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AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

Ref: MET/7 /28 / 2 **Issue No: 28/2023** **Date: 16/10/2023**

DEKAD 28 PERIOD: 1ST – 10TH OCTOBER, 2023.

1.0 HIGHLIGHTS

- During the period under review, **several parts** of the country reported increased amount of rainfall as compared to the previous dekad except for a few stations over Western, Nyanza and Highlands West of the Rift Valley that recorded a decreased amount of rainfall.

- Lamu Meteorological station in the Coastal region reported the highest amount of rainfall followed by Nyaroya and Kangema Meteorological Stations (Figs; 3.1 & 3.2).

- Mean air temperature decreased slightly in most parts of the country as compared to the previous dekad. (Figs. 3.3 & 3.4).
- Total pan evaporation readings were almost the same as the previous dekad in most stations.
- During the next ten (10) days, most parts of the Country are expected to receive occasional light to enhanced rains over a few places in Western, Central, Rift Valley, South Eastern lowlands, North Eastern and Coastal areas of the country.

2.0 WEATHER AND CROP REVIEW FOR THE PERIOD: 1ST – 10TH OCTOBER, 2023.

2.1 SUMMARY

In Western, Nyanza, and several parts of Rift Valley, most farmers that planted early are weeding their crops. In Central, Eastern, and Coastal regions some farmers have planted their crops while others are waiting for the onset of the rain.

In Northwestern and Eastern regions pasture and forage condition is slowly getting regenerated due to the occasional light to moderate rains.

2.2 WESTERN AND NYANZA REGION

All stations from the region reported enhanced rainfall with Nyaroya Station in Migori County reporting the highest.
There was significant increase in Mean air temperature ranging between 22.1˚C and 25.3˚C.

Scattered cloud cover was observed over most stations in the region during the dekad.

2.2.1 KAKAMEGA:

The station reported a cumulative rainfall amount of 33.5 mm slightly below its long-term mean. Scattered cloud cover was reported throughout the entire dekad. The average mean air temperature at the station increased by 1.1 ˚C

Beans are at budding stage while maize is past third leaf stage.

2.2.2 KISII:

The station reported a cumulative rainfall amount of 21.2 mm, a negative deviation from the long-term mean. The average mean air temperature at the station slightly increased by 0.8˚C from the previous dekad. Scattered cloud cover was observed over the dekad.

Maize is at third leaf stage while beans are at budding stage.

2.3 RIFT VALLEY REGION

2.3.1 KITALE:

The station received substantial amount of rainfall during the dekad of 32.5 mm, a negative deviation from the normal.

Mean air temperature increased slightly from 20.5 ˚C to 20.6 ˚C.

Scattered cloud cover was observed throughout the dekad.

Most farmers have harvested their maize crop and are now preparing for the short rain season while others have planted their crops.

2.3.2 KERICHO:

The station reported 14.6 mm of rainfall which is a negative deviation from its long-term mean. The station reported an increase in mean air temperature from 18.2 ˚C to 18.7˚C.

Most farmers have planted their crops while others are preparing their farms for the OND season.

2.3.3 KABARAK:

The station reported a cumulative amount of 20.1 mm which is a positive deviation from long term mean. Mean air temperature decreased from 19.3˚C to 19.2˚C. Scattered cloud cover was observed throughout the dekad.

Farmers have already prepared their farms and are waiting for the onset of the rain.

2.4 CENTRAL AND NAIROBI REGION.

Most stations from the Central region reported an increase in rainfall compared to the previous dekad (Fig 3.2). Mean air temperatures slightly decreased and ranged between 15.5 ˚C and 22.8 ˚C. Scattered to broken cloud cover was observed in the region throughout the dekad.

2.4.1 NYERI:

The station reported a cumulative rainfall amount of 9.6 mm which is a deviation from the long-term mean. Scattered cloud cover was observed at the station throughout the dekad. Mean air temperature decreased from 21.0 ˚C to 20.6˚C in the dekad.

Some farmers are still preparing their farms while others are dry planting.

2.4.2 THIKA:

The station reported 3.6 mm rainfall against its long term dekadal mean of 8.8mm. Total pan evaporation was 56.1 mm. Scattered cloud cover was observed at the station throughout the dekad.

Farmers are preparing their farms waiting for the OND rainy season.

2.4.3 DAGORETTI

The station received a cumulative rainfall amount of 5.8mm. The mean air temperature decreased from 20.4 ˚C to 20.2˚C in the dekad. Scattered cloud cover was observed at the station throughout the dekad.

Land preparation is over, farmers are waiting for the onset of the rain.

