

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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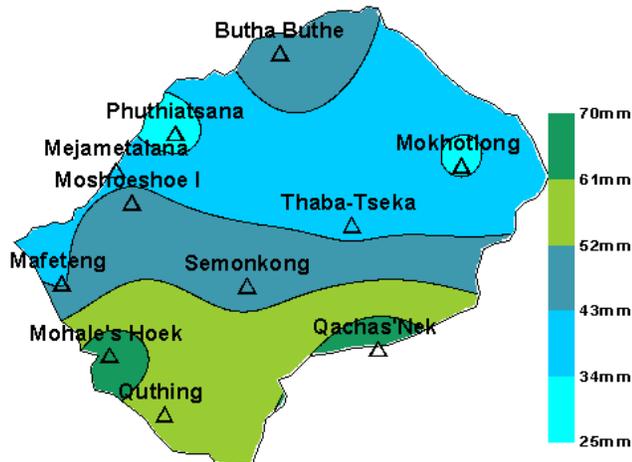
Highlights

- ❑ Above normal rains received in most parts of the country.
- ❑ Cool temperatures experienced.
- ❑ Land cultivation in progress.

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RAINFALL SITUATION

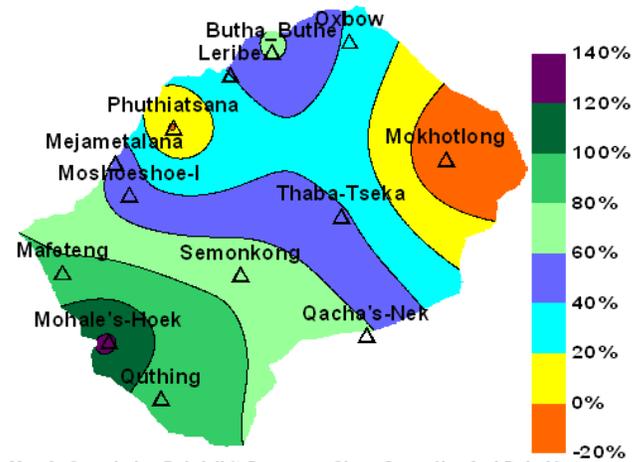


Map 1: 2009 November Second Dekad Rainfall

The second dekad of November recorded above normal rainfall almost throughout the country with the exception of Mokhotlong, Phuthiatsana and some parts of Butha-Buthe with normal rainfall. Qacha's Nek recorded highest dekad rainfall of 69.4mm while Phuthiatsana recorded lowest dekad rainfall of 29.9mm (see Map 1 & Fig. 1)

Cumulative Percentage Rainfall Departure from Normal

Cumulative rainfall since the first dekad of September is above normal at most places. It is normal only at Phuthiatsana and Mokhotlong (see Map 2 & Fig. 2). September was dry especially in the first two dekads. But tremendous rainfall began in the month of October and since then cumulative rainfall has been largely above normal until present, except at Mokhotlong where low rainfall had been dominant.



Map 2: Cumulative Rainfall % Departure Since Sept - Nov 2nd Dek, 09

TEMPERATURES

Cold temperatures were experienced during the dekad under review. Dekadal mean temperatures were below normal due to passage of frontal systems over the country.

CROP STAGE AND CONDITIONS

Crop cultivation continued into the second dekad of November 2009 due to moisture that prevailed in the dekad. Ploughing, sowing were active and weeding at small scale started at some places.

DEKADAL OUTLOOK

21 – 30 November 2009

There are some chances of rainfall during the forecasted period. But high rainfall likelihood is anticipated towards the end of the dekad. Temperatures are expected to remain generally warm to hot.

Fig.1

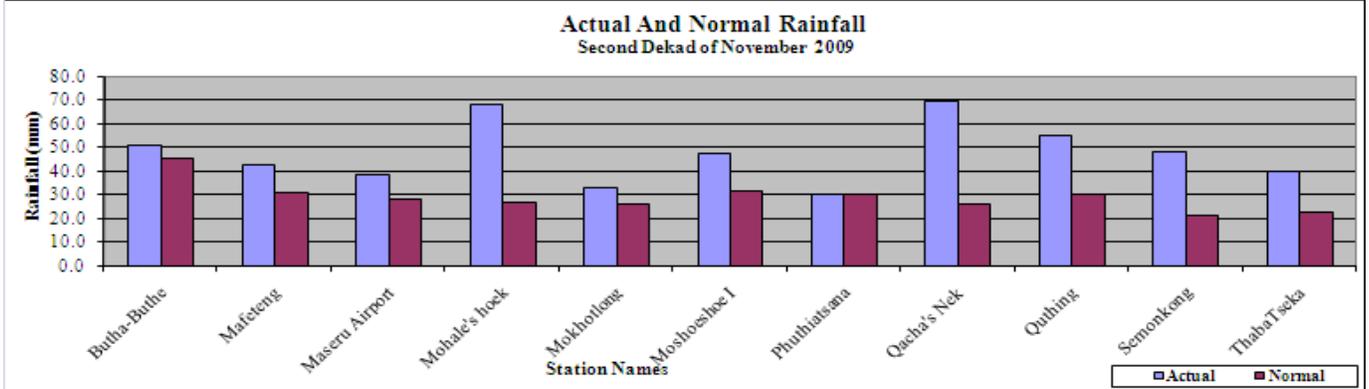


Fig.2

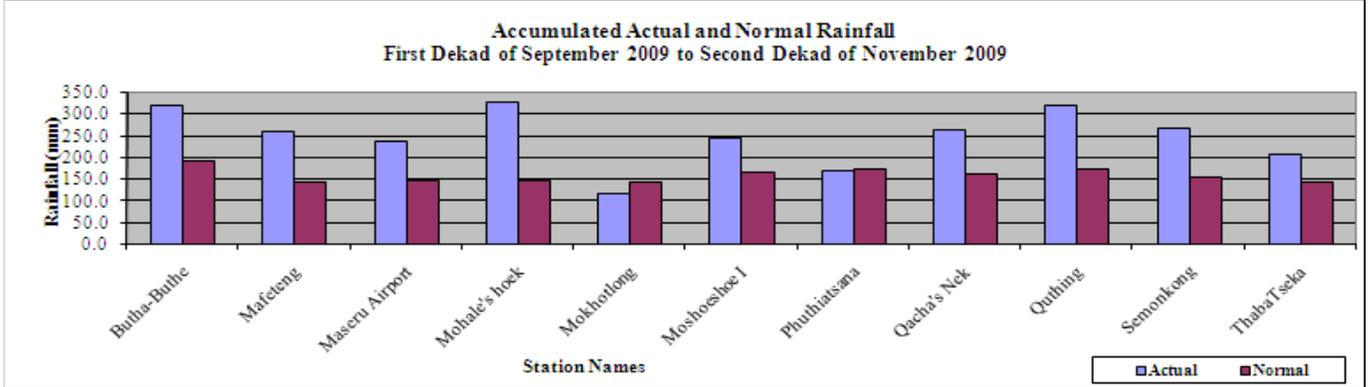


Fig. 3

Rainfall Anomaly (%) for the period Sept. Dekad 1 - Nov. Dekad 2, 2009

