



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE & FORESTRY
KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT
Dagoretti Corner, Ngong Road, P. O. Box 30259-00100, GPO, Nairobi, Kenya
Telephone: +254 (0) 20 38567880-7, +254 724 255 153-4
E-mail: director@meteo.go.ke, info@meteo.go.ke Website: <http://www.meteo.go.ke>

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

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2.0 WEATHER AND CROP REVIEW FOR THE 21ST – 31ST JANUARY 2024.

DEKAD 2 PERIOD: 21ST – 31ST JANUARY 2024.

1.0 HIGHLIGHTS

- During the current dekad, most stations reported less rainfall compared to the previous dekad.
- Kericho station reported the highest amount of rainfall 65.4 mm, followed by Narok which recorded 61.2 mm (refer to Figures 3.1 and 3.2).
- Mean air temperature increased over some regions as other areas within the Country reported reduced mean air temperatures (Figures 3.3 and 3.4).
- Total pan evaporation increased slightly over most stations relative to the previous dekad.
- During the next ten days, most parts of the country are likely to remain dry except over the lake basin, Southeastern lowlands and the coastal region where moderate rainfall is likely to be received

2.1 WESTERN AND NYANZA REGION

Several stations in the region reported a decrease for rainfall received compared to the previous dekad. Mean air temperature in the region ranged between 22.1°C to 24.8 °C. Scattered cloud cover dominated the region during the dekad.

2.2.1 KAKAMEGA:

The station reported a cumulative rainfall amount of 42.9 mm, which was above its long-term dekadal mean of 23.9 mm.

The average mean air temperature at the station increased from 21.2°C to 22.5°C. The station cloud cover was few during the morning increasing to broken in the afternoon throughout the dekad.

Farmers have started preparing their farms for the next season.

2.2.2 KISII:

The station recorded 14.6 mm of rainfall, which was below the long-term decadal mean. The mean air temperature recorded at the station was 22.1°C.

The station reported scattered cloud cover during the morning, broken in the afternoon hours throughout the dekad

Over some parts of the county, farmers have started preparing their farms for the next season. Over the high ground areas maize has not attained maturity but is in good state and above normal yield is expected.

RIFT VALLEY REGION

Several stations in the region reported a decrease for rainfall received compared to the previous dekad.

Mean air temperature in the region ranged between 18.1°C to 20.8 °C. Scattered cloud cover dominated the region during the dekad.

2.3.1 KITALE:

The station received a rainfall amount of 3.6 mm which was below its dekad mean of 16.1 mm. The mean air temperature was 20.4°C up from 20.2°C

The station reported scattered cloud cover during the morning, broken in the afternoon hours throughout the dekad

2.3.2 KERICHO:

The station reported 65.4 mm rainfall, which was a decrease from the previous 97.3 mm. The mean air temperature was 19.0°C up from 18.8°C

Farmers are preparing their land awaiting the long rains

2.4 CENTRAL AND NAIROBI REGION.

The region reported less rainfall amounts compared to the previous dekad (Fig 3.2). Mean air temperatures varied in the region and ranged between 15.8°C and 22.4°C. Broken cloud cover was observed in the region throughout the dekad.

2.4.1 NYERI:

The station reported a cumulative rainfall amount of 10.3 mm which was below its long-term decadal mean of 15.3 mm. Mean air temperature dropped from 20.2°C to 19.6 °C during the dekad.

The station cloud cover was few during the morning increasing to broken in the afternoon throughout the dekad.

Maize was at post flowering stage while beans have attained the maturity stage. Both crops are in fair condition.

2.4.2 THIKA:

The station remained dry during the dekad and total pan evaporation was 58 mm up from 33.9 mm. The station reported scattered cloud cover throughout the dekad.

Maize has attained the wax ripeness stage and is in good condition corresponding to normal growth.

Beans are at the maturity stage, harvesting is ongoing, and normal yield is likely for both maize and beans.

2.4.3 DAGORETTI

The station received 7.1 mm, which was below its long-term decadal mean of 15.5 mm. The mean air temperature dropped from 23.4°C to 20.8 °C during the dekad. The station reported broken cloud cover throughout the dekad.

Maize crop has attained wax ripeness stage and is in fair state corresponding to normal growth.

Harvesting of beans has been completed.

2.4.4 KABETE:

The station received 6.6 mm, which was below its long-term decadal mean. The mean air temperature at the station increased from 19.8°C to 20.3 °C. The station reported broken cloud cover throughout the dekad..

Maize crop has attained wax ripeness stage and is in fair state corresponding to normal growth.

Harvesting of beans has been completed.

2.4.5 NYAHURURU:

The station remained dry during the dekad. The average mean air temperature at the station dropped from 17.2°C to 15.8 °C.

