

DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 33 2016/17 Cropping season

Review for August 21-31 and Outlook for September 1-10, 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- Dry conditions continued to prevail over most of the country during August 21-31, 2017 with off-seasonal light rains observed in some areas Kagera, Geita, Mwanza, Mara and Simiyu, and few areas of Shinyanga, Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Tanga, Morogoro, Dar es Salaam, Mtwara and Njombe regions.
- Farmers in some of bimodal areas have started land preparation for the coming October – December (*vuli*) season.
- Periods of strong winds are likely to occur over coastal regions during September 1-10, 2017.
- Dry conditions coupled with strong winds will lead to further declining in water and pastures for livestock. Livestock keepers are advised to make good use of the available water and pastures.

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING AUGUST 21-31, 2017

During the period under review, high pressure systems in the southern hemisphere (St. Helena and Mascarene) intensified significantly while the high pressure systems in the northern hemisphere (Azores and Siberia) relaxed. The situation contributed to the Inter-tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) to remain in the northern hemisphere. Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the western Indian Ocean were slight warm to neutral, causing southerly to southeasterly winds along the Tanzanian coast whereas SSTs over the eastern Atlantic Ocean (close to Angola coast) were cool to neutral.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING AUGUST 21-31, 2017

In view of the observed synoptic features, dry conditions continued to prevail over most of the country during August 21-31, 2017 with off-seasonal light rains observed in in some areas Kagera, Geita, Mwanza, Mara and Simiyu, and few areas of Shinyanga, Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Tanga, Morogoro, Dar es Salaam, Mtwara and Njombe regions. as shown in Figure 1.

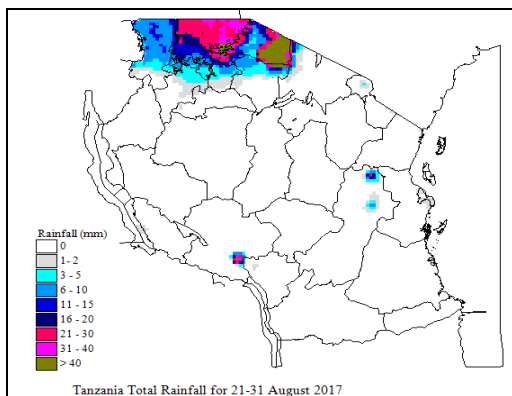


Figure 1: Total rainfall during August 21-31, 2017

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING AUGUST 21-31, 2017

Farmers in some of the bimodal areas started land preparation for the coming October – December (*vuli*) season which is prominent for the bimodal areas. Over the unimodal areas, farmers are still planning for the coming rain season. Water and pasture availability for livestock declined over much of Mwanza, Mara, Simiyu, Shinyanga, Singida, Arusha, Manyara and Dodoma regions. Other areas had moderate water and pasture conditions.

HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING AUGUST 21-31, 2017

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges continued to decrease over most areas of the country due to the ongoing dry and windy conditions.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING SEPTEMBER 1-10, 2017

Southern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to relax while the northern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to intensify. This situation will cause the ITCZ to start migrating towards southern hemisphere. SSTs over tropical western Indian Ocean are expected to remain warm to neutral and continue to keep southerly to southeasterly winds along the coast of Tanzania. On the other hand, SSTs over the southeastern Atlantic Ocean (closer to Angola coast) are expected to be slightly cool. Due to presence of relatively strong East African ridge, periods of strong winds and cool temperatures are expected to be maintained over some areas of the country.

**EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING
SEPTEMBER 1-10, 2017**

The country is expected to experience dry conditions with cool to cold temperatures due to the presence of relatively strong East African ridge. However, off seasonal light rains are expected over few areas of Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mwanza, Mara, Geita, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions), northeastern highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions), northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions, the isles of Unguja and Pemba), southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Iringa, Songwe and Mbeya regions), southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) and southern region (Njombe and Ruvuma region). Periods of strong winds are also likely to occur over coastal regions including Tanga, Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Lindi, Mtwara, and Pwani regions and the isles of Unguja and Pemba.

**AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND
ADVISORY DURING SEPTEMBER 1-10, 2017**

Off- seasonal rains are not adequate for planting seasonal crops but may affect cereal crops that are not stored properly and those in fields. Dry conditions coupled with strong winds are likely to lead to further declines in water for livestock and human use in water scarce areas. Pastoralists are advised to use the available water and pasture resources sparingly in consultation with extension officers.

**HYDROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND
ADVISORY DURING SEPTEMBER 1-10, 2017**

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to continue decreasing over most parts of the country due to the ongoing dry season coupled with strong winds. Water users are advised to make good use of the available water.

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