

DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 14: 2017/18 Cropping season

Review for February 11-20 and outlook for February 21-28, 2018

HIGHLIGHTS

- Farmers in most parts of unimodal regions are mainly engaged with weeding activities.
- Farmers in the bimodal areas are mostly engaged with harvesting except in Shinyanga where maize is at ripeness stage.
- Farmers are advised to utilize expected dry days for weeding.

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING FEBRUARY 11-20, 2018

The northern high pressure systems (Azores and Siberian) experienced slight intensification while the southern systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) relaxed gradually towards the south. The position of Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) moved toward extreme southern part of Tanzania. Over the southwest Indian Ocean, the Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) were slight cool to neutral, while the southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast) SSTs were slight warm.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING FEBRUARY 11-20, 2018

During the ten days (dekad), most parts of the country received less than 50 percent of long term ten days average rainfall as shown in Figure 1. Also, above 80 percent long term ten days average were observed in some areas of Mara, Simiyu, Kigoma, Shinyanga, southern Iringa, Pwani, eastern Tanga and isles of Unguja and Pemba.

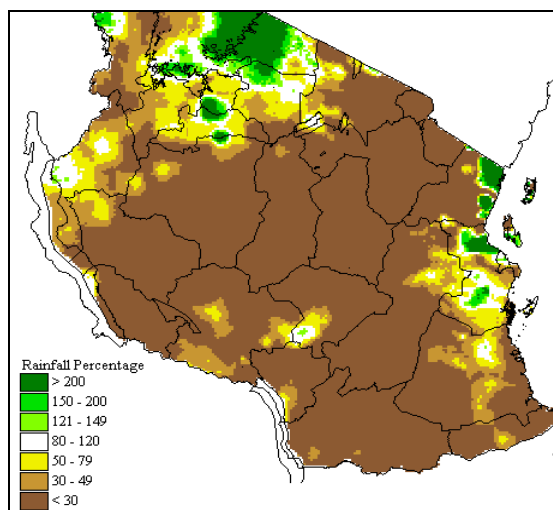


Figure 1: Percentage of average rainfall for 11-20 February, 2018

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING FEBRUARY 11-20, 2018

During the ten day (dekad) period, farmers over the unimodal areas were mostly engaged with weeding activities while in most of bimodal areas farmers continued with harvesting except in Shinyanga where maize is at ripeness stage. However, in some of bimodal areas specifically Kagera region farmers are engaged in land preparation for the coming Masika season. Water and pasture conditions were favourable over much of the country except in some areas of Arusha region particularly in Longido district.

**HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS
DURING FEBRUARY 11-20, 2018**

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges have continued to improve over much of Rufiji, Ruvuma, Rukwa and Nyasa basins due to ongoing seasonal rains.

**EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS
DURING FEBRUARY 20-28, 2018**

The northern high pressure systems are expected to experience slight relaxation while the southern systems are expected to intensify. The position of ITCZ is expected to remain over the southern part of Tanzania. The SSTs over the southwest Indian Ocean are expected to be neutral resulting into northeasterly to easterly winds over the northern part of the country and southeasterly to easterly winds over the southern part of the country. The southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast) is expected to experience slight warm to cool SSTs.

**EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS
DURING FEBRUARY 21-28, 2018**

In view of the expected synoptic conditions, **Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu and Mara regions)** is expected to have isolated rain showers and thunderstorms over few areas.

Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions) and **central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions)** are expected to receive light rain showers over few areas.

Northern coast (Tanga, northern part of Morogoro, Pwani and Dar es Salaam regions together with isles of Unguja and Pemba) is expected to receive moderate rain showers over few areas especially during the second half of the period.

Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe and Iringa regions) and **western regions (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions)** are expected to have isolated rain showers and thunderstorms over some areas.

Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) is expected to receive rain showers and occasional thunderstorms over few areas.

Southern region (Ruvuma and Southern part of Morogoro regions) is expected to receive rain showers and occasional thunderstorms over some areas.

**AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND
ADVISORY DURING FEBRUARY 21-28, 2018**

The expected rainfall conditions is likely to favour growth and development of crops and pastures. Farmers are advised to utilize dry days for weeding. Water and pasture conditions are expected to slightly improve across the country. Farmers, fishers and livestock keepers are advised to consult extension officers for optimal use of this forecast and advisory.

**HYDROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY
DURING FEBRUARY 21-28, 2018**

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to improve slightly in some water basin mainly Rufiji, Ruvuma, Rukwa and Nyasa basins due to expected rains. Despite of observed improvement of water resource, water users are advised to continue using available water sparingly.

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