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AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

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DEKAD 2 PERIOD: 1ST - 10TH FEBRUARY 2024.

2.0 WEATHER AND CROP REVIEW FOR THE
1ST - 10TH FEBRUARY 2024.

1.0 HIGHLIGHTS

- Most parts of the Country remained dry or reported light rains except over western Kenya where moderate to heavy rainfall was reported during the current dekad.
- Busia ATC reported the highest amount of rainfall 93.4 mm, followed by Matungu which recorded 87.9 mm (Figures 3.1 and 3.3).
- Mean air temperature increased over most parts of the country though some areas reported lower mean air temperatures than in the previous dekad (Figures 3.2 and 3.4).
- Total pan evaporation continued to increase 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, where light to moderate rainfall is likely to be received.

2.1 WESTERN AND NYANZA REGION

Several stations in the region reported more rainfall compared to the previous dekad. Mean air temperature in the region ranged between 22.0°C to 25.2 °C. Scattered cloud cover dominated the region during the morning and increased to a broken state during the afternoon hours.

2.2.1 KAKAMEGA:

The station reported a cumulative rainfall amount of 57.6 mm, which was above its long-term dekadal mean of 24.4 mm.

The average mean air temperature at the station increased from 22.5°C to 22.9°C. The station cloud cover was scattered during the morning increasing to broken in the afternoon throughout the dekad.

Some farmers are harvesting their crops while others have started preparing their farms for the next season.

2.2.2 KISII:

The station recorded 26.0 mm of rainfall, which was normal during the dekad. The mean air temperature recorded at the station was 22.0°C.

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

Land preparation is ongoing in some parts of the county. Over the high-ground areas, maize has attained wax ripeness stage and the state is good therefore above normal yield is expected.

RIFT VALLEY REGION

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

Mean air temperature in the region ranged between 19.0°C to 21.1 °C. Broken cloud cover dominated the region during the dekad.

2.3.1 KITALE:

The station received a rainfall amount of 1.01 mm which was below its dekadal mean of 17.4mm. The mean air temperature increased from 20.2°C to 21.1°C during the current dekad.

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

2.3.2 KERICHO:

The station reported 15.7 mm of rainfall, which was below normal during the dekad. The mean air temperature did not change from the previous reported value of 19.0°C.

Farmers are preparing their land awaiting the long rains

2.4 CENTRAL AND NAIROBI REGION.

All stations in the region except Nyeri reported less rainfall amounts compared to the previous dekad (Fig 3.2). Mean air temperatures in the region slightly increased ranging between 16.0 °C and 22.9°C

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

2.4.1 NYERI:

The station reported a cumulative rainfall amount of 21.9 mm which was above normal during the dekad. Mean air temperature dropped from to 19.6 °C to 19.2°C during the dekad.

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

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

2.4.2 THIKA:

The station received a rainfall amount of 1.3 mm and total pan evaporation was 58 mm as it was in the previous dekad. The station reported broken cloud cover in the morning hours and scattered cover in the afternoon hours 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 remained dry over the dekad the mean air temperature increased from 20.8°C to 21.1 °C during the dekad. The station reported broken cloud cover throughout the dekad.

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

Harvesting of beans has been completed.

2.4.4 KABETE:

The station remained dry during the dekad. The mean air temperature at the station increased from 20.3°C to 20.7°C. The station reported broken cloud cover throughout the dekad.

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

2.4.5 NYAHURURU:

The station remained dry during the dekad. The mean air temperature at the station slightly increased from 15.8°C to 16.0 °C.

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

Farmers in the area have completed harvesting maize.

2.5.0 EASTERN REGION:

Several stations in the region except Meru reported light rainfall amounts than in the previous dekad. Mean air temperature slightly increased ranging between 20.5°C and 26.4°C. Broken cloud cover dominated the region throughout the dekad.

2.5.1 MERU:

The station received 34.5 mm which was above its long-term dekadal mean of 11.9 mm. The mean air temperature increased from 20.1°C to 20.5°C. Scattered cloud cover dominated the station during morning hours throughout the dekad.

