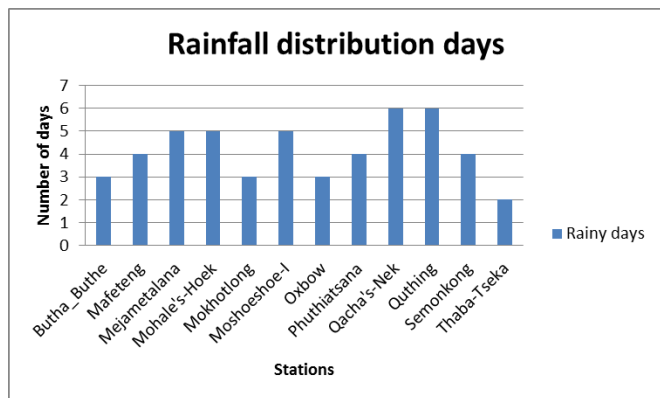
**Map 1:**  
2nd dekad Rainfall March 2014

**Map 2:**  
2nd dekad March rainfall departure from normal

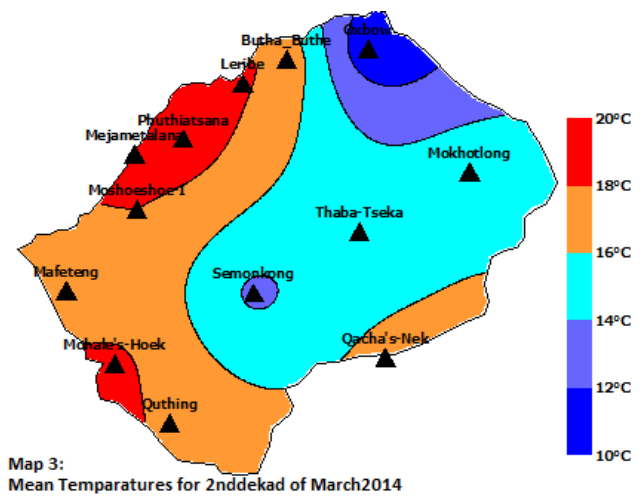
Rain days ranged from six to three with the southern highlands (Quthing and Qacha's Nek) having the most rainy days (6 days) and Thaba-Tseka has the lowest number of rainy days (2 days). (See figure 2).

**TEMPERATURE**

Temperatures remained normal during the second dekad with Oxbow recording the lowest temperature of 10.2°C while Mejametala and Mohale's Hoek recorded the highest mean temperature of 18.5°C. (See Map 3)



*Figure 1*



**Map 3:**  
Mean Temperatures for 2nd dekad of March 2014

**Cumulative Percentage Rainfall Departure from Normal**

Cumulative rainfall since the first dekad of September has improved in most places; Mokhotlong and Quthing are only places with below normal accumulated rainfall departure from normal. (See Map 2 and figure 3).

**CROP STAGE AND CONDITIONS**

Most of the staple crops are at grain filling to maturity stages in the fields countrywide but the fields in the highlands are highly covered with weed which resulted in the crops being yellowish. Pastures are rich so the livestock has improved.

