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AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

Ref: MET/7 /28 / 2

Issue No: 27/2023

Date: 4/10/2023

DEKAD 27 PERIOD: 21ST – 30TH
SEPTEMBER, 2023.

1.0 HIGHLIGHTS

- During the period under review, **several parts** of the country reported moderate to heavy rainfall.
- Several stations reported an increase in the amount of rainfall received as compared to the previous dekad except for a few stations like Kakamega in the western region, Laikipia, Kabete and Thika in the highland east that recorded a decreased amount of rainfall.
- Kericho Meteorological station in the highlands west of Rift Valley region reported the highest amount of rainfall followed by Miyare and Matungu Meteorological Stations (Figs; 3.1 & 3.2).
- Mean air temperature increased over several stations except a few places within the highland west, Nyanza and Western region which recorded a slight decrease in temperature. (Figs. 3.3 & 3.4).
- Total pan evaporation readings increased over most stations with cloud

cover limited to few/scattered over most stations.

- During the next ten (10) days, several parts of the Country are expected to receive occasional light to moderate rains over a few places in western, Central and Coastal areas of the country.

2.0 WEATHER AND CROP REVIEW FOR THE PERIOD: 21ST – 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2023.

2.1 SUMMARY

During the current period, **several parts** of the country reported moderate to heavy rainfall. Several stations recorded an increased rainfall as compared to the previous dekad. Kericho Meteorological station in the highland west reported the highest amount of rainfall (136.2 mm) and was followed by Miyare station with (104.3 mm).

In Western, Nyanza, and several parts of Rift Valley, maize is at full ripeness stage and farmers have already harvested their crop while others are preparing for the second season's planting. In Central, Eastern, and Coastal regions maize have been harvested

by most farmers. Some farmers have begun land preparation as they wait for next season's planting.

In Northwestern/Eastern and south rift valley, pasture and forage condition is slowly getting depleted due to inadequate rainfall and overgrazing.

2.2 WESTERN AND NYANZA REGION

All stations from the region reported heavy rainfall as compared to their long-term decadal means. Heavy rainfall was reported by Miyare Station in Migori County.

Mean air temperature decreased in the region and ranged between 21.3°C and 24.9°C. Scattered cloud cover during the morning and afternoon hours was observed over most stations in the region during the dekad.

2.2.1 KAKAMEGA:

The station reported a cumulative rainfall amount of 72.2 mm against its Long-term decadal mean of 59.9 mm. The station had a total ten (10) consecutive rainy days and two (2) days recording more than 5.0 mm (light to heavy) rainfall. Scattered cloud cover during the morning and afternoon hours was reported at the station throughout the entire dekad. The average mean air temperature at the station reduced from 22.0 to 21.9°C.

Land preparation is ongoing for second season's harvesting

2.2.2 KISII:

The station reported a cumulative rainfall amount of 80.2 mm against its Long-term decadal mean of 58.8 mm. The station reported five (5) consecutive rainy days and four (4) days recording more than 5.0 mm (light to heavy rainfall). The average mean air temperature at the station increased from 20.7 °C to 21.3°C. Scattered cloud cover

during the morning and afternoon hours was observed at the station throughout the dekad.

Maize harvesting has been completed by most farmers.

2.3 RIFT VALLEY PROVINCE

The region reported decreased rainfall compared to the previous dekad. Moderate to heavy rainfall was reported by several stations in the region during the dekad. Mean air temperature decreased in the region and ranged between 18.1°C and 20.5°C. Cloud cover was mainly scattered during the morning and afternoon hours throughout the dekad.

2.3.1 KITALE:

The station generally received moderate rainfall during the dekad. A cumulative rainfall amount of 26.0 mm was received against its long-term decadal mean of 33.1 mm. The station reported two (2) rainy days and two of which received more than 5.0 mm of rainfall. Scattered cloud cover during morning and afternoon hours throughout the dekad. Mean air temperature remained constant at 20.5 °C Rainfall activities have subsided during the dekad and farmers are very busy harvesting their maize crop before El Nino sets in.

2.3.2 KERICHO:

The station reported 136.2 mm of rainfall against its long-term decadal mean of 55.8 mm. The station maintained Mean air temperature decreased from 18.6 °C to 18.2°C. Scattered cloud cover during the morning and afternoon hours throughout the dekad. Farmers are planning for the second seasonal planting.