2.4.4 KABETE:

The station received a cumulative rainfall amount of 1.9mm. The mean air temperature at the station decreased slightly from 19.7 ˚C to 19.6˚C. Scattered cloud cover was observed at the station throughout the dekad.

Land preparation is over, farmers are waiting for the onset of the rain.

2.4.5 NYAHURURU:

The station received a total rainfall amount of 0.6mm. The average mean air temperature at the station

decreased from 15.8 ˚C to 15.5 ˚C. Scattered cloud cover was observed throughout the dekad.

2.5 EASTERN REGION:

Most stations in the region received more rainfall as compared to the previous dekad. Mean air temperature increased slightly and ranged between 21.4˚C and 21.8˚C. Scattered cloud cover was observed in the region throughout the dekad.

2.5.1 MERU:

The station received a cumulative rainfall of 18.1mm. Mean air temperature increased from 21.0˚C to 21.4 ˚C. Few clouds cover was observed at the station throughout the dekad.

2.5.2 EMBU:

The station received a cumulative rainfall amount of 42.1mm. The average mean air temperature increased from 21.5 ˚C to 21.8˚C in the dekad. Scattered cloud cover was observed at the station throughout the dekad.

Planting of maize and beans is underway in most farms.

2.5.3 KATUMANI:

The station reported 0.5mm of rainfall during the dekad. Scattered cloud cover was observed at the station throughout the dekad.

Farmers are preparing their farms for the short rain season.

2.6 COASTAL REGION:

All stations in the region reported heavy to very heavy rainfall with Lamu station leading the region with 104.8 mm of rainfall. The mean air temperature generally decreased during the dekad and ranged between 26.5˚C and 27.7˚C.

2.6.1 MTWAPA:

The station received a total rainfall amount of 38.7 mm. Mean air temperature decreased from 27.2˚c to 26.6˚c. Scattered cloud cover was observed at the station throughout the dekad.

Maize crop have been harvested from the farms. Half of the dekad was characterized by wet conditions.

2.6.2 MSABAHA:

The station received a total rainfall amount of 45.8 mm which is a positive deviation from the long-term mean. The mean air temperature of 26.9^{0}C was reported, a slight decrease from the previous dekad. Scattered cloud cover was observed throughout the dekad.

2.7 **NORTH EASTERN REGION:**

Several stations in the region remained dry during the dekad except a few stations reporting light to moderate rains. Mean air temperature ranged between 21.7 ^{0}C and 31.6 ^{0}C.

Scattered to broken cloud cover was observed in the region throughout the dekad. Pasture and forage in the region are fast depleting due to the long spell of drought. Water levels in most water/earth pans in the region are also drying up which is a menace to pastoral community there.

DEKAD 28 2023 RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE MAPS/ CHARTS

