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KMD 10 DAY AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN



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DEKAD 09 PERIOD: 21ST - 31ST MARCH 2025.

1.0 HIGHLIGHTS

- During the review period, there was enhanced rainfall over the whole country. Most stations reported above-normal precipitation compared to the previous dekad. Notably:
- Kitui station in the South Eastern region recorded the highest rainfall at 281.7 mm, followed by Kangema station in Central with 145.4 mm.
- The widespread rainfall contributed to sufficient soil moisture levels across many areas, creating favorable conditions for planting.
- Mean air temperatures decreased significantly in most parts of the country, compared to the previous dekad.
- Total pan evaporation readings showed decrease over several parts of the country.

Date: 03/4/2025

- Looking ahead, rainfall is expected to continue over several regions in the next ten day, but a significant decrease in rainfall amounts and spatial coverage is expected over most parts of the country
- The expected weather will create favorable conditions for farmers to continue planting and enable crops to grow well.

2.0 WEATHER AND CROP REVIEW FOR THE PERIOD 21ST- 31ST MARCH 2025.

2.1 WESTERN AND NYANZA REGION

During the period under review, the Western and Nyanza regions of Kenya experienced increased rainfall compared to the previous dekad, with Kisumu recording the highest amount. Mean air temperatures decreased significantly, ranging between 23.8°C and 20.8°C, with broken cloud cover dominating.

Kakamega: Received 73.1 mm of rainfall. Mean air temperature dropped from 23.5°C to 22.0°C. Planting is underway.

Kisii: Recorded 59.5 mm of rainfall, below the long-term mean of 95.3 mm. Mean temperature decreased from 21.5°C to 20.8°C. Maize and beans are performing fairly well.

These conditions indicate a favorable environment for agricultural activities, particularly planting, due to adequate soil moisture and moderate temperatures.

2.2 RIFT VALLEY REGION

During the recent dekad, the Rift Valley region experienced above-normal rainfall, leading to improved soil moisture levels and favorable conditions for crops and pasture. Mean air temperatures decreased across the region, with broken cloud cover prevailing.

Kericho: Recorded 92.9 mm of rainfall, surpassing its long-term mean of 80.0 mm. The mean temperature decreased from 19.6°C to 18.6°C. Farmers have commenced planting activities.

Kitale: Accumulated 81.2 mm of rainfall, with temperatures dropping from 21.0°C to 20.7°C. Farmers in the area have started planting.

Eldoret: Experienced a mean air temperature of 18.9°C during this period.

These climatic conditions have positively impacted agricultural activities in the Rift Valley, promoting planting and supporting crop development.

2.3 CENTRAL AND NAIROBI REGION.

During the recent dekad, the Central Kenya Highlands and Nairobi area experienced above-normal rainfall, leading to improved soil moisture levels favorable for agriculture. Mean air temperatures decreased across most stations, accompanied by prevalent broken cloud cover.

Thika: Recorded 82.9 mm of rainfall, with temperatures dropping from 22.8°C to 22.1°C. Maize is ready for harvest, though yields are below normal.

Dagoretti: Accumulated 57.4 mm of rainfall, with temperatures decreasing from 21.0°C to 20.4°C. planting is ongoing.

Kabete: Reported 57.1 mm of rainfall, with mean temperature dropping from 20.0°C to 19.5°C. Planting is underway.

Nyeri: Received 13.5mm of rainfall, below the long-term mean of 31.6 mm. Mean temperature drop slightly from 21.1°C to 20.8°C. Planting is underway.

Nyahururu: Recorded 12.4 mm of rainfall, with temperatures increasing slightly from 16.3°C to 16.4°C. Broken cloud cover was observed throughout the dekad.

These conditions have generally supported agricultural activities, with ongoing planting in various areas. However, below-normal maize yields in Thika highlight the need for continued monitoring and support to optimize agricultural outcomes.

2.4 EASTERN REGION:

During the recent dekad, several regions in Kenya experienced above-normal rainfall, leading to improved soil moisture levels and favorable conditions for agriculture. Mean air temperatures generally decreased, and broken cloud cover was prevalent.

Meru: Received 115.6 mm of rainfall, with temperatures decreasing from 21.2°C to 20.3°C. planting is underway.

Embu: Recorded 74.1 mm of rainfall, with temperatures decreasing from 22.5°C to 21.3°C. Bean crop is at emergency stage.

Katumani: Received 76.3 mm of rainfall, above the long-term mean of 43.6 mm, with temperatures decreasing from 21.8°C to 21.1°C. Planting is ongoing.

2.5 COASTAL REGION

The region recorded above-normal rainfall, except for Voi which received 15.2 mm of rainfall below the long term mean for the dekad. Soil moisture levels were good for planting and crop germination, with mean air temperatures ranging from 28.1°C to 30.1°C. Broken cloud cover dominant throughout the period.

Mtwapa: Received 40.7mm of rainfall, with temperature decreasing from 29.6°C to 29.1°C. Planting is ongoing.

Msabaha: Recorded 42.2mm of rainfall, with temperatures remaining steady at 30.1°C. Planting is ongoing.

2.6 NORTH EASTERN REGION:

Most stations in the region reported above normal rainfall during the period under review. The soil moisture levels have improved and conducive for pasture growth. Mean air temperature ranged between 29.8 °C in Wajir and 31.7°C in Mandera. Scattered cloud cover dominated over several parts of the region.

