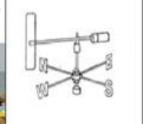


# TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AUTHORITY



AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

No.11: 2019/20 cropping season

Review for January 11-20, 2020 and Outlook for January 21 - 31, 2020

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- The expected off-season rain in bimodal areas may affect matured crops
- Farmers, livestock keepers and fisheries are advised to take precautionary measures where periods of strong winds are expected

#### SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING JANUARY 11-20, 2020

During this period, the northern high pressure systems (Azores and Siberian) intensified while the southern high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) relaxed. This situation allowed the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) to remain over the southern part of the country. The slight warm Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the southwest Indian Ocean triggered weak formation of tropical depressions. Over southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast) the slightly warm SSTs caused low level weak westerly wind flow that enhance less contribution of moisture flux from Congo forests to some parts of the county.

#### RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING JANUARY 11 - 20, 2020

uring the dekad, most parts of the country received rainfall. More than 100 mm of rainfall were recorded in some parts of southwestern highlands, northeastern highlands, northern coast, southern and central. Rainfall amount greater than 200mm was recorded in Rukwa, Lindi, Morogoro amd Ruvuma regions as indicated in Figure 1.

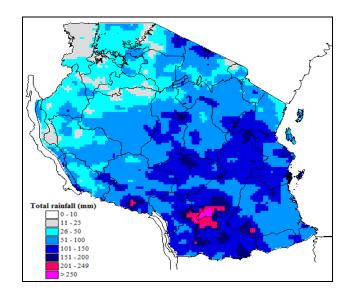


Figure 1: Rainfall total for the period of January 11 - 20, 2020.

## AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING JANUARY 11 - 20, 2020

uring this dekad, most parts of the country received rainfall for crop growth and development. Over unimodal areas specifically Iringa, Mbeya, Njombe, Rukwa, Tabora and Kigoma farmers were mostly engaged in weeding of maize, Irish potatoes and beans. Maize crop was between ninth leaf and wax ripeness, beans at flowering and Irish potatoes at budding stage. In Singida, Dodoma, Lindi and Mtwara weeding was the major field activity where maize, sunflower and millet were in third leaf stage. In most parts of bimodal rainfall regime, farmers were involved with weeding and harvesting of crops. In Mara,

Shinyanga, Simiyu, Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions maize was between ninth leaf and wax ripeness stage. In Kagera region farmers were engaged in maize and beans harvesting. Due to presence of maize stalk borers and fall armyworms (locusts) farmers in Tabora and Simiyu region were continuing with insecticides application.

#### HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING JANUARY 11-20 2020

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges were improving over most parts of the country.

#### EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING JANUARY 21-31, 2020

During the coming dekad, the northern high pressure systems are expected to continue intensifying while the southern high pressure systems relaxing. This condition will allow the ITCZ to remain over the southern part of the country. The slight warm (SSTs) over the southwest Indian Ocean are expected to trigger weak formation of tropical depressions. Over southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast), the slight warm SSTs are expected to cause low level weak westerly wind flow that will enhance less contribution of moisture flux from Congo forests to some parts of the county.

#### EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING JANUARY 21 - 31, 2020

In view of the expected weather systems, areas around Lake Victoria basin (Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu and Mara regions), western (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions), southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) and northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions) are expected to feature moderate 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) are expected to feature moderate rain showers over few areas especially during the first half of the dekad. Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions) are expected to feature moderate

rain showers over few areas, accompanied with short periods of strong winds. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe and Iringa region) and southern region (Ruvuma and southern part of Morogoro regions) are expected to feature moderate rain showers over some areas, accompanied with short periods of strong winds.

## EXPECTED AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING JANUARY 21-31, 2020

The expected rainfall over most areas across the country is likely to maintain soil moisture condition for crops growth and pasture especially over unimodal regions. In bimodal regions farmers are advised to continue with land preparation for the coming season (MAM). However, some regions which were affected by stalk borers and fall armyworms are advised to seek more advice from agriculture extension staff and take appropriate measures to rescue crops. However, the expected off season rain during the dekad in bimodal areas, may affect matured crops, but on the other hand will favor late grown crops. Farmers, fishers, and livestock keepers are advised to continue with routine farm activities and consult agriculture extension officers for crop management and use meteorological update issued by TMA which is available at http://www.meteo.go.tz/

## EXPECTED HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING JANUARY 21-31, 2020

ater levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to continue slightly increasing mainly over Lake Victoria basin, Pangani, Rufiji, Ruvuma and Wami/Ruvu. Water users are advised to continue using available water carefully.