2.5.2 EMBU:

The station remained dry during the dekad. The mean air temperature during the dekad was 21.9°C. The station reported broken cloud cover during the morning hours 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 1.1 mm of rainfall during the dekad. Broken cloud state was observed at the station throughout the dekad.

Maize is at 100% wax ripeness stage and the state is fair corresponding to normal growth.

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

Mangoes have attained 70% ripeness but are being affected by aphids.

2.6 COASTAL REGION:

Generally, the region remained dry during the current dekad. The mean air temperature generally dropped during the dekad and ranged between 28.3°C and 29.8°C.

2.6.1 MTWAPA:

The station remained dry over the period. Mean air temperature increased from 29.0°C to 29.5°C. Broken cloud cover was observed at the station during the morning hours reducing to scattered during the afternoon hours.

Maize has attained maturity stage and is in fair state corresponding to normal growth. However, the crop is being affected by insufficient rain, armyworms, diseases, and wild animals.

2.6.2 MSABAHA:

The station remained dry during the dekad. The mean air temperature was at 29.7°C. Broken cloud cover was observed at the station during the morning hours reducing to scattered during the afternoon hours.

The maize crop is at the maturity stage and corresponds to normal crop growth. A prolonged dry spell is causing wilting of some crops.

2.7 NORTH EASTERN REGION:

Most stations in the region remained dry except Mandera which reported 2.0 mm. Mean air temperature ranged between 31.2°C to 31.8 °C at Garissa and Mandera.

Cloud cover was few at Mandera, scattered at Wajir, and broken in Garissa.

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

DEKAD 3 2024 RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE MAPS/ CHARTS