3.0 DEKAD 09 2025 RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & WRSI MAPS / CHARTS

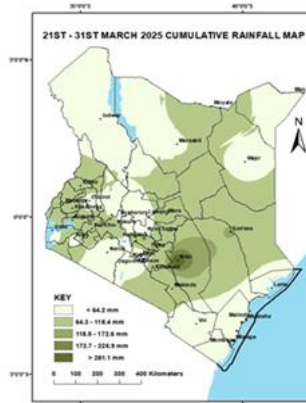


Fig 3.1

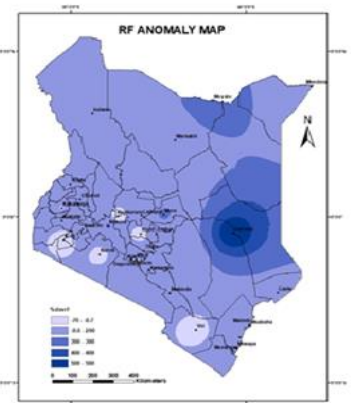


Fig 3.2

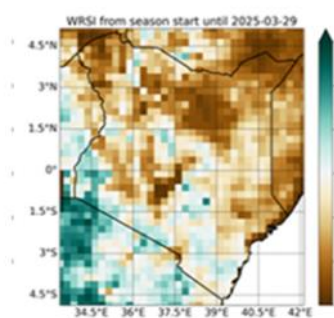


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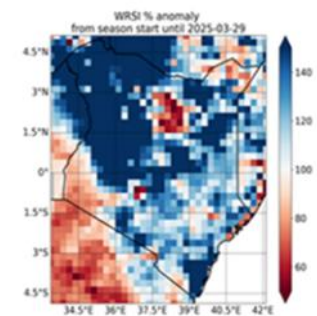


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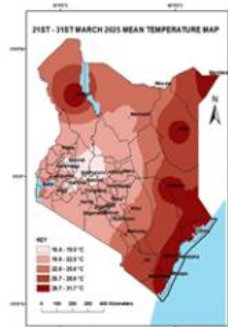


Fig 3.5

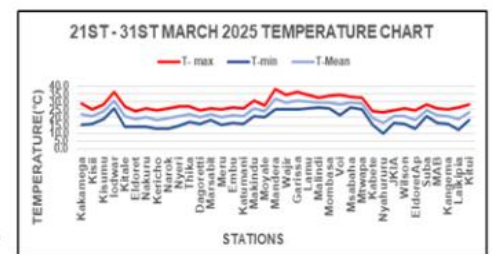


Fig 3.6

4.0 EXPECTED WEATHER, SOIL AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT TEN (10) DAYS; 1ST – 10TH APRIL 2025.

Western, Nyanza, and South Rift Valley: Morning rains as well as afternoon and night showers and thunderstorms are likely to occur over few places.

Central Region & Nairobi: Morning rains as well as afternoon and night showers are likely to occur over few places. .

North Western: Sunny intervals are expected during the day while nights are likely to be partly cloudy. Occasional afternoon showers may however occur over few places.

North Eastern: Morning rains as well as afternoon and night showers are likely to occur over few places

South-Eastern Lowlands & Coastal Counties: Morning, afternoon and night showers are expected over few places, occasionally spreading to several places

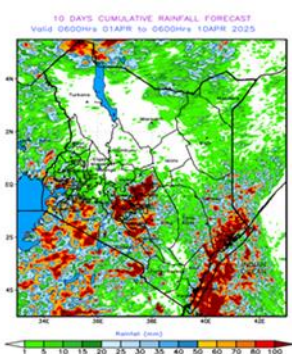


Fig 3.7

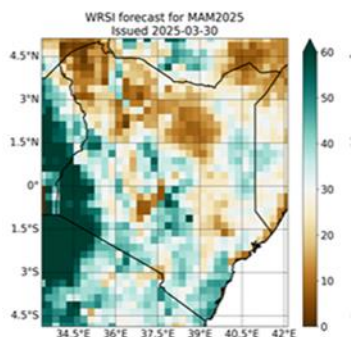


Fig 3.8

Agricultural Impact

Crops and pasture conditions are expected to grow well due to the anticipated wet conditions.

Soil moisture levels will likely be sufficient across most parts of the country, supporting agricultural activities.

4.1 Agro-Advisory for Farmers and Pastoralists

Farm Preparation and Planting:

Farmers are encouraged to continue preparing their lands as the planting season has begun.

Ensuring the use of appropriate, certified seeds suitable for local conditions is crucial for maximizing yields. Engaging with agricultural extension officers can provide guidance on selecting the best seed varieties.

Increased soil moisture levels in rangelands and game parks have positively impacted pasture growth and tree health, reducing the risk of wildfires and mitigating human-wildlife conflicts. Sustaining these moisture levels is essential for ongoing ecological balance and agricultural productivity.

Pastoralists are advised to cultivate additional pasture during this favorable season to ensure adequate feed for livestock. Planting suitable grass species can enhance pasture availability and contribute to rangeland rehabilitation.

Farmers should actively engage with meteorological services and technical experts at the community level to access timely weather and climate information. This collaboration supports informed decision-making, enabling farmers to adapt to changing weather patterns and optimize agricultural practices.

By implementing these strategies, farmers and pastoralists can enhance their resilience and productivity in the face of evolving climatic conditions.

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