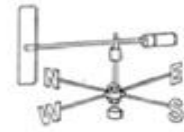




TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AUTHORITY



AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

No.05: 2023/24 Cropping Season

Review of November 11-20, 2023 and Outlook for November 21-30, 2023

HIGHLIGHTS

- Farmers are advised to continue making follow-ups on crops and crop fields for management, control of the excessive soil moisture, water logging, and the outbreak of pests and diseases in consultation with extension officers from their localities.
- Farmers in unimodal areas are advised to plant when there is sufficient soil moisture to support seed

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING NOVEMBER 11-20, 2023

During this dekad, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarenes) relaxed while the northern hemisphere high pressure systems (Azores and Siberian) slightly intensified. This condition continued to keep the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) over the country. The slightly warmer than normal Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) were observed over the western Indian Ocean while neutral to slightly cool SSTs were observed over the eastern Indian Ocean. This condition had an influence on the advection of moist maritime wind towards the coastal areas.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING NOVEMBER 11-20, 2023

During this dekad, most areas of the country experienced rainy conditions (rainfall between 26 mm – 100 mm) with few areas in Singida, Dodoma, and Iringa regions experiencing dry conditions. However, a few areas in Tanga region and Pemba Island experienced dekadal rainfall of more than 200 mm as indicated in Figure 1.

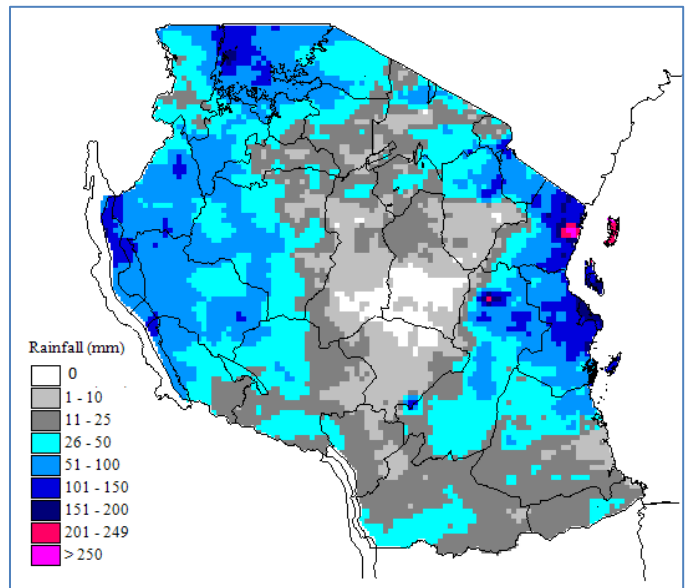


Fig. 1: Total dekadal rainfall for the period of November 11-20, 2023

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING NOVEMBER 11-20, 2023

During this dekad, most of the bimodal areas experienced rainy conditions that supported crop growth and development. In bimodal areas, particularly the northern coast, northeastern highlands, and Lake Victoria basin, the maize crop was at the vegetative stage over some areas except in the Kagera region where maize crops were between tasseling and flowering stages and farmers continued with weeding activities. However, over some areas in the northern coast, particularly in Pwani region, maize crop was affected by the excessive water in the soil.

No.5: 2023/24 Cropping Season

The prevailing rainy conditions over Unguja and Pemba Islands continued to affect the harvesting and drying of cloves.

Farmers in unimodal areas were finalizing the field preparation activities while some farmers started planting maize, beans, and Irish potatoes.

The availability of water and pasture for livestock and wildlife has begun to improve in most areas that receive *Vuli* rains except for areas that receive seasonal rains, particularly central regions where the situation is not satisfactory, especially for the herding community due to the existing dry conditions.

HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING NOVEMBER 11-20, 2023

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges in most of the bimodal areas has increased. On the other hand, most areas in the unimodal regions experienced a decrease in water due to prevailing dry conditions during the dekad under review.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING NOVEMBER 21-30, 2023

During this period, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to continue relaxing while the northern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to intensify slightly. This condition is expected to continue keeping the ITCZ over the country. The slightly warm SSTs are expected over the west Indian Ocean while neutral to slightly cool SSTs observed over the eastern Indian Ocean. This condition is expected to influence the advection of moist maritime wind towards the coastal areas of our country.

EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING NOVEMBER 21-30, 2023

Areas around the Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu, and Mara regions) and western regions (Kigoma, Katavi, and Tabora regions), northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara, and Kilimanjaro regions), northern coast (Tanga, the northern part of Morogoro, Pwani, and Dar es Salaam region, including isles of Unguja and Pemba), and southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) are expected to feature thundershowers over some areas.

Review of November 11-20, 2023, and Outlook for November 21-30, 2023

The southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe, and Iringa regions) are expected to feature light rain showers over a few areas.

Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions) and southern region (Ruvuma and southern part of Morogoro regions) are expected to feature rain showers over a few areas, especially during the second half of the dekad

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING NOVEMBER 21-30, 2023

The expected rainfall over some areas is likely to favor soil moisture replenishment for the growth and development of the crops.

Farmers from areas experiencing *Vuli* rains are advised to continue making followups on crops, and crop fields for management and control of the excessive water, and the outbreak of pests and diseases in consultation with extension officers from their localities.

In addition to that, weeding and the use of inputs are expected to be affected due to the increase in weed, periods of rain, and excessive moisture.

Farmers in unimodal areas are advised to plant crops as when there is sufficient soil moisture to support seed germination.

Livestock keepers are advised to plant more pastures and harvest rainwater for future use.

Fishing communities are advised to strengthen the infrastructure of fish farming and take precautions by continuing to follow daily weather forecasts, especially for the Indian Ocean and the Great Lakes to make decisions on the right time to go fishing to avoid the effects of strong winds, and heavy rains when they appear.

EXPECTED HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING NOVEMBER 21-30, 2023

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to slightly increase particularly over bimodal areas due to the expected rainy conditions. The community is advised to continue to take precautions against flooding and continue to strengthen dams. In addition, the available water should be used carefully following the existing dry conditions, especially in areas that receive *Msimu* rains, and the rains have not started.