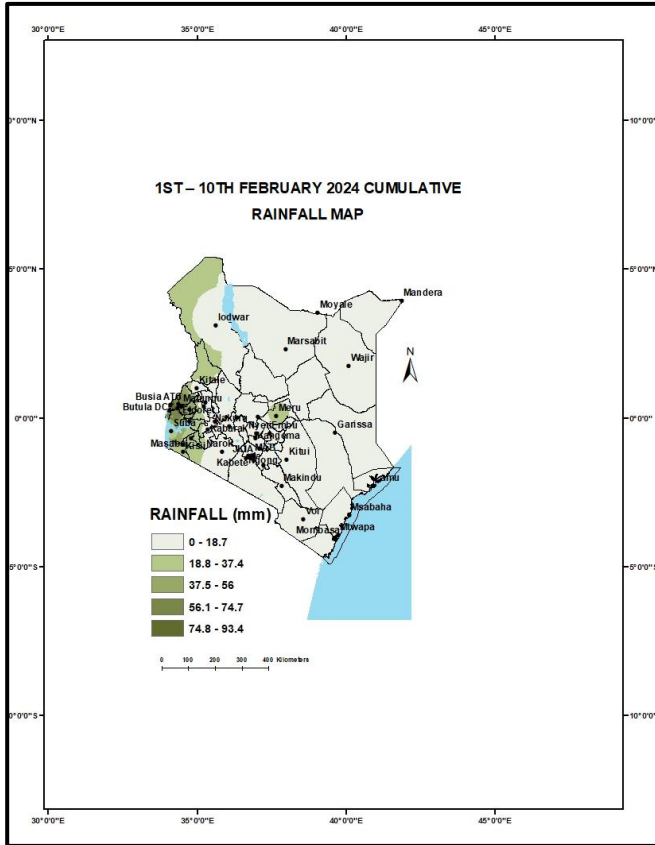


Fig 3.1

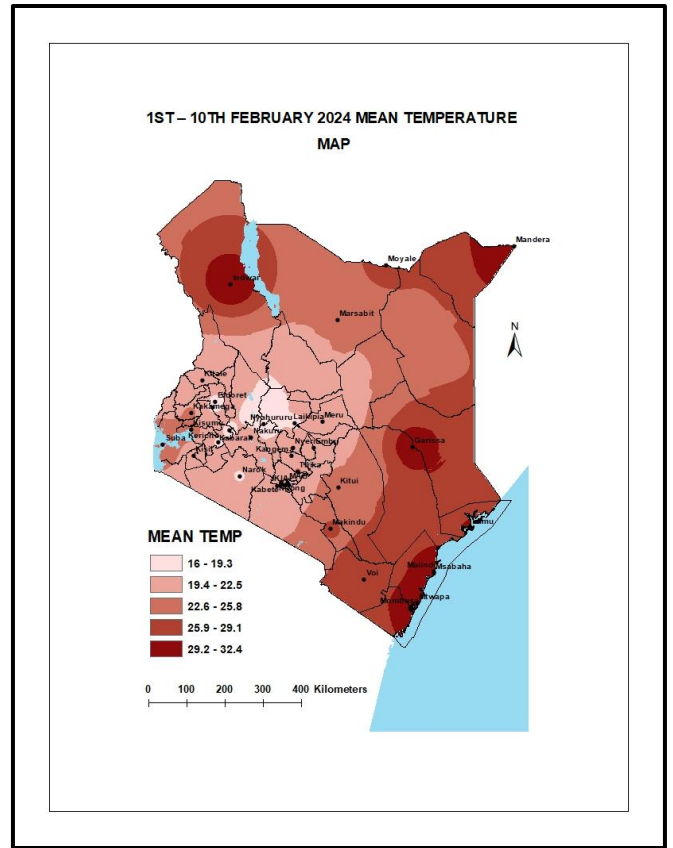


Fig 3.2

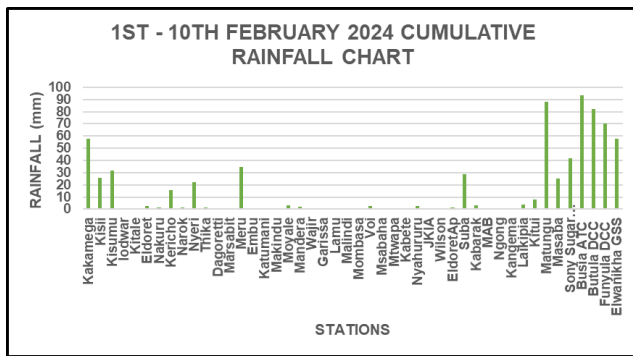


Fig 3.3

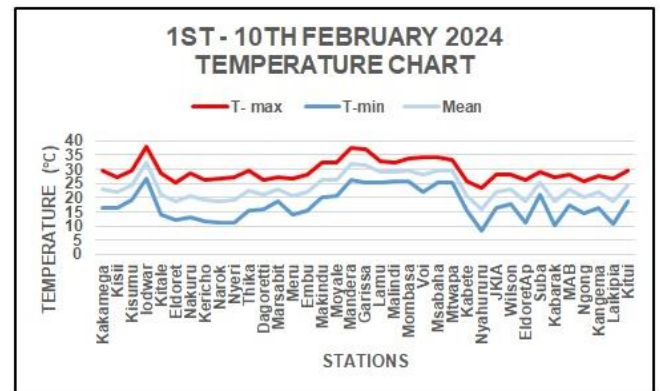


Fig 3.4

4.0 EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT TEN (10) DAYS; 10TH - 20TH FEBRUARY 2024.

During the next ten days, most parts of the country are likely to remain dry except over the lake basin, where moderate rainfall is likely to be received.

In the Western and Nyanza regions, light to moderate rain is expected over a few places during the forecast period.

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

North Western, Northeastern, Southeastern lowlands, and Coastal regions, Days are expected to be mainly sunny and nights partly cloudy during the forecast period.

4.1 AGRO – ADVISORY:

- ❖ Farmers across the nation are encouraged to carry out timely harvest of 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 to ensure sustainable use of pasture, forage, and water resources
- ❖ Farmers should maximize profits by exploring market opportunities. They should consult with agricultural extension services for valuable market information.
- ❖ Farmers are advised to establish robust collaborations with Meteorological staff and other technical personnel at the grassroots to deepen their understanding of weather patterns and their implications on agricultural activities.

Mary Githinji

FOR: DIRECTOR OF METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES

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