

# MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTRY STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

# COUNTY METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE

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#### THE SEASONAL WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR THE MARCH-MAY- (MAM) 2025 SEASON

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1. Highlights

# 1.1 Outlook for March-April-May 2025

- Near to above average rainfall is expected over most parts of Murang'a County during March-May 2025 "Long-Rains" Season.
- The rains are expected to poorly to fairly distributed both time and space with peak in Month of April 2025.
- Some Rainfall maybe received in February followed by dry spell till the 4<sup>th</sup> week of March to 1<sup>st</sup> week of April and continues to the month of June.

#### 1.2 Review of the Rainfall in October-November- December 2024

- Most parts of the county received near to below normal rainfall during OND 2024 "short-rains" season.
- The seasonal rainfall was poorly distributed in both time and space.

# 2. Murang'a County March – May "Long rains Season

#### 2.1 Climatology- Long term Rainfall Distribution

March to May constitutes a major rainfall season in Murang'a County since it is the most reliable for agricultural practices. With varying terrain, the rainfall distribution varies from a long term mean of 400m in the lower zone to over 800 mm in upper zone, as depicted in **Fig. 1** below.

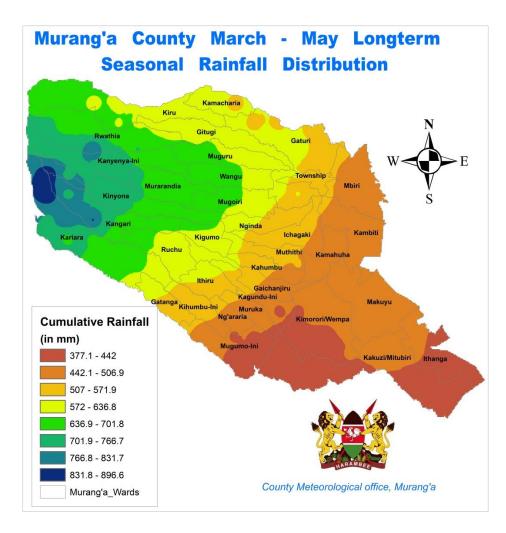


Fig 1. Murang'a County March -May Long Term "Normal Rainfall"

### 2.2 Forecast for March-May 2022 Season

Most parts of Murang'a County are likely to receive near-normal rainfall with a tendency to slightly above-normal rainfall. Fig 2 below showing that rainfall distribution across the county is highly variable ranging from 350mm to 850mm. The peak of the rains is expected to be in the month of April for most parts of the county.

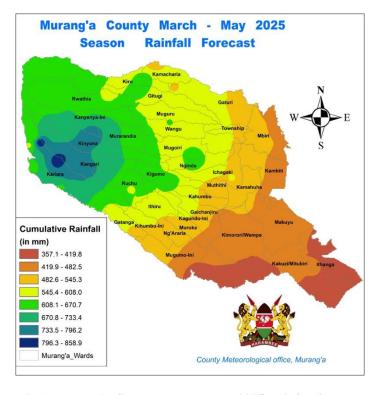


Fig 1. Murang'a County March – May 2025 Rainfall forecast

#### 2.3 ONSET AND CESSATION DATES

Some Rainfall maybe received in February followed by dry spell till the  $4^{th}$  week of March to  $1^{st}$  week of April and continues to the month of June.

#### 3.0 POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE MAM 2025 RAINS

#### 3.1 Agriculture, Livestock Development and Food Security Sectors

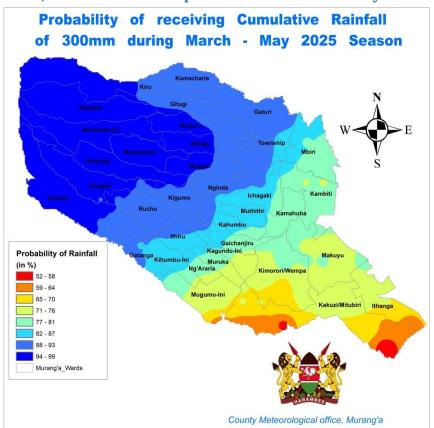


Fig 3. Probability of receiving 300mm during March -May 2025

With near normal to above normal rainfall performance expected, the farming community should take advantage of the expected rains and maximize crop yield through appropriate landuse management. Farmers are advised to liaise with the agricultural officers for advice on the appropriate type and variety of seeds to be used. The expected late onset in however, likely to impact negatively resulting in delayed planting and germination.

Agriculture and livestock extension officers called upon to advice Farmers appropriate variety and type of crops to plant.

### 3.2 Environment and Natural Resources Sectors

As the county is expected to receive enough rainfall, Ministry of Environment and Climate change, should encourage residents to put in place soil conservation measures to minimize environmental degradation caused by soil erosion.

Residents should enhance agroforestry and plant more indigenous trees in order to increase forest cover and conserve the environment.

# 3.3 Water, Irrigation and Sanitation

Rain water harvesting both on roof catchment and surface runoff any time it rains should also be encouraged to boost water availability in homes and farms.

#### 3.4 Disaster Management Sector

Cases of flooding/flash flooding, and landslides/mudslides in prone areas also highly probable. The County Disaster Committee advised to be on standby in order to ensure mitigation of any negative impacts that may arise.

N.B: This forecast should be used in conjunction with the weekly, monthly forecast and regular updates issued by this office.

Signed,

STANLEY K. KINYUA COUNTY DIRECTOR METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES, MURANG'A-KENYA