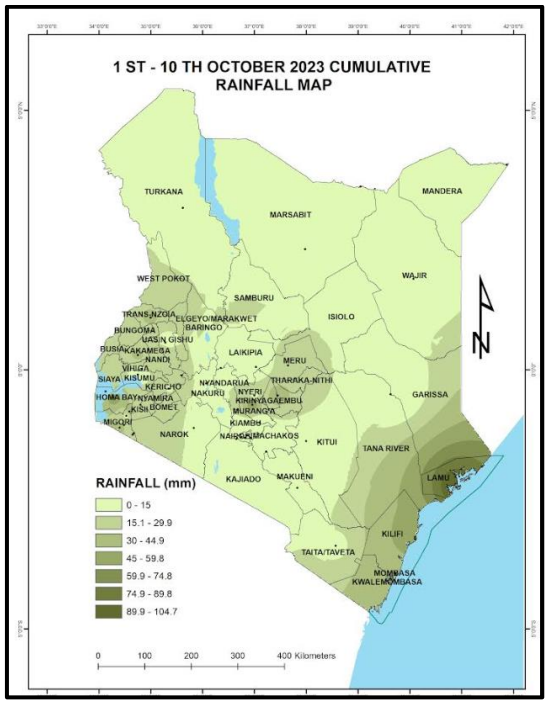

Fig: 3.1

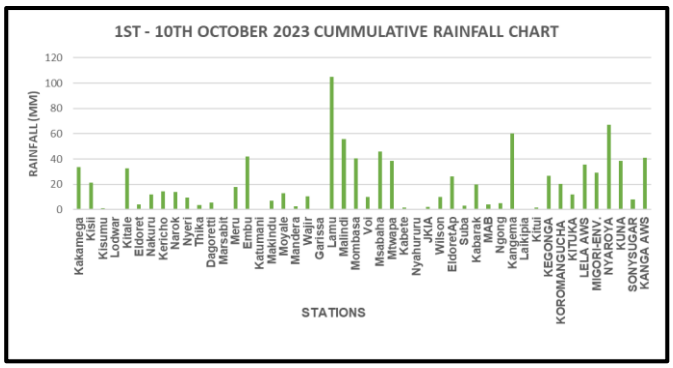

Fig: 3.2

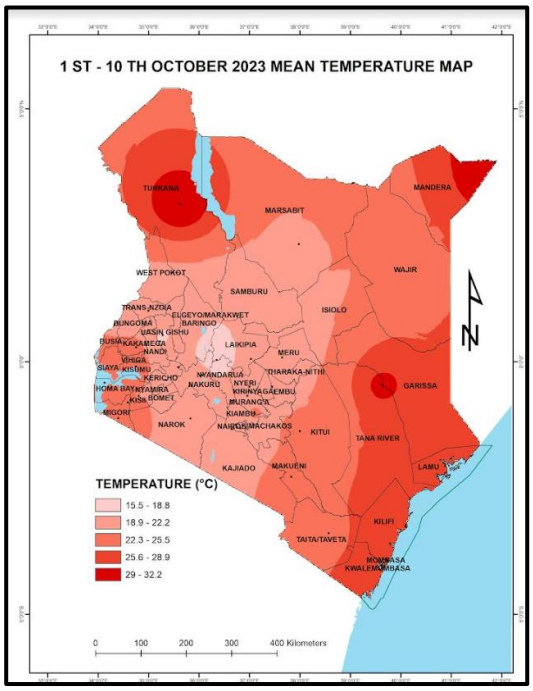

Fig 3.3

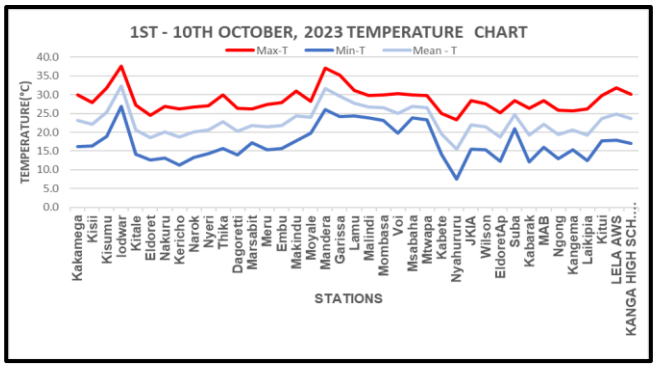

Fig: 3.4

Station	Maximum consecutive wet days	Maximum consecutive dry days	Number of rainy days	Cummulative Rainfall from the start of the OND 2023 rainfall season
Kakamega	2	4	2	33.51
Kisii	2	2	1	21.2
Kitale	3	1	1	32.51
Kericho	2	2	1	14.62
Nyeri	1	2	1	9.62
Thika	1	5	0	3.6
Dagoretti	1	5	0	5.8
Meru	1	2	1	18.1
Embu	4	2	3	42.11
Katumani	0	6	0	0.5
Msabaha	4	4	1	45.8
Mtwapa	4	1	4	38.7
Kabete	1	3	0	1.91
Nyahururu	0	8	0	0.61
Kabarak	1	2	1	20.11

Fig 3.5

4.0 EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT TEN (10) DAYS; 11TH – 20TH OCTOBER, 2023.

During the next ten (10) days, most parts of the Country are expected to receive occasional moderate to heavy rains over several places in western, high ground areas and coastal parts of the country.

Over **Western and Nyanza regions**, mornings are likely to be generally sunny, however occasional rains may occur over few places. Light to moderate rains is likely to occur over several places in the afternoon. Therefore, farmers are advised to take advantage of the sunny intervals in the morning to carry out farm management activities like weed control.

In the **Central region, Nairobi, and Eastern parts** of the country, sunny interval in the morning with occasional moderate to heavy rain is likely to occur over several places. Therefore, farmers are advised to take advantage of these rains to plant.

North Western is likely to have sunny intervals with cloudy nights and showers over few places during the first half of the dekad. However, during the second half of the forecast period, the rains are expected to increase

both in the morning and afternoon hours. The expected weather conditions will be ideal for pasture and forage regeneration.

South Eastern lowlands and Coastal regions are expected to receive occasional morning, afternoon and night showers over a few places during the next dekad. Therefore, farmers are advised to take advantage of these rains to plant.

For inquiries or any clarification, please use the contacts on the letterhead.

Mary Githinji

***FOR*: DIRECTOR OF METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES**