

NIGERIAN METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY

NATIONAL WEATHER FORECASTING AND CLIMATE RESEARCH CENTRE,
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SUMMARY

The 2nd dekad of April indicated that the country had continued to witness a decline in rainfall when compared with the past two dekad. Most parts of the country had deficit rainfall anomalies while the extreme northern part had normal. ITD continue to oscillate between latitude 10.5^oN to 11.5^oN. Soil moisture condition in the country was deficit except the extreme coastal part which had neutral soil moisture conditions. The highest rainfall amount was recorded over Ijebu-Ode with 38.2mm in 2 rain-days, followed by Eket with 35.7mm in 3 rain-days and Port-hacourt with 24mm in 3 rain-days. Maximum temperature anomalies were normal to colder than normal in most parts of the country except in the south-west and some parts of central states which had warmer than normal maximum temperature anomalies. Preparation for the new rainy season is expected to start on the northern part of the country, while planting of cereal and tuber crops is expected to start in the central states of the country. In the South weeding and fertilizer application is expected to continue.

1.0 RAINFALL PATTERN

1.1 Rainfall Anomaly (Deficit / Surplus)

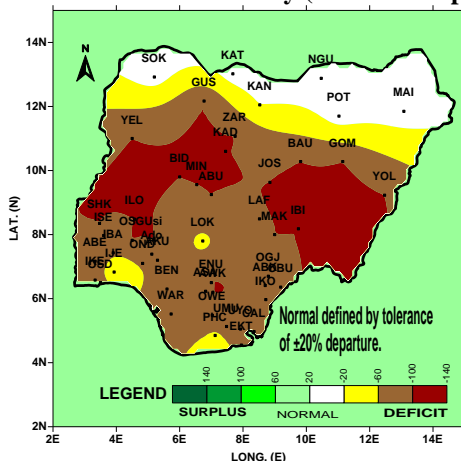


Fig.1: 2ND DEKAD APRIL, RAINFALL ANOMALIES
Rainfall anomaly over the country is shown in *Fig.1* above and it indicated most parts of the country had deficit rainfall anomalies. The extreme northern part of the country continued to have normal rainfall anomalies.

Rainfall Amounts

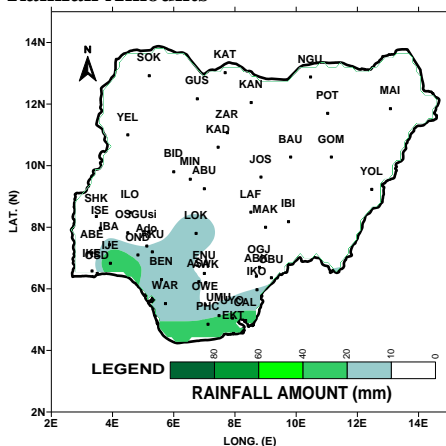


Fig.2 above highlights the actual rainfall amount and it depicted that rainfall has declined when compared to 1st dekad of April in the country. **The highest rainfall amount was recorded over Ijebu-Ode with 38.2mm in 2**

rain-days, followed by Eket with 35.7mm in 3 rain-days and Port-hacourt with 24mm in 3 rain-days.

1.2 COMPARISON OF NORMAL WITH ACTUAL RAINFALL FOR THE 2ND DEKAD OF APRIL

The comparison of the actual rainfall amounts measured and normal/long term averages during the dekad is shown in *Fig.3A* and *Fig.3B* below over the northern and southern parts of the country. All the stations in the country recorded below normal rainfall amount.

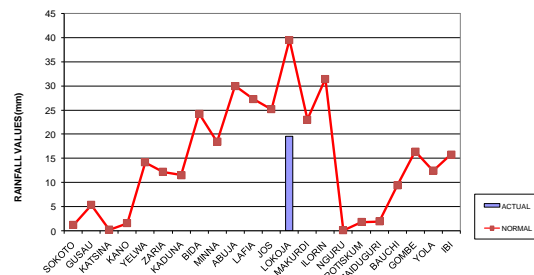


FIG. 3A: COMPARISON OF NORMAL WITH OBSERVED RAINFALL OF DEKAD 2 APRIL 2015: FOR NORTHERN AND CENTRAL STATES OF NIGERIA.

