No.19: 2018/19 cropping season

Review for April 01-10 and Outlook for April 11 - 20, 2019

HIGHLIGHTS

- Soil moisture is expected to continue improving in some parts around Lake Victoria Basin, southern coast, southwestern highlands, northern chast together with isles of Unguja and Pemba, southern regions and western regions as a result of ongoing and expected rainfall.
- Farmers, Livestock keepers and fisheries are advised to consult extension officers for effective use of the forecasted rainfall.

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING APRIL 01 - 10, 2019

uring this period, the northern and southern hemisphere's high pressure systems (Azores and Siberian; and St Helena and Mascarine respectively) were slightly weak. This caused the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) which was over Country to be relatively strong and oscillated over almost the same area. The southwest Indian ocean and the Mozambique channel were slightly warm with some pockets of cooler areas caused generally less active Tropical cyclonic zone but the warming, enhanced the formation of low pressure system and convergence zone off the Tanzanian coast. The Sea Surface Temperatures (SST's) over the southeast Atlantic (near Angola coast) were slightly warm which caused less influence to the precipitation making mechanism over the western sector of the county.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING APRIL 01 - 10, 2019

uring the dekad, the weather systems enhanced precipitation over some areas of south western high land, southern regions, coastal belt, Lake Victoria basin as well as western parts of the country. The amount of rainfall recorded over these areas ranged from 26 mm to 100 mm. However, few areas of Ruvuma, Mara, Simiyu and Morogoro received more than 150 mm of rainfall. Other parts of the country specifically central and north eastern highlands were still dry in most areas with rainfall amount less than 10mm as shown in figure 1.

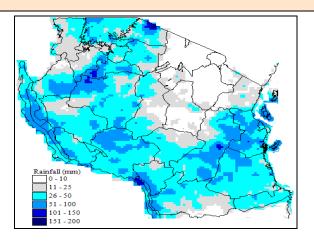


Figure: Total rainfall for the period of April 01 - 10, 2019.

AGROMETEROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING APRIL 01 - 10, 2019

uring the dekad some parts of unimodal specifically Mbeya, Iringa, Rukwa, Ruvuma maize crop was at full ripeness stage. However, due to prolonged dry condition some parts of central areas maize crops has been affected. On the other hand, the bimodal areas such as Simiyu, Mwanza and Shinyanga farmers were harvesting maize however due to late start of Masika rains, the seasonal crops are not progressing well. On contrary, Kagera region specifically Bukoba continued to receive rains which supported crop growth and development. Water and pasture availability for livestock were in good conditions over most parts of the country.

No.19: 2018/19 cropping season

HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING APRIL 01-10, 2019

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges has increased slightly due to ongoing seasonal rains.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING APRIL 11-20, 2019

uring this period, the northern hemisphere high pressure systems (Azores and Siberian) are expected to slightly relax while the southern high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) are expected to slightly intensify. This is expected to shift the ITCZ slightly northward within the country. SSTs over the southwest Indian Ocean are expected to persist hence influence development of low pressure systems and possibly tropical cyclones. Over the southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast), the sea surface temperatures are expected to be warm, this condition is not expected to have much influence to the precipitation making mechanisms over the western sector of the country.

EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITION DURING APRIL 11 - 20, 2019

n view of the expected synoptic conditions lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu and Mara regions), southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) and southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe and Iringa regions) are expected to feature thundershowers over some areas. Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions) are expected to feature thundershowers over some areas especially during the second half of the dekad. Northern coast (Tanga, Northern part of Morogoro, Pwani and Dar es Salaam regions together with isles of Unguja and Pemba) and southern regions (Ruvuma and southern part of Morogoro regions) are expected to feature rain showers associated with

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thunderstorms over few areas. Western regions (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions) are expected to feature thundershowers over few areas especially during the first half of the dekad.Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions) are expected to feature mainly dry conditions.

EXPECTED AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING APRIL 11-20, 2019

he expected rainfall over some areas in the southwestern highlands, southern coast, Victoria basin, northeastern highlands, northern coast, southern regions, and western regions will improve soil moisture conditions for crops development. The forecasted dry condition over central zone Dodoma and Singida will lead to soil moisture reduction and therefore farmers and livestock keepers are advised to consult agriculture extension officers for proper utilization of the predicted rain during this dekad.

HYDROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING APRIL 11 - 20, 2019

ater levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to increase both for unimodal and bimodal areas as the Msimu and Masika rains continues over those regions. Water users are advised to use available water carefully despite of the expected rainfall over some areas.