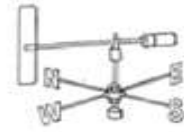




TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AUTHORITY



AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

No.35: 2022/23 Cropping Season

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

HIGHLIGHTS

- The expected rainfall over areas around Lake Victoria, western regions, northern coast, and northeastern highlands is likely to favor soil moisture replenishment
- Farmers from bimodal areas are advised to continue with land preparation ready for the *Vuli* cropping season.
- Communities are advised to make good use of available water due to prevailing dry conditions many areas of the country

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING SEPTEMBER 11-20, 2023

During this period, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) slightly relaxed while the northern hemisphere high pressure systems (Azores and Siberian) slightly intensified. This situation contributed to movement of the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) southwards there by occupying some areas of the country especially over the Lake Victoria basin and the western parts. Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over large part of the Indian Ocean were slightly warmer than normal which has influenced advection of moist maritime wind towards the coastal belt. SSTs over the southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast) were warmer than normal; this condition had less influence in the advection of moist westerly winds from Congo Basin towards the western part of the country.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING SEPTEMBER 11-20, 2023

During this dekad, some areas of the country were generally dry except Lake Victoria basin, southwestern highlands, western, Arusha and Dar es Salaam regions as well as Unguja Island which experienced rainy conditions. However, a few areas received between 20 to 100 mm of rainfall within 10 days as indicated in Figure 1.

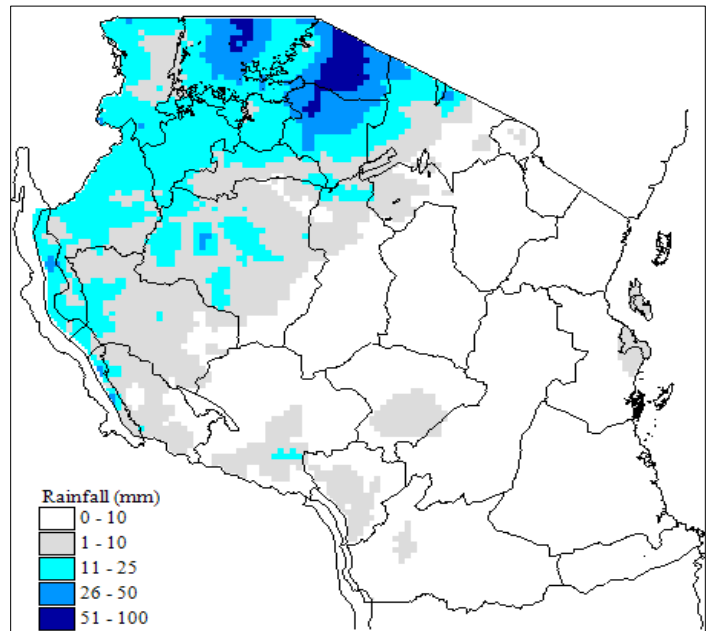


Figure 1: Total rainfall estimates from satellite data for the period of September 11-20, 2023

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING SEPTEMBER 11-20, 2023

During this dekad, most parts of the country experienced dry conditions. This condition affected water availability but favoured land preparation activities. However, some areas over the Lake Victoria basin and western part of the country experienced periods of rainy conditions that supported soil moisture replenishment over those areas that help pasture growth for wildlife and livestock.

Most farmers over bimodal areas were engaged in land preparation.

Water and pasture availability for livestock slightly decreased in most areas of the country.

HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING SEPTEMBER 11-20, 2023

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges continue decreasing in most areas of the country due to the prevailing dry conditions.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2023

During this period, southern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to continue relaxing while the northern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to continue intensifying. This situation is expected to move the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) towards the south and keeping the meridional arm of ITCZ over some areas of the Lake Victoria basin and western part of our country. Slightly warmer SSTs are expected over large parts of the Indian Ocean, which may likely cause advection of moist south easterly maritime wind towards the coastal belt.

EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2023

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

Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara, and Kilimanjaro) are expected to experience mainly dry conditions with pockets of light rain showers.

Central areas (Dodoma and Singida) and southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe, and Iringa), southern region (Ruvuma and the southern part of Morogoro), and southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi) are expected to feature mainly dry conditions.

The northern coast (Tanga, northern part of Morogoro, Pwani, and Dar es Salaam together with the isles of Unguja and Pemba) is expected to feature light rain showers over a few areas.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2023

The expected rainfall over areas around Lake Victoria and western regions is likely to favor soil moisture replenishment. Farmers from bimodal areas are advised to continue with land preparation but for areas over the Lake Victoria basin and western parts of the country may plant crops when sufficient soil moisture is realized.

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 over most parts of the country livestock keepers are advised to use carefully the available water and pastures.

EXPECTED HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30, 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.