The station reported scattered cloud cover during the morning, broken in the afternoon hours throughout the dekad

Harvesting of maize crop is complete.

2.5.0 EASTERN REGION:

Several stations in the region reported less rainfall amounts than in the previous dekad. Mean air temperature slightly dropped ranging between 20.1°C and 25.7°C. Scattered cloud cover dominated the region throughout the dekad.

2.5.1 MERU:

The station received 2.8 mm which was below its long-term dekadal mean of 19.6 mm. The mean air temperature dropped from 20.4°C to 20.1°C. Scattered cloud cover dominated the station throughout the dekad.

2.5.2 EMBU:

The station remained dry during the dekad. The mean air temperature during the dekad was 21.1°C. The station reported broken cloud cover throughout the dekad

Maize is at wax ripeness stage and in a fair state corresponding to normal growth.

Beans attained maturity and harvesting is ongoing and a normal yield is expected.

2.5.3 KATUMANI:

The station reported 1.3 mm of rainfall during the dekad. Scattered cloud cover was observed at the station throughout the dekad.

Maize has attained an early maturity stage and the state is fair corresponding to normal growth.

Beans attained maturity and harvesting is ongoing and a normal yield is expected..

2.6 COASTAL REGION:

Most stations in the region remained dry during the current dekad. The mean air temperature generally

dropped during the dekad and ranged between 29.0°C and 29.6°C.

2.6.1 MTWAPA:

The station received 0.9 mm of rainfall. Mean air temperature increased to 29.0°C. Scattered cloud cover was observed at the station throughout the dekad.

Maize crop at maturity stage in fair state corresponding to normal growth. However, the crop is being affected by insufficient rain, army worms, other animals and diseases.

2.6.2 MSABAHA:

The station remained dry during the dekad. The mean air temperature remained neutral at 29.6°C. Broken cloud cover was observed at the station throughout the dekad.

The maize crop is at the maturity stage and corresponds to normal crop growth. However, there has been insufficient rain during the period leading to wilting of some crops.

2.7 NORTH EASTERN REGION:

Most stations in the region did not receive rainfall except Garissa which reported 1.5 mm. Mean air temperature was 30.8°C at both Mandera and Garissa.

Scattered cloud cover was observed in the region throughout the dekad.

Pasture and forage conditions is good and sufficient water is available for livestock in the region.

DEKAD 3 2024 RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE MAPS/ CHARTS

