

DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 4: 2018/19 cropping season

Review for November 1 - 10 and Outlook for November 11-20, 2018

HIGHLIGHTS

- *Msimu* rainy season is expected to start between November and December, 2018 in Unimodal rainfall regime.
- Farmers over the northern coast are expected to continue to experience poor rainfall distribution due to progressive warming over the Central Indian Ocean.
- Farmers over the unimodal areas are advised to make follow up of the 10 day forecasts and receive advice from Agricultural Extension Officers on appropriate actions to be taken for proper utilization of the expected rains.
- Livestock keepers are advised to make good use of available water and pasture.

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING NOVEMBER 1-10, 2018

The northern high pressure systems (Azores and Siberian) were intensifying while the southern high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) were relaxing. At times the east African ridge was extended from the southeast of the continent towards east Africa. Due to the intensification of the northern high pressure systems, the meridional arm of the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) was passing over the Lake Victoria Basin and the western part which resulted into precipitation especially during the first half of the dekad. Over the southwest Indian Ocean, Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) were warm in places that resulted into the formation of the Tropical Storm "ALCIDE" which then deepen into intense Tropical Cyclone but did not influence the weather over the country. The southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast) SSTs were neutral hence less influence in the weather over the western sector of the country.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING NOVEMBER 1-10, 2018

During the ten day (dekad) period, some areas of bimodal experienced poor rainfall distribution. However, rains of above 25 mm were experienced over the Lake Victoria Basin, Northeastern highland and very few areas of the Northern Coast as shown in Figure 1. Over unimodal areas few episodes of off-seasonal rains of more than 50 mm have been reported over few areas of the southern coast, western part of the country as well as southwestern highlands. Elsewhere mainly dry conditions were observed as also shown in figure1.

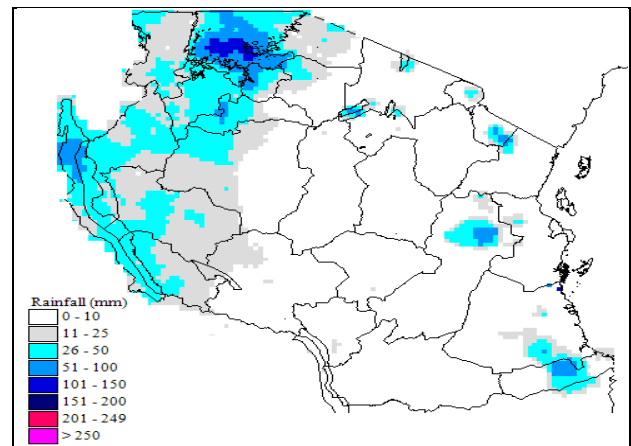


Figure 1: Total rainfall for the period of November 1 - 10, 2018.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING NOVEMBER 1-10, 2018

Farmers in bimodal areas continued with land preparation and planting, except in Kagera region where weeding activities on maize and beans crops were continued. Over most of the unimodal areas, farmers continued with land preparations for the coming *msimu* rainy season while in few areas such as Mbeya and Kigoma regions farmers continued with planting activities. Water and pasture availability for livestock has improved in some part of the bimodal areas especially in Lake Zone areas as a result of ongoing Vuli season rainfall.

HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING NOVEMBER 1-10, 2018

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges have silently improved across the bimodal rainfall regime as a result of ongoing Vuli season rainfall.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING NOVEMBER 11-20, 2018

The Azores and Siberian highs are expected to continue intensifying while the St. Helena and Mascarene highs are expected to further relax. This is expected to allow the ITCZ being pushed southwards and cover parts of the country especially over the Lake Victoria basin and western parts. SSTs over the southwest Indian Ocean is expected to be slight warm, which may result into the formation of Tropical cyclones. The SSTs over the southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast) is expected to be neutral to slight cold. This situation will increase the winds blowing from west which is expected to enhance precipitation making mechanisms over the western parts of the country.

EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING NOVEMBER 11-20, 2018

In view of the expected synoptic conditions, Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu and Mara regions) and western (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions) are expected to feature thundershowers over few areas.

Northern coast (Tanga, northern part of Morogoro, Pwani and Dar es Salaam regions together with isles of Unguja and Pemba), northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions) and southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) are expected to feature showers of rain over few areas.

Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions) are expected to feature mainly partly cloudy conditions.

Southwestern highland (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe and Iringa regions) and southern region (Ruvuma and Southern part of Morogoro regions) are expected to feature light rains over few areas.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING NOVEMBER 11-20, 2018.

Poor distribution of seasonal rainfall is still expected over the bimodal areas specifically the northern coast. Farmers, livestock keepers and fishers are advised to make follow up of the 10 day forecasts and receive advice from Agricultural Extension Officers on appropriate actions to be taken for proper utilization of the expected rains.

In unimodal areas farmers are advised to make use of the expected Msimu rains for planting when there is enough soil moisture. Livestock keepers are advised to make use of the available water and pasture sparingly.

HYDROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING NOVEMBER 11-20, 2018.

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to improve mostly in bimodal areas due to ongoing Vuli rainfall season and improve silently in unimodal areas due to expected *Msimu* rainfall season. Water users are advised to use available water carefully.

Prepared by

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