

1.3 Number of Rain Days.

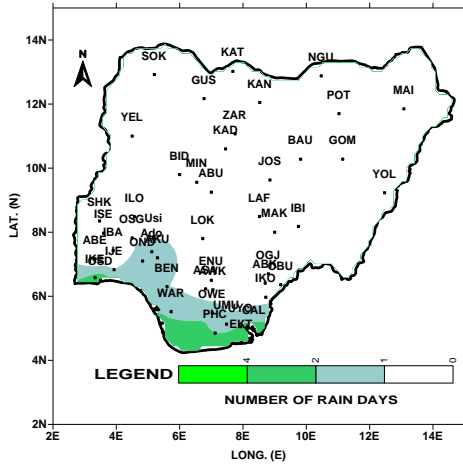


Fig.4: NUMBER OF RAIN DAYS

Rain-days distribution over the country is indicated in *Fig.4* above and it shows that rainfall distribution in the Southern parts of the country varies from 1 to 2 rain-days in the few stations that recorded rain. Only Eket recorded 4 days of rain.

2.0 SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Fig.5 below highlights soil moisture indices across the country for the dekad and it reveals that the country had deficit Soil Moisture conditions except coastal parts of the country which showed neutral to surplus soil moisture conditions.

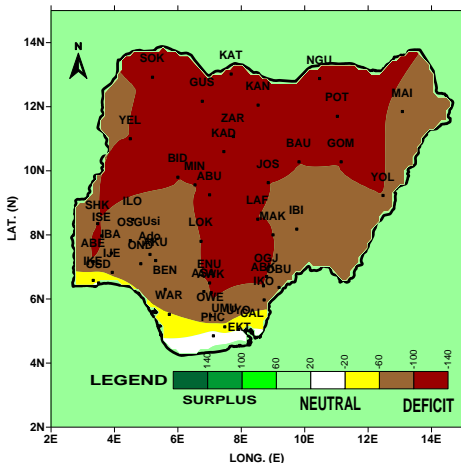


Fig.5: 1ST DEKAD OF MARCH SOIL MOISTURE INDEX (SMI)

3.0 MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE TREND

3.1 Maximum Temperature Anomaly

Fig.6 below shows the maximum temperatures anomalies over the country and it indicated that most parts of the country had normal to colder than normal maximum temperature anomalies, except parts of south west which had warmer than normal maximum temperature anomalies

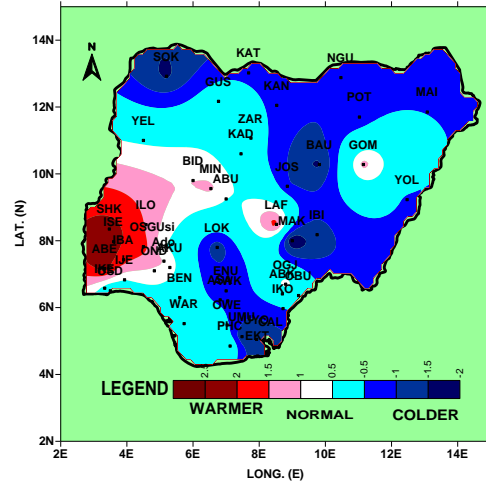


Fig.6: Maximum Temperature Anomaly.

3.2 Maximum Temperature Values.

Actual mean maximum temperature distribution across the country is shown in *Fig.7* below and indicates that most parts of the country had maximum temperatures above $34^{\circ}C$ except Jos and Eket stations which recorded the lowest temperature values of $30.5^{\circ}C$ and $30.1^{\circ}C$ respectively.

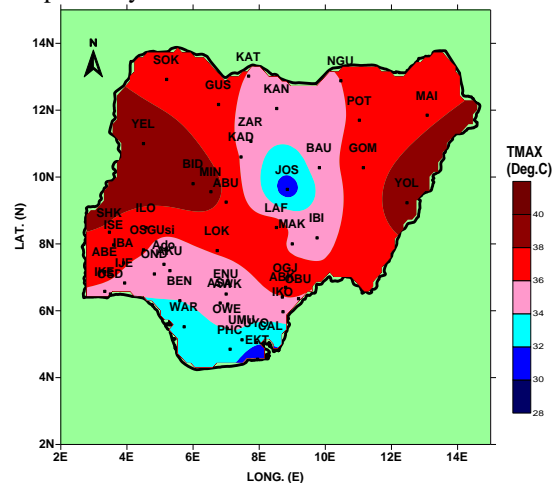


Fig. 7: Mean maximum Temperature

WEATHER/AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK FOR DEKAD 2 (11 TO 20), OF MARCH, 2015

4.1 Weather Outlook

The position of Inter Tropical Discontinuity (ITD) is likely to fluctuate between latitudes 8.5deg.N and 9.5deg.N. The northern and central parts of the country are

expected to be sunny, dry and partly cloudy. The inland and coastal areas of the South are likely to experience partly cloudy/cloudy weather conditions and localized thunderstorms.

The northern and the central states are expected to have mean maximum temperatures of the range 30 °C - 38 °C, while the mean minimum temperatures will lie between 18 °C and 24 °C. The mean maximum temperatures over the inland and coastal areas of the South are expected to

be between 32 °C and 34 °C, while the mean minimum temperatures will range from 20 °C to 22 °C.

