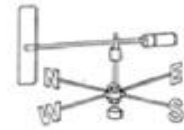




TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AUTHORITY



AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

No.02: 2023/24 Cropping Season

Review of October 11-20, 2023 and Outlook for October 21-31, 2023

HIGHLIGHTS

- The expected rainfall over areas around Lake Victoria, western regions, and the northern coast is likely to continue favoring soil moisture replenishment
- Farmers in bimodal areas are advised to continue with land preparation and may plant crops when soil moisture is sufficient for seeds germination.

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING

OCTOBER 11-20, 2023

During this dekad, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarenes) continued relaxing while the northern hemisphere high pressure systems (Azores and Siberian) continued intensifying. This condition continued to maintain the Meridional arm of Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) over some areas of the Lake Victoria basin and the western part of the country.

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 a slight influence on the advection of moist maritime winds towards the coastal areas especially during the second half of the dekad.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING

OCTOBER 11-20, 2023

During this dekad, most areas of the country experienced light rain conditions with few areas of the Lake Victoria basin, western, southwestern, and northern coast which experienced a dekadal total rainfall ranging from 11 to 100 mm. However, few areas in Tanga region experienced rainfall of more than 150 mm as indicated in Figure 1.

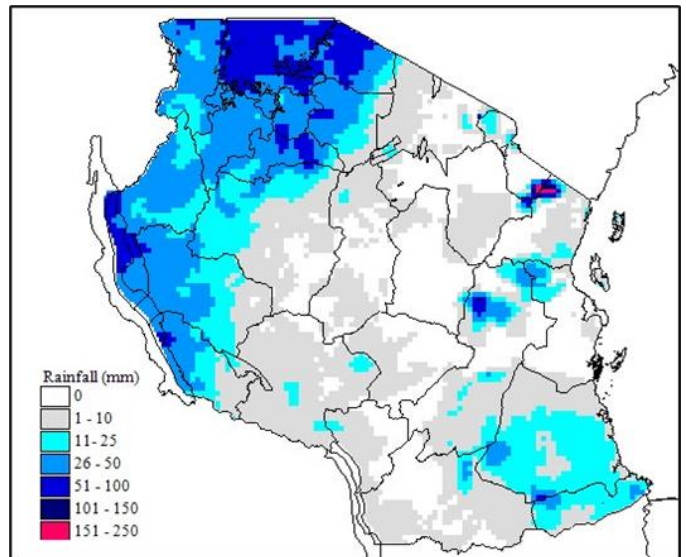


Figure 1: Total rainfall estimates from satellite data for the period of October 11-20, 2023

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY

DURING OCTOBER 11-20, 2023

During this dekad, soil moisture replenishment was observed over a few areas of the Lake Victoria basin, western, and northern coast (specifically Tanga and northern part of Morogoro region) which favoured crop planting activities. Most farmers in bimodal areas were engaged in land preparation and planting activities except in the Kagera region where maize and bean crops were at the vegetative stage and farmers continued with weeding activities. Pastures and water availability for livestock and wildlife continued to be a challenge in most areas due to experienced prolonged dry conditions, particularly in the unimodal areas.

HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS
DURING OCTOBER 11-20, 2023

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges decreased in most areas of the country due to the prolonged dry conditions.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS
DURING OCTOBER 21-31, 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 slightly intensify. This condition is expected to maintain the meridional arm of ITCZ over some areas of the Lake Victoria basin and the western part of the country.

Slightly warmer than normal SSTs are expected over the western Indian Ocean while neutral to slightly cool SSTs are expected over the eastern Indian Ocean. This condition is expected to have a slight influence on the advection of moist maritime wind towards the coastal belt. The SSTs over the southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast) are expected to be warmer than normal, the condition which is expected to have less influence in the advection of moist westerly winds from Congo Basin towards the western sector of the country.

EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING
OCTOBER 21-31, 2023

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

Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara, and Kilimanjaro regions) and northern coast (Tanga, the northern part of Morogoro, Pwani, and Dar es Salaam region, including isles of Unguja and Pemba) are expected to feature rain showers over some areas.

The southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) and 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 dry conditions.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND
ADVISORY DURING OCTOBER 21-31, 2023

The expected rainfall over areas around Lake Victoria, western regions and the northern coast is likely to favor soil moisture replenishment for crop planting, growth, and development.

Farmers from bimodal areas particularly in the northeastern highlands and northern coast are advised to plant crops when soil moisture is sufficient to support seed germination.

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.

Due to persistent dry conditions expected particularly over unimodal areas, livestock keepers are advised to use carefully the available water and pastures.

EXPECTED HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS
DURING OCTOBER 21-31, 2023

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to slightly decrease due to the expected dry conditions.

The communities are advised to make good use of available water due to prevailing dry condition in many areas of the country.