

HIGHLIGHTS

- The rainy and strong wind conditions associated with the tropical cyclone ‘HIDAYA’ had negative effects on some crops over coastal areas specifically Mtwara and Lindi regions.
- The rainfall expected in some areas in the coastal belt may affect crop growth due to water logging.
- Farmers, livestock keepers, and fishermen are advised to continue monitoring and take appropriate measures against any negative impacts on crops, crop fields, livestock, and fishing activities.

**SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING
MAY 1-10, 2024**

During the dekad, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarenes) slightly intensified while the northern hemisphere high pressure systems (Azores and Siberian) relaxed. This condition allowed the ITCZ to oscillate further northwards and only to touch some parts of the Lake Victoria Basin (LVB).

The Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the southwestern Indian Ocean were warmer than normal. These conditions influenced the formation of the low pressure systems over the southwestern Indian Ocean which strengthened precipitation-making mechanisms over the coast regions and nearby areas. Tropical cyclone “HIDAYA” was among the low pressure systems over the southwestern Indian Ocean, resulted in heavy precipitation and strong winds along the coastal areas.

The above weather systems favored thundery showers over the Lake Victoria Basin, west, southwestern, and northeastern highlands, and along the coast. Central and southern regions were mainly dry.

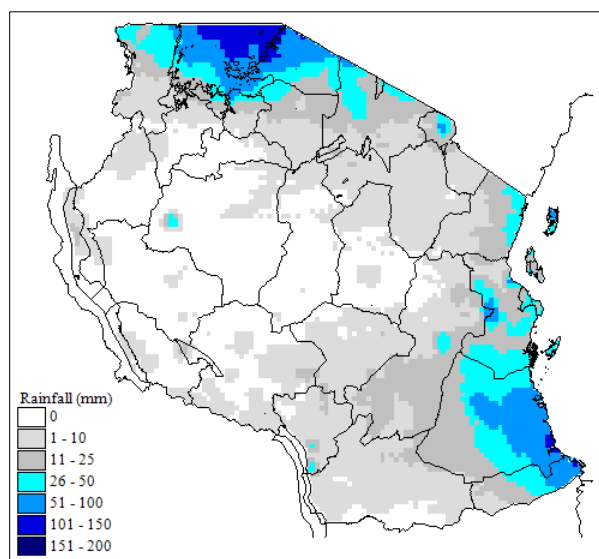


Figure 1: Total dekad rainfall for May 1-10, 2024

**RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING
MAY 1-10, 2024**

During this dekad, most areas of the country received a ten-day total rainfall of less than 25 mm. However, tropical cyclone “HIDAYA” had a significant contribution to the dekad rainfall total recorded in Mtwara and Lindi regions which ranged from 51 to 150 mm. Nevertheless, some area in the central, western, and southwestern highlands were generally dry as indicated in Figure 1.

**AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY
DURING MAY 1-10, 2024**

During this dekad, rainy conditions experienced in a few areas of the country continued to support crop growth and development. However, rainy and strong wind conditions experienced along the coastal regions specifically Mtwara and Lindi affected crops in some areas. In most bimodal areas, the maize crop was at the vegetative stage except in areas around Lake Victoria, where the crop was at the wax ripeness stage. Farmers were engaged in weeding, fertilizer, and pesticide applications.

Over unimodal rainfall pattern areas, particularly in Kigoma, Tabora, Dodoma, Mbeya, Iringa, Ruvuma, and Rukwa regions maize crop was at full ripeness.

No.22: 2023/24 Cropping Season

Moreover, in the Rukwa, Tabora, Mbeya, Shinyanga, Mwanza, and Morogoro regions, paddy was at the full ripeness stage and farmers were engaged in harvesting activities.

The Sunflower was at the ripeness stages in Dodoma and Singida, and the flowering stage in the Morogoro region.

The wheat crop was at the hearing stage, particularly in Njombe and Mbeya regions, while the bean crop was at the wax ripeness stage in Mbeya and Songwe regions.

Water and pasture for livestock and wildlife were sufficient over most areas in the country.

**HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS
DURING MAY 1-10, 2024**

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges continued increasing in some areas due to the prevailing rainy conditions.

**EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS
DURING MAY 11-20, 2024**

During this period, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to intensify while the northern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to relax. This condition is expected to allow the ITCZ to oscillate further northwards and only touch some parts of the LVB and extreme west.

The SSTs over the eastern Indian Ocean are expected to be slightly cooler than normal while over the western Indian Ocean are expected to be warmer than normal. This condition is expected to cause light precipitation over the coastal regions and nearby areas.

**EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING
MAY 11-20, 2024**

Areas around the Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu, and Mara regions) and western regions (Kigoma, Katavi, and Tabora) are expected to feature thundery showers over a few areas.

Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe, and Iringa regions) are expected to experience rain showers over a few areas, especially over high grounds.

The northern coast (Tanga, northern part of Morogoro, Pwani, and Dar es Salaam region, including the isles of Unguja and Pemba) and southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) are expected to feature rain showers over some areas.

Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions) and southern regions (Ruvuma and southern part of Morogoro regions) are expected to feature mainly dry conditions.

Review of May 1-10, 2024, and Outlook for May 11-20, 2024

Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara, and Kilimanjaro regions) are expected to feature light rain over few areas.

**AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND
ADVISORY DURING MAY 11-20, 2024**

The expected rainfall in few areas is likely to continue favoring and supporting crop growth and development in both bimodal and unimodal areas especially late planted crops. However, the rainfall expected in some areas in the coastal belt may affect crop growth due to water logging. Farmers in those areas are advised to take proper measures to control excessive water and the outbreak of pests and diseases in consultation with extension officers from their localities.

The dry conditions expected over central regions (Dodoma and Singida) and southern regions (Ruvuma and the southern part of Morogoro regions) likely favor ripening and drying of crops such as maize and sunflower.

Generally, farmers are advised to make follow-ups on crops, and crop fields for management and control of the excessive water, and the outbreak of pests and diseases in consultation with the extension officers from their localities.

Livestock keepers are advised to gather and store pastures and harvest rainwater for future use.

Fishing communities are advised to continue make follow daily weather forecasts, especially for the Indian Ocean and the Great Lakes to make decisions on the right time to go out for fishing to avoid the effects of strong winds.

**EXPECTED HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS
DURING MAY 11-20, 2024**

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges specifically over the coastal areas are expected to continue increasing due to the expected rainy conditions. The community is advised to take precautions and continue harvesting rainwater for future use.