



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTRY

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

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NAIROBI

WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR JUNE-JULY-AUGUST 2022 RAINFALL SEASON FOR KILIFI COUNTY

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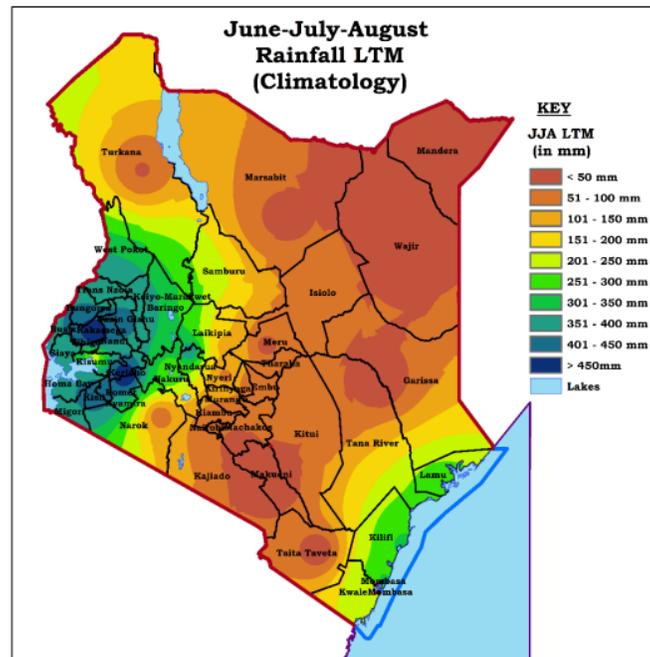


Figure 1a: June-July-August Climatology

The outlook for the June-July-August (JJA) 2022 rainfall season indicates that the County is likely to receive below- the long term average rainfall shown in Fig 1a. The temperatures are likely to be slightly warmer than average for the season and the distribution of rainfall is expected to be poor in both space and time.

Performance of the March-April-May 2022 Rainfall Season

The March to May 2022 seasonal rainfall is expected to continue in the month of June thus coinciding with the JJA Season. The distribution, both in time and space, has been generally poor over most parts of the county. The month of March did not receive any amount of rains due to shifted patterns for the last ten years in the county. In April and May 2022, several parts of the county received below-average rainfall with both dry and wet spells.

An assessment of the rainfall recorded from 1st March to 26th May 2022 indicates that the rainfall performance was below average over most parts of the county. All stations recorded rainfall that was below 75% of their MAM LTMs (depressed rainfall) as depicted in the Fig.1b.

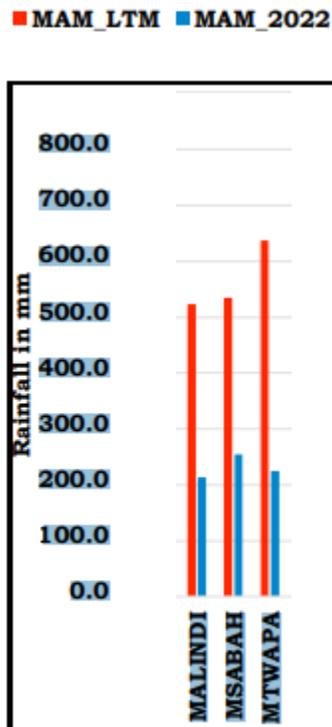


Figure 1b: MAM 2022 Rainfall Totals Compared to MAM Seasonal LTM.

The onset of the seasonal rainfall was within the predicted period (1st to 2nd week of April) over most sub counties except parts of Malindi subcounty in Jilore ward around Kakoneni central(end of 3rd week of April) and Lango mbaya(totally skipped by rains).

Rainfall Forecast for June-July-August 2022

The forecast for the June-July-August rainfall period indicates that the County is likely to experience below-average rainfall (depressed rainfall). Kilifi County is expected to receive occasional rainfall during the season. The expected total rainfall amounts are likely to be below the average amounts for the season (drier than usual). The distribution both in time and space is expected to be poor and poorer in the hinterlands as compared to the areas along the coastline.

