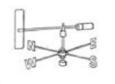


TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AUTHORITY



No.19: 2022/23 Cropping Season

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- Crops in most parts of the country are progressing well due to ongoing seasonal rains.
- Farmers in bimodal areas are advised to finalize planting activities in consultation with local extension officers.
- Farmers, fishers and livestock keepers are advised to utilize weather forecasts, advisory and updates for their operational and planning activities.

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING

APRIL 1-10, 2023

uring this dekad, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) slightly intensified while the northern hemisphere high pressure systems (Azores and Siberia) relaxed. This condition maintained the northward movement of the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) towards the bimodal areas. The Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the Southwestern Indian Ocean (SWIO) were slightly warmer than normal. This scenario had much influence in the development of depressions that influence the advection of moist easterly to southeasterly wind over the coastal belt. On the other hand, the SSTs over the eastern Atlantic Ocean (off Angola coast) were slightly warmer than average with less influence in advecting moist westerlies from the Congo basin towards the western sector of the country.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING APRIL 1-10, 2023

ost parts of the country received rainfall amounts ranging between 26 to 50 mm. The lowest amounts (less than 26 mm) were recorded over a few areas in Manyara, Dodoma, Ruvuma, and Singida regions as indicated in Figure 1.

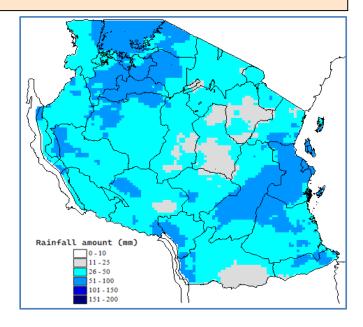


Figure 1: Total rainfall for the period of April 1-10, 2023

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING APRIL 1-10, 2023

uring the period under review, crops continued to progress well in most areas of the country due to ongoing seasonal rains. In most areas of unimodal rainfall regime, maize crop was at ripeness stages in some areas of Njombe, Iringa, Mbeya, Ruvuma, Rukwa, Tabora and Kigoma regions. Generally, maize crops over those areas are in good conditions.

Paddy crop was in flowering stages over Tabora, Mbeya, southern Morogoro and Rukwa regions.

Irish potatoes in Njombe and Mbeya regions were reported to be at full ripeness stage and few farmers have started harvesting activities.

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

HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING APRIL 1-10, 2023

ater levels in dams and river flow discharges remained normal in most areas with a slight increase over a few areas of the northern coast and Lake Victoria Basin.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING APRIL 11-20, 2023

uring this period, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to maintain their strength while the northern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to relax. This condition is expected to allow the ITCZ to continue oscillating northwards. The SSTs over the SWIO are expected to be slightly warmer than average the condition which favours the advection of moist maritime wind towards the coastal belt. The SSTs over the central equatorial Pacific Ocean (CEPO) are expected to be neutral. The SSTs over the eastern Atlantic Ocean (off Angola coast) are expected to be warmer than normal with less contribution in the advection of moist westerly winds from the Congo basin towards the western sector of the country.

EXPECTED WEATHER DURING APRIL 11-20, 2023

reas around, Lake Victoria basin (Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu, and Mara), southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi), southern regions (Ruvuma and southern part of Morogoro), and western regions (Kigoma, Katavi, and Tabora) are expected to feature thundershowers over some areas.

Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara, and Kilimanjaro) and central areas (Dodoma and Singida) are expected to feature mainly dry conditions.

The northern coast (Tanga, northern part of Morogoro, Pwani, and Dar es Salaam regions together with isles of Unguja and Pemba) and southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe, and Iringa) are expected to feature rain showers with isolated cases of thunderstorms

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING APRIL 11-20, 2023

he expected rains in most areas of the country will continue favouring soil moisture replenishment that eventually supports crop growth and development.

Farmers in unimodal rainfall areas are advised to continue making follow-ups on their crop fields particularly the outbreak of pests and diseases in consultation with local extension officers. For bimodal areas, farmers are advised to finalize planting activities especially the early matured and drought-tolerant crops in consultation with the local extension officers for the crop types and seed varieties suitable for the *masika* cropping season.

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.

Generally, it is advised to utilize weather forecasts and updates as issued by TMA.

EXPECTED HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING APRIL 11-20, 2023

ater levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to slightly increase due to the expected rainfall condition. However, communities are advised to harvest rainwater whenever possible for future use.