

# TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AUTHORITY

No.22: 2022/23 Cropping Season

GROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

Review of May 1-10, 2023, and Outlook for May 11-20, 2023

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- The expected dry condition in most of unimodal areas will favor crop growth and development.
- Farmers, fishers, and livestock keepers are advised to use meteorological forecast updates in consultation with extension agents for proper management of their activities.

# SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING MAY 1-10, 2023

**D** uring this period, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) intensified while the northern hemisphere high pressure systems (Azores and Siberia) relaxed. This scenario confined the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) over the northern part of the country. The observed neutral to slight warmer than normal Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the south western Indian ocean (SWIO) had minimal influence in the advection of moist maritime wind from the ocean towards the coastal areas. Furthermore, the observed slight warmer than normal SSTs over the Central Equatorial Pacific Ocean (CEPO) had generally positive influence on enhancing the rainfall making mechanism within the country. On the other hand, the observed warmer than normal SSTs over the eastern Atlantic Ocean (off Angola coast) had less contribution in the advection of moist westerly wind from Congo basin towards the western sector of the country

# RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING MAY 1-10, 2023

M any parts of the country received rain ranging from 50 mm to 150 mm. The highest amount of total rainfall exceeding 200 mm was recorded in Arusha and Kilimanjaro region as indicated in Figure 1.

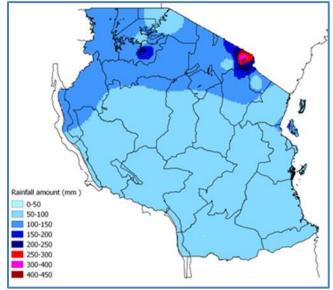


Figure 1: Total rainfall for the period of May 1-10, 2023

#### AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING MAY 1-10, 2023

 $\mathbf{D}$  uring this period under review, the rainy condition continued favoring crop growth and development in both unimodal and bimodal areas.

In most areas of the unimodal rainfall regime, specifically Njombe, Iringa, Mbeya, Ruvuma, Rukwa, Tabora, and Kigoma regions maize crop was at full ripeness stages. The paddy crop was at flowering stage over Tabora, Mbeya, southern Morogoro, and Rukwa regions.

For bimodal areas specifically Mwanza, Simiyu, Mara, Kagera, Morogoro, and Arusha regions maize crop was at flowering stages and farmers were mostly engaged with weeding activities.

Pasture and water availability for livestock and wildlife were generally good in most parts of the country.

### HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING MAY 1-10, 2023

ater levels in dams and river flow discharges slightly increased in some areas of the country with an exceptional of central zone where normal condition were observed.

# EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING MAY 11-20, 2023

**D** uring this dekad, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to slight intensify while its counterpart northern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to relax. This situation is expected to allow the ITCZ to move further north of the country. The SSTs over the SWIO are expected continue being neutral to slight warmer than normal, this scenario is expected to have minimal influence in the advection of moist maritime wind from the ocean towards the coastal areas. The SSTs over the CEPO SSTs are expected to be slightly warmer than normal. On the other hand, the SSTs over the eastern Atlantic Ocean (off Angola coast) are expected to be warmer than normal with less contribution in the transfer of moist westerly wind from Congo basin towards the western sector of the country.

### EXPECTED WEATHER DURING MAY 11-20, 2023

reas around Lake Victoria basin (Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu and Mara) and western regions (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora) are expected to feature isolated thundershowers .

Northern coast (Tanga, northern part of Morogoro, Pwani and Dar es Salaam together with isles of Unguja and Pemba) are expected to feature rain showers over few areas especially during the first half of the dekad.

Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro) are expected to feature light rain showers.

Central areas (Dodoma and Singida), southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe and Iringa) and southern regions (Ruvuma and southern part of Morogoro regions) are expected to feature mainly dry condition.

Southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi) are expected to feature mainly dry condition with pockets of light rain showers.

# AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING MAY 11-20, 2023

**S** oil moisture condition is expected to continue improving particularly over northern coast, north eastern highlands and Lake Victoria basin, due to the expected rainfall conditions. The expected dry condition over the central areas, southwestern highlands, southern regions and southern coast will be favourable for maize crop at ripeness, maturity and harvesting stages.

Farmers and extension officers are advised to continue making followups on crop fields for management and control of pests and diseases.

The fishing communities are advised to continue making good use of daily weather forecasts and advisories including marine forecasts for the Indian Ocean and the great lakes for better decisions. Livestock keepers are also advised to ensure their animals are protected against adverse weather and outbreak disease.

Generally, it is advised to utilize weather forecasts and updates for their day-to-day activities.

# EXPECTED HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING MAY 11-20, 2023

W ater levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to remain normal. However, communities are advised to harvest rainwater whenever possible for future use.

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