



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTRY
KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT
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When Replying please quote REF

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MARCH APRIL MAY 2022 RAINFALL FORECAST FOR TAITA TAVETA COUNTY

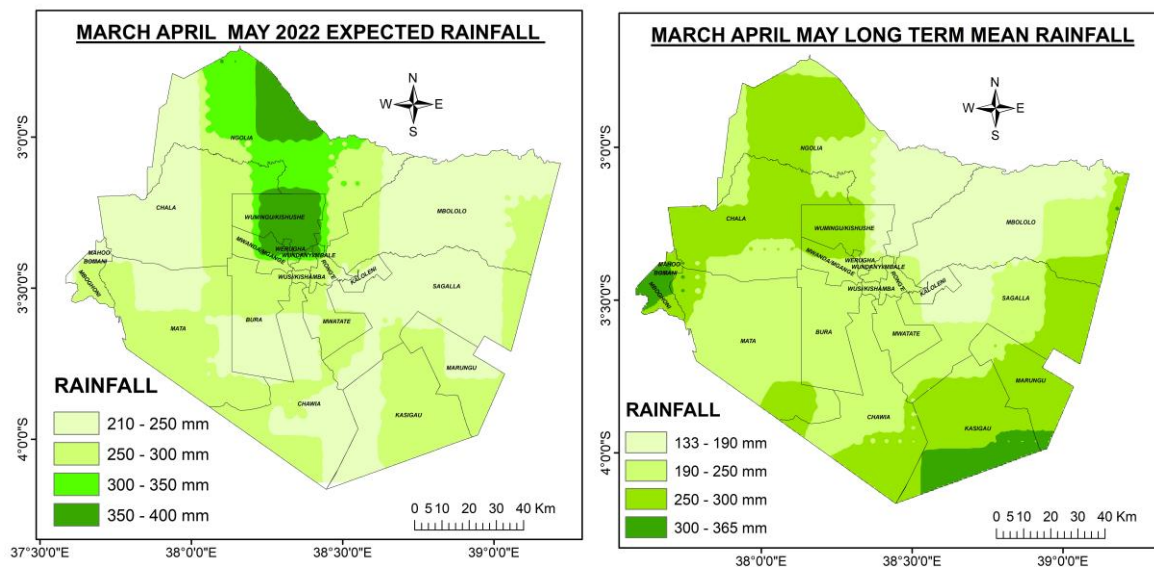


Fig. 1. March April May Seasonal Rainfall Forecast & Long Term Average Rainfall for Taita Taveta County.

The maps above show the expected rainfall over different parts of the county, and the long term mean rainfall based on data between 1981 to 2010. We expect to have enhanced rainfall during the March April May 2022 long rains season compared to the long term average rainfall of the county.

RAINFALL OUTLOOK DURING THE MARCH APRIL MAY 2022 LONG RAINS SEASON IN TAITA TAVETA

The expected long rains season is likely to be **near normal to above normal rainfall** over most parts of the county.

Rainfall Onset Expected to occur during the 3rd to 4th week of March 2022.

Peak Rainfall is likely to occur during the month of April 2022.

Rainfall Distribution is likely to be fairly good both in space and time during the season.

End of Rains Rains are expected to end during the 2nd to 3rd week of May 2022.

Temperatures are expected to remain above normal through the long rains season of 2022.

ADVISORIES TO THE RESIDENTS OF TAITA TAVETA COUNTY

AGRICULTURE.

Farmers are advised to consult experts in the Ministry of Agriculture on the crops to be planted taking advantage of the on coming rains. The enhanced rainfall is likely to increase soil erosion, and structures should be put in place to curb massive soil erosion. During the rainy season, farmers are asked to watch out for pests and diseases which are associated with wet conditions, and have them controlled before they affect the crops negatively.

LIVESTOCK

Increased pastures due to the rains will go a long way into improving the animal body condition and production. Farmers are asked to consult livestock officers for advice on best livestock management practices during the coming season. Livestock pests, parasites and diseases have to be controlled. Planting of high value grasses as livestock feeds is encouraged.

WATER

The water sector will benefit from the enhanced rainfall and experts within the sector are called upon to provide relevant advice to the residents to ensure they harvest roof catchment water and those who are able surface runoff on farm ponds. All water pans and farm ponds should be desilted before the coming rains.

ENVIRONMENT

Tree planting campaigns should be done early. Residents are asked to ensure they take advantage of the enhanced rainfall to plant trees during the coming rainfall season. It is important that residents liaise with foresters for advice on the type of trees to be planted in different parts of the county.

TRANSPORT.

The enhanced rainfall is likely to have adverse effect on the loose surface roads during the rainy season. Accidents may occur due to slippery roads, and in the highland area's landslides may occur. There might be disruption of movement when roads are rendered impassable due to massive soil erosion cutting off roads, and excessive soil deposition on the roads. Motorists are advised to avoid driving through flooded roads and river beds.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Enhanced rainfall may damage buildings, power lines, water and sewerage lines and other useful infrastructure in many ways. Landslides especially in the hilly areas of the county may occur. Flooding in the lowlands. Thunderstorm strikes may be harmful and residents are advised to install lightening arrestors in areas prone to lighting strikes. Disaster teams should come with strategies on how to reduce such weather-related disaster

HEALTH

Measures should be put in place to minimise water borne diseases that may arise as a result of the enhanced rainfall. Flood prone areas must be avoided during the rainy season. Bushes should be cleared to check breeding of mosquitoes and other harmful insects. Mosquito nets and water treatment tablets should be made available during this period.

The seasonal forecast should be used in conjunction with updates issued by the department from time to time in the form of Monthly Forecasts, Weekly Forecasts, 24-hour Forecasts and Sever weather Alerts.



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