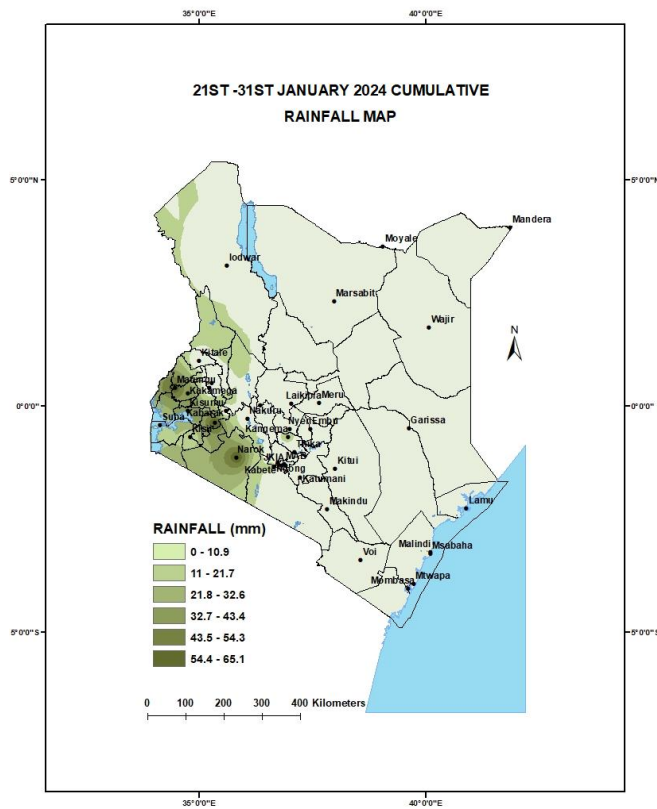


Fig 3.1

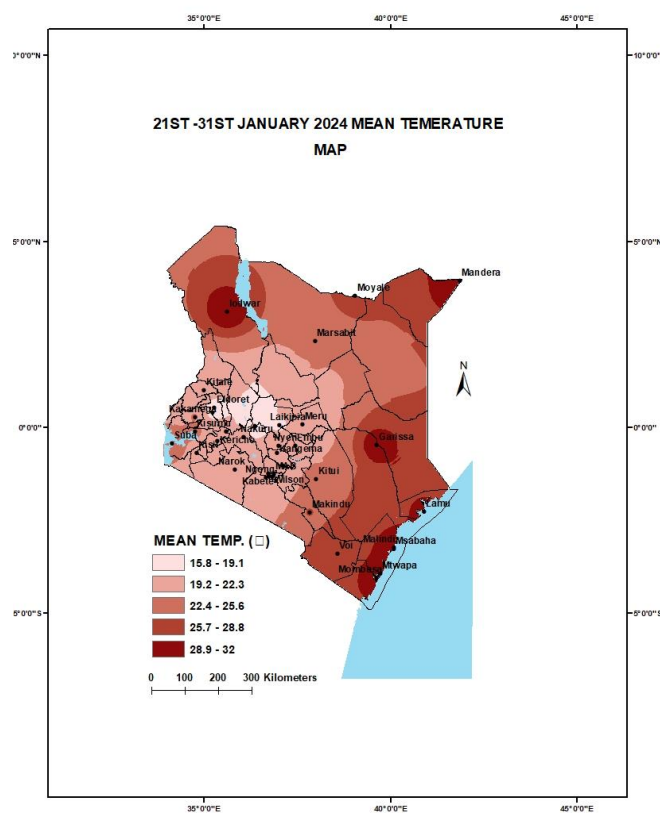


Fig 3.2

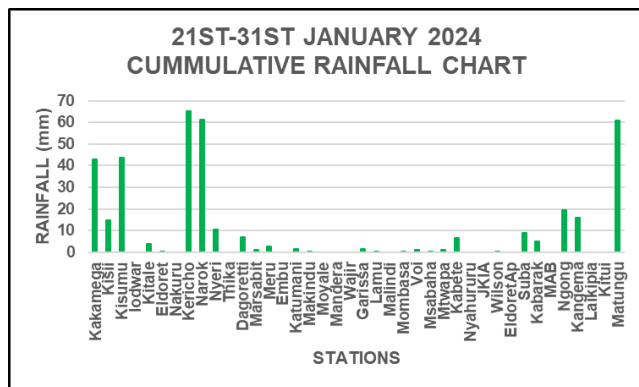


Fig 3.3

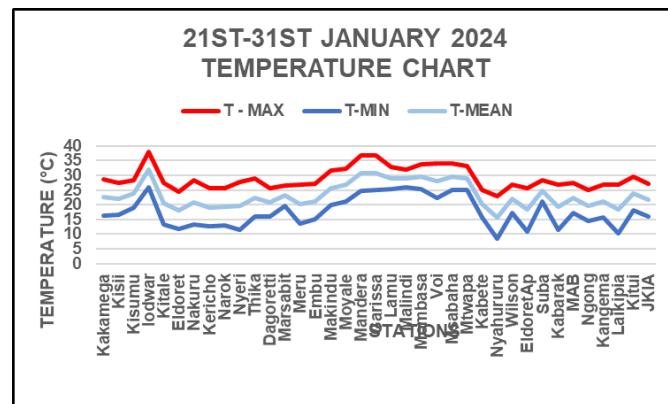


Fig 3.4

4.0 EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT TEN (10) DAYS; 1ST – 10TH FEBRUARY 2024.

In the next ten-day period, most parts of the country are expected to be generally dry. However, a

few areas south Rift Valley, Lake Victoria basin and south east lowlands are expected to receive light to moderate rainfall.

In the **Western and Nyanza regions**, moderate to heavy rain expected over few places

In the **Central region and Nairobi the country**, Occasional cloudiness is expected in the morning giving way to sunny intervals. Afternoon and night showers are likely to occur over few places during the forecast period.

The **North Western and Northeastern Regions**, Days are likely to be sunny and nights partly cloudy.

In the **South Eastern lowlands and Coastal regions**, Occasional cloudiness is expected in the morning giving way to sunny intervals. Afternoon and night showers are likely to occur over few places during the forecast period.

4.1 AGRO – ADVISORY:

- ❖ Farmers across the nation are encouraged to carry out timely harvest mature crops to avoid loss
- ❖ Famers should use proper and post-harvest management techniques to reduce losses and preserve crop quality.
- ❖ Pastoralists in North Western Kenya, North Eastern region, South Rift Valley, and certain areas of the South Eastern Lowland should ensure sustainable use of pasture and forage and water resources
- ❖ Farmers should maximize profits by exploring market opportunities. They should connect with agricultural extension services for valuable market information.
- ❖ Farmers are advised to establish robust collaborations with Meteorological staff and other technical personnel like Agricultural Extension officers and engage them to deepen their understanding of weather patterns and their implications on agricultural activities.

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



Mary Githinji

**FOR: DIRECTOR OF
METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES**

**Kindly send feedback to
The director,
Kenya meteorological department,
P.O Box 30259 – 00100
NAIROBI.
Email: Agrometkenya@gmail.com**

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