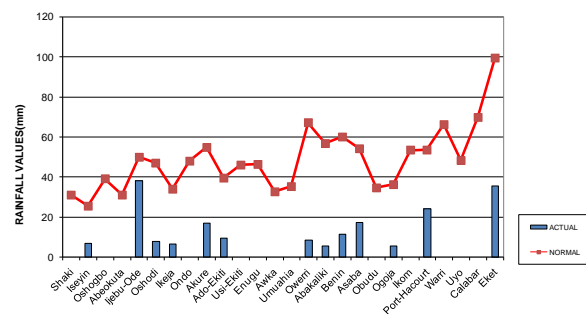


FIG. 3B: COMPARISON OF NORMAL WITH OBSERVED RAINFALL OF DEKAD 2 APRIL 2015: FOR SOUTHERN STATES OF NIGERIA.

1.3 Number of Rain Days.

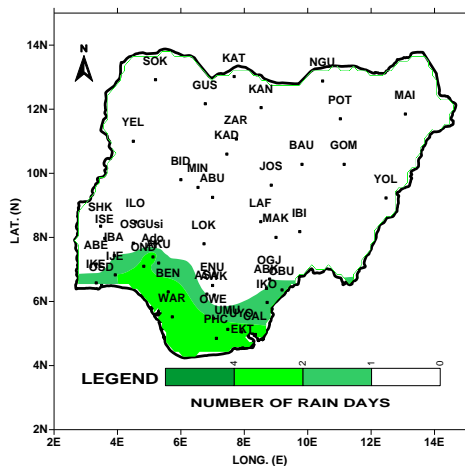


Fig.4: NUMBER OF RAIN DAYS

The rain-days distribution over the country is shown in *Fig.4* above and it indicated that rainfall distribution in the country varies from 1 to 3 rain-days in the stations that recorded rain.

2.0 SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

Fig.5 below highlights the soil moisture indices across the country and it showed that the most part of the country had deficit soil moisture conditions except the extreme southern parts which showed neutral soil moisture conditions.

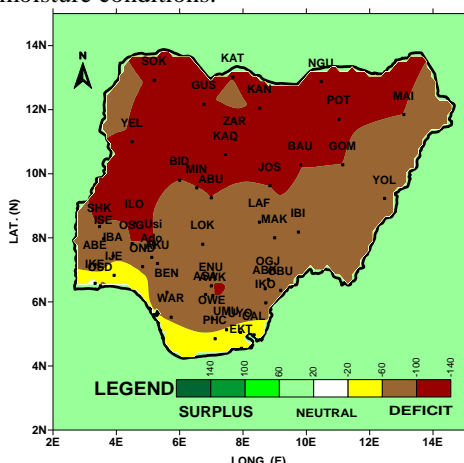


Fig.5: 2ND DEKAD OF APRIL SOIL MOISTURE INDEX (SMI)

3.0 MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE TREND

3.1 Maximum Temperature Anomaly

Fig.6 below indicates 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 some parts of the south-west and central states which had warmer than normal maximum temperature anomalies

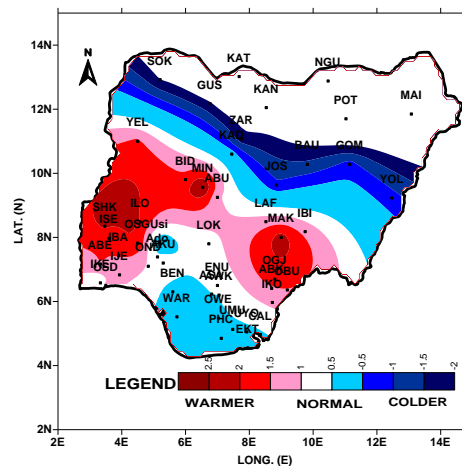


Fig.6: Maximum Temperature Anomaly.

3.2 Maximum Temperature Values.

Actual mean maximum temperature distribution across the country is depicted in *Fig.7* below and it shows that most parts of the country had maximum temperatures above $34^{\circ}C$ except Jos and most parts of the South-south which recorded $30^{\circ}C$ to $32^{\circ}C$ maximum temperature values.