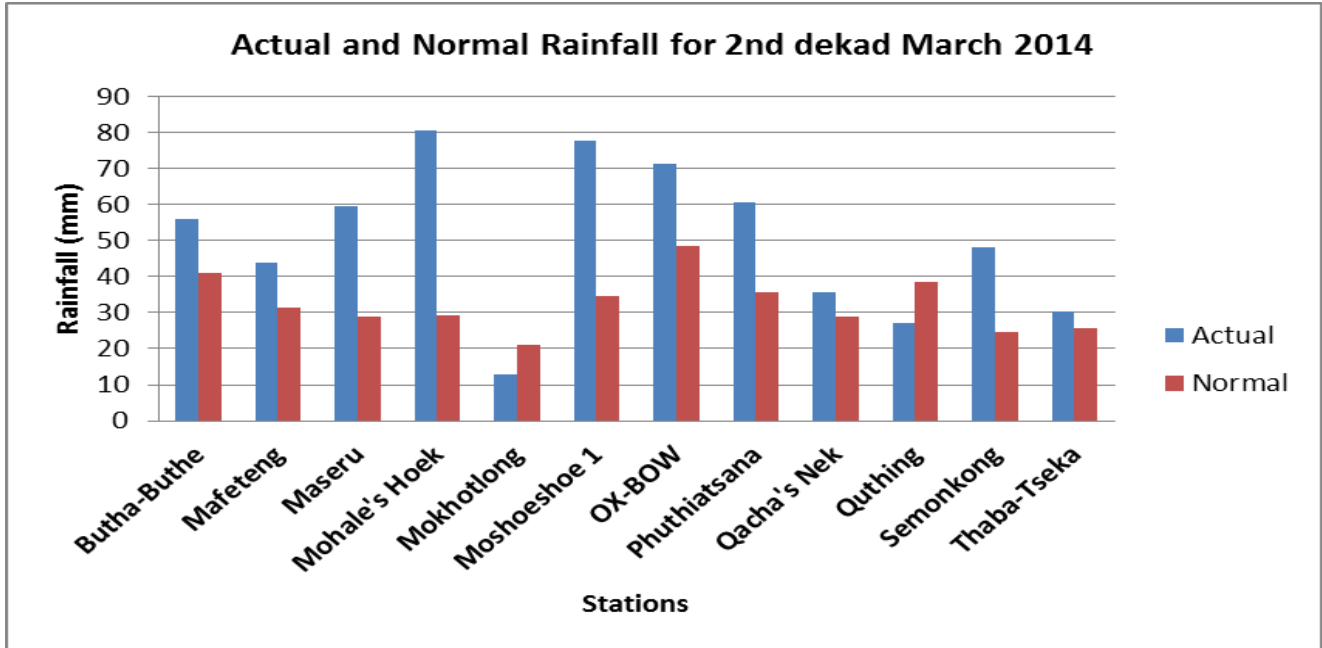


Figure 1

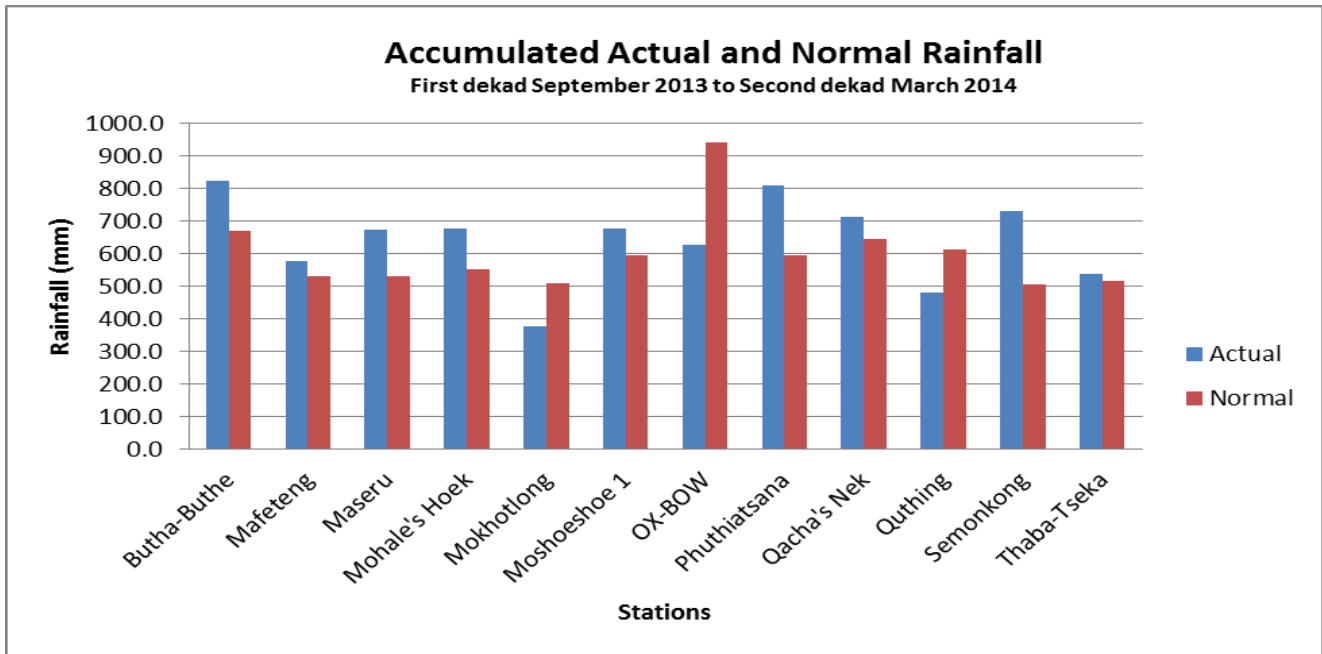


Figure 3