The temperature outlook is as follows:

Kilifi County is likely to experience warmer than average temperatures (Warmer than usual for the season).

EXPECTED POTENTIAL IMPACTS

The following are the likely impacts during the June-July- August season:

Agriculture and Food Security Sector

The current shortage of water, food, pasture and browse for both human and livestock over especially the hinterland areas of Kilifi county(Ganze, Magarini and parts of Kaloleni and Malindi subcounties) is expected to worsen owing to the poor performance of the previous seasons since the year 2020 to the resent March-May,2022 rainfall season and the dry conditions expected over these region during the JJA season. Relevant authorities and humanitarian institutions are therefore advised to intensify the measures already put in place to avert loss of lives, livelihoods, and livestock.

The expected occasional rainfall over the county is likely to maintain sufficient soil moisture to sustain already existing crops that survived the long dry spells to maturity. Areas like Marikani & Chasimba wards among others have the existing crops planted in mid-April in good shape as shown in Fig 2a.



Figure 2a: Maize & green grams in Mariakani & Chasimba wards- KCEP_KMD farmers (31&21/5/2022)

Farmers may not be able to plant the crops usually planted in June such as pulses due to the expected depressed rains in terms of amounts and distribution. However the common practice of planting of cassava in June is highly recommended so as to take advantage of the JJA and OND rains.

The warmer than normal temperatures in the season are expected to exacerbate pest infestation already being experienced in the county due to previous warmer temperatures.

Disaster Management Sector

The current drought being experienced over parts of the eastern sectors of the country where Kilifi County falls is expected to persist. This may in turn lead to conflicts over the limited resources especially water, pasture and browse. The National and County governments, as well as humanitarian organizations, are therefore advised to enhance the measures that are already being implemented to avert the loss of lives, livelihoods and livestock. Local leaders are also advised to promote peace and encourage resource sharing among the communities.

Health Sector

Respiratory track diseases like asthma, pneumonia, flu and the common cold are likely to increase due to the expected chilly conditions as the region experiences cooler and moist air

incursions from the south during the KUSI season. The general public is advised to follow advice from the Ministry of Health.

Though March –April-May rains begun on time and are expected to be extended to the end of June, the below average amounts and poor distribution are likely to enhance Food shortage which has persisted over the the last two years in the county. The prolonged food shortage may lead to an increase in malnutrition-related diseases. The food security assessment should therefore be carried out to identify the most vulnerable communities and provide them with water, food or food supplements.

Transport and Public Safety Sectors

Rough sea conditions due to high waves and strong winds may pose danger for ocean users and especially the fishing community as they venture using small vessels such as boats commonly used by the artisanal fishers. Care should be taken while venturing in the sea under the guidance issued in the Kilifi weekly forecasts found in KMD website and various stakeholder platforms.

Due to the expected poor rainfall distribution in time and space during the season with both dry and wet spells, repair of loose surface roads and completion of unfinished bridges in the county is highly recommended.

Water Resources Management and the Energy Sectors

Water scarcity is expected to persist over the parts of the county mainly relying on water pans and shallow water wells due to inadequate refill and recharge respectively as below average rains and poor distribution of rains persist for the last two years. Thus, efficient water management and trucking should be carried out to ensure enough water resources are available for the animals, schools and human populations in these areas. Technologies such as green water harvesting and use of drizzle kit technique ought to be embraced since they ensure minimal evaporative and seepage loss.

Consequently, the below average rainfall in the Athi basin feeding Galana-Sabaki river in the county may affect farming activities relying on the river in the long run as the river regime is expected to be lower. Alternative source of water such as sinking of boreholes to farmer practicing irrigation would ensure sustainable agriculture in the county.

Environment

The expected extension of the MAM rains into June and occasional rains is likely to maintain conducive soil moisture for the growing of trees and regeneration of vegetation. Therefore, the public should take advantage of this by growing trees to increase tree cover.

There may be an increase in human-wildlife conflicts as reported in the previous season in Chakama as wild animals migrate in search of pasture and water as the region experiences depressed rains. Depressed rains in the neighbouring counties may also influence influx of cattle hence inter-county conflicts. Relevant authorities are advised to take charge as well as mobilize animal control.