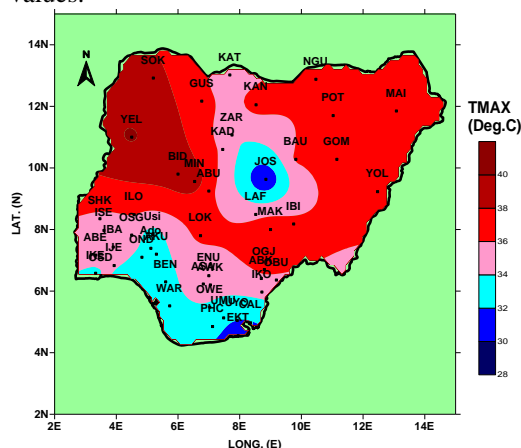


Fig. 7: Mean maximum Temperature

WEATHER/AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK FOR DEKAD 3 (21 TO 30), OF APRIL, 2015

4.1 Weather Outlook

The position of Inter Tropical Discontinuity (ITD) is likely to fluctuate between latitudes $10.5^{\circ}N$ and $11.5^{\circ}N$. The northern part of the country is expected to be sunny and partly cloudy; the central part is expected to be partly cloudy to cloudy conditions. The inland and coastal areas of the South are likely to experience cloudy weather conditions with localized rain.

The northern and the central states are expected to have mean maximum temperatures of the range $32^{\circ}C$ - $40^{\circ}C$, while the mean minimum temperatures will lie between $22^{\circ}C$ and $26^{\circ}C$. The mean maximum temperatures over the inland and coastal areas of the South are expected to

be between 30^oC and 34^oC, while the mean minimum temperatures will range from 20^oC to 22^oC.

4.2 Agricultural Activity/Outlook

Preparation for the new rainy season is expected to start in the northern part of the country, while planting of cereal

crops and tubers such as maize and yam is expected to begin in the central parts of the country. In the South weeding and fertilizer application is expected to continue.

TABLE OF AGROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR THE DEKAD

STATION	RAINFALL	RAINDAY	PET	TMAX	TMIN	GDD	RAD
ABEOKUTA	0	0	50	35.7	26	228.9	19.6
ABUJA	0	0	58.3	36.5	22.4	214.2	23.4
ABAK	5.7	1	52	35.6	24.9	222.3	20.6
AKURE	16.9	1	48.8	33.4	23.3	203.7	20
ASABA	17.4	1	52.8	35.0	23.7	213.5	21.2
AWKA	0	0	49.1	34.5	24.7	215.8	19.7
BAUCHI	0	0	59.4	36.3	21.3	208	24.1
BENIN	11.5	3	44.6	33.5	25.5	215	17.9
BIDA	0	0	58.1	38.7	26.0	243.5	22.2
CALABAR	----	-----	----	-----	-----	-----	-----
EKET	35.7	3	43.3	30.3	21.8	180.5	18.5
ENUGU	0	0	49	34.4	24.7	215.5	19.6
GOMBE	0	0	54.9	36.7	24.6	226.3	21.6
GUSAU	0	0	55.9	36.7	23.8	222.5	22.2
IJEBU	38.2	2	47.2	34.1	25.0	215.7	18.9
IKEJA	6.6	2	XX	33.1	25.5	XX	XX
ILORIN	0	0	55.3	36.1	23.8	219.4	22
ISEYIN	6.8	1	50	34.7	24.5	216	20
JOS	0	0	53.4	29.9	14.5	142.2	24.5
KADUNA	0	0	57.1	35.6	21.5	205.7	23.3
KANO	0	0	61.8	36.7	19.5	200.8	25.5
KATSINA	0	0	55.6	34.8	20.9	198.9	22.9
LAFIA							
LOKOJA	19.6	1	52.3	36.5	25.9	231.9	20.4
MAIDUGURI	0	0	63.1	37.3	20.2	207.6	25.7
MAKURDI	0	0	60	37.7	23.3	224.8	23.7
MINNA	0	0	60	39.2	25.7	244.2	22.9
NGURU	0	0	XX	36.1	XX	XX	XX
OGOJA	5.4	1	54.2	36.4	24.9	226.3	21.3
OSHODI	7.8	1	44.9	34.2	26.2	222.4	17.8
OSOGBO	0	0	52.7	34.8	23.3	210.7	21.3
OWERRI	8.4	2	49.4	33.8	23.7	207.5	20.1
PHC	24	3	47.8	33.2	23.7	204.5	19.5
POT	0	0	58.2	36.1	21.3	207.2	23.7
SHAKI	0	0	53.1	35.6	24.1	218.4	21.2
-SOKOTO	0	0	64.5	38.6	21.0	218	25.8
UMUAHIA	----	-----	----	-----	-----	-----	-----
YELWA	0	0	62.9	40.2	25.0	246	24
YOLA	----	-----	----	-----	-----	-----	-----
ZARIA	0	0	53.9	34.2	21.3	197.7	22.3
ADO-EKITI	9.3	3	50.5	33.8	23.1	204.5	20.6
USI-EKITI	0	0	56.5	33.1	17.9	175.1	24.4

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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