4.2 Agricultural Activity/Outlook

Preparation for the new rainy season is expected to continue in the Southern part of the country, while in the North packaging of dry season crops such as rice and vegetables is expected to continue.

TABLE OF AGROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR THE DEKAD

| STATION | RAINFALL | RAINDAY | PET | TMAX | TMIN | GDD | RAD |
|-----------|----------|---------|------|------|------|-------|------|
| ABEOKUTA | 0 | 0 | 57.4 | 37.8 | 26.2 | 240.1 | 22.1 |
| ABUJA | 0 | 0 | 62.1 | 37.4 | 22.8 | 220.7 | 24.7 |
| ABAK | 0 | 0 | 55 | 35.9 | 24.8 | 223.6 | 21.7 |
| Asaba | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| AKURE | 13.9 | 2 | 53.7 | 34.9 | 23.8 | 213 | 21.6 |
| AWKA | 0 | 0 | 50.7 | 34.8 | 25.2 | 219.8 | 20.2 |
| BAUCHI | 0 | 0 | 59.7 | 35.2 | 20.5 | 198.4 | 24.7 |
| BENIN | 5.9 | 1 | 47.9 | 34.0 | 25.3 | 216.9 | 19.1 |
| BIDA | 0 | 0 | 61.8 | 39.2 | 25.8 | 245.2 | 23.6 |
| CALABAR | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| EKET | 57.3 | 4 | 41.5 | 30.1 | 22.9 | 185.2 | 17.6 |
| ENUGU | 0 | 0 | 50.8 | 34.3 | 24.4 | 213.3 | 20.5 |
| GOMBE | 0 | 0 | 61 | 37.0 | 22.8 | 219 | 24.3 |
| GUSAU | 0 | 0 | 62.7 | 36.6 | 20.6 | 205.7 | 25.5 |
| IBADAN | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| IJEBU | 14.7 | 1 | 50.5 | 34.7 | 25.2 | 219.5 | 20.1 |
| IKEJA | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| ILORIN | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| ISEYIN | 0 | 0 | 58.8 | 36.9 | 24.1 | 224.8 | 23.2 |
| JOS | 0 | 0 | 36 | 30.5 | 25.2 | 198.5 | 14.8 |
| KADUNA | 0 | 0 | 62.3 | 35.9 | 19.9 | 198.9 | 25.7 |
| KANO | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| KATSINA | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| LAFIA | 0 | 0 | 59.8 | 37.4 | 24.1 | 227.4 | 23.5 |
| LOKOJA | 0 | 0 | 52.6 | 36.2 | 26.2 | 231.9 | 20.5 |
| MAKURDI | 0 | 0 | 57.3 | 35.5 | 22.7 | 211 | 23.2 |
| MINNA | 0 | 0 | 63.9 | 39.1 | 24.4 | 237.4 | 24.7 |
| NGURU | 0 | 0 | xx | 36.0 | xx | xx | xx |
| OGOJA | 0 | 0 | 59.6 | 37.0 | 23.8 | 224.2 | 23.6 |
| OSHODI | 40.1 | 3 | 46.9 | 34.0 | 25.7 | 218.4 | 18.7 |
| OSOGBO | 5.8 | 1 | 57.7 | 36.2 | 23.7 | 219.3 | 23 |
| OWERRI | 2.1 | 2 | 53.2 | 34.0 | 22.8 | 203.7 | 21.8 |
| PHC | 53.6 | 2 | 51.4 | 33.5 | 23.1 | 183.1 | 21 |
| POT | 0 | 0 | 63.3 | 36.3 | 19.9 | 201 | 26 |
| SHAKI | 0 | 0 | 62.2 | 37.8 | 23.5 | 226.5 | 24.5 |
| SOKOTO | 0 | 0 | 64.4 | 37.0 | 19.9 | 204.4 | 26.3 |
| UMUAHIA | 23.3 | 1 | 49.8 | 33.6 | 23.9 | 207.6 | 20.3 |
| WARRI | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| YELWA | 0 | 0 | 67.5 | 39.3 | 22.3 | 228 | 26.5 |
| YOLA | 0 | 0 | xx | 39.2 | xx | xx | XX |
| ZARIA | 0 | 0 | 60.4 | 34.9 | 19.5 | 191.9 | 25.2 |
| ADO-EKITI | 0.6 | 1 | 56.8 | 35.5 | 23.1 | 212.9 | 22.9 |
| USI-EKITI | 3.4 | 1 | 62.2 | 35.0 | 18.8 | 189.3 | 26.1 |

Note:
 Rainfall (mm)
 PET = Potential Evapotranspiration (mm/day)
 TMAX = Maximum Temperature (°C)
 TMIN = Minimum Temperature (°C)
 GDD = Growing Degree Day (day)
 RAD = Radiation (MJ/m²/day)

Dear All,
 Comments and suggestions on how to improve this publication are welcome. Agrometeorologists, Agriculturists, Extension Workers, Research Officers, Users and the General Public should kindly send feedback to:
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