

EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR FOOD SECURITY

No. 2021/04

IN THE GAMBIA

Period: June 1 - 10, 2021



Government of The Gambia

Produced and Published by the Multidisciplinary
Working Group of the AGRHYMET Regional
Programme

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1.0 METEOROLOGICAL SITUATION

The mean surface position of the Inter-Tropical Discontinuity (ITD), a boundary layer that separates the North-easterly dry winds from the South-westerly monsoon winds continued with its northward motion during this dekad. The regions to the north of the ITD experienced dry and stable atmosphere, with thick dust observed over parts of North Africa, northern Mali and Mauritania.

However, regions to the south of the ITD were affected by frequent convective activities particularly the Gulf of Guinea states, such as rain and thunderstorms, occasionally associated with strong winds.

1.1 OUTLOOK FOR THE NEXT DEKAD

Generally warm and humid atmosphere will continue to persist during the period with influx of more moisture from the southern hemisphere. This will lead to generation of rains and thunderstorms over much parts of the country, particularly the eastern sector. Thus, rain and thunderstorms, occasionally associated with strong winds are expected on the 11th, 13th and 17th June 2021.

2.0 AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SITUATION

2.1 RAINFALL SITUATION

Rainfall was recorded during this dekad with most stations particularly in the Eastern Third of the country recording significant rainfall figures. This has shown the enhancement of moisture availability in the Eastern sector of the country, as predicted in the seasonal forecast for this year.

Fatoto in the far Eastern third of the country recorded the highest dekad rainfall total of above **100.0mm**, while Basse in the same region recorded **56.8mm**. In the Middle Third Sapu recorded the highest of **56.3mm**, whereas Kerewan in the Western Third recorded a dekad total of **18.7mm** also highest in this region, figure 1, below.

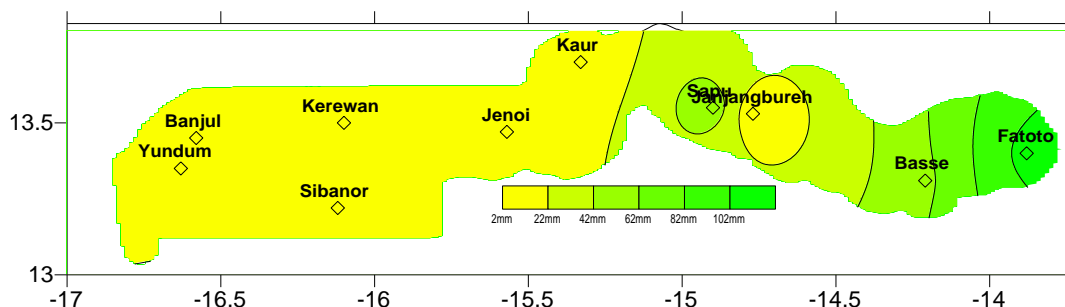


Figure 1: Dekadal rainfall totals from 1st - 10th June 2021.

2.2 Temperature

Average temperatures during the dekad under review varied between 28°C in the Western Third and 34°C in the Eastern Third of the country. Minimum temperatures also vary between 21°C in the Western Third and 23°C in the Eastern Third.

2.3 Winds

Winds were light to moderate in speed with occasionally strong winds with a maximum wind gust of 33km/hour recorded across the country.

2.4 Sunshine Duration

Average Sunshine duration recorded during the dekad was 10 hours.

2.5 Relative Humidity

Due to increased moisture content in the atmosphere during this dekad, the relative humidity (RH) has increased to above 90% in most parts of the country. However, lowest RH of about 21% was recorded in the middle parts of the country.

3.0 AGRICULTURAL SITUATION

As the rainy season begins, few farmers especially in the eastern half of the country are busy sowing cereals whilst some farmers are still busy on field clearing, acquisition and preparation of seeds.

Banjul, June 12, 2021
National MWG of The Gambia

Composition of MWG:

Department of Water Resources
Planning Services - Department of Agriculture (DOA)
Communication, Extension & Education Services - DOA
Animal Health & Production Services - DOA
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