2.3.3 KABARAK:

The station reported a cumulative amount of 26.1 mm of rain against its long-term decadal mean of 20.1mm. Mean air temperature

decreased from 19.5°C in the previous dekad to 19.3°C in the current dekad. Scattered cloud cover during the morning and afternoon hours.

2.4 CENTRAL AND NAIROBI PROVINCES.

Most stations from the Central region reported an increase in the amount of rainfall reported as compared to the previous dekad. Mean air temperatures slightly went up and ranged between 15.8 °C and 22.7 °C. scattered to broken cloud cover during the morning and afternoon hours was observed in the region throughout the dekad.

2.4.1 NYERI:

The station reported light rainfall and received a cumulative amount of 9.2 mm against its long-term dekadal mean rainfall of 6.9 mm. Broken cloud cover during the morning and afternoon was observed at the station throughout the dekad. Mean air temperature decreased from 20.9 °C to 21.0°C in the current dekad. Farmers continue harvesting their crops with normal yield expected while others have began preparing their lands farms waiting for second season's planting.

2.4.2 THIKA:

The station reported 0.31 mm rainfall against its long-term dekadal mean of 2.6 mm. Total pan evaporation was 46.3 mm. Broken cloud cover was observed at the station during the morning and afternoon hours throughout the dekad. Farmers are preparing land in readiness for expected El Nino.

2.4.3 DAGORETTI

The station received 33.4 mm against its long-term dekadal mean of 8.4 mm of rainfall. The mean air temperature increased from 19.0 °C to 20.4 °C in the current dekad. Broken cloud cover was observed at the station during the morning and afternoon hours.

2.4.4 KABETE:

The station received 44.9 mm against its long-term dekadal mean of 5.2 mm of rainfall. The mean air temperature at the station remained constant at 19.7 °C. Scattered cloud cover during the morning and afternoon hours was observed at the station throughout the dekad.

Coffee variety *Ruiru hybrid 11* is at 70% berry soft and the crop state is fair which corresponds to normal growth and 20% ripeness. 30% of the crop has been affected by leaf rust and Coffee Berry Disease (CBD) and pests.

2.4.5 NYAHURURU:

The station received a total cumulative amount of 33.0 mm against its long-term dekadal mean of 10.4 mm of rainfall. The station reported one (1) rainy day and one day (1) recording more than 5.0 mm (light to heavy rainfall). Scattered cloud cover dominated the sky during the morning and afternoon throughout the dekad. The average mean air temperature at the station increased from 15.6 °C to 15.8 °C.

2.5 EASTERN REGION:

Most stations in the region received more rainfall as compared to the previous dekad. Mean air temperatures decreased and ranged between 20.9°C and 22.8°C. Scattered cloud cover during the morning and afternoon hours was observed in the region throughout the dekad.

2.5.1 MERU:

The station received a cumulative rainfall of 11.6 mm against its a long-term dekadal mean rainfall of 7.1 mm. Mean air temperature increased from 20.6°C to 21.0 °C. Few cloud cover was observed at the station during the morning and in the afternoon hours throughout the dekad. Total pan evaporation was 48.1 mm.

2.5.2 EMBU:

The station received moderate rainfall of 15.7 mm against its long-term dekadal mean rainfall of 7.7 mm. The average mean air temperature decreased from 21.6 °C to 21.5°C in the current dekad. Broken cloud cover was observed at the station during the morning and afternoon hours throughout the dekad.

Farm preparation has been completed by most farmers.

2.5.3 KATUMANI:

The station reported no rainfall against its long-term dekadal mean of 0.6 mm of rainfall. Scattered cloud cover was observed at the station during the morning and afternoon hours throughout the dekad.

First weeding of mangoes (variety apple) is ongoing.

Oranges (Washington Navel) have been pruned.

Mangoes and oranges have been infested by arphids.

2.6 COASTAL REGION:

All stations in the region reported moderate to heavy rainfall with Lamu station leading the region with 37.1 mm of rainfall. The mean air temperature generally increased during the dekad and ranged between 25.3°C and 28.1°C.

2.6.1 MTWAPA:

The station received a total cumulative amount of 14.8 mm against its long-term dekadal mean of 25.6 mm of rainfall. The station reported one (1) wet day during the

entire dekad. Mean air temperature increased from 26.7°C to 27.2°C. Scattered cloud cover was observed at the station during the morning and afternoon hours throughout the dekad.

Mangoes are dormant and farm preparation is ongoing for the coming season.

2.6.1 MSABAHA:

The station received a total cumulative amount of 19.1 mm against its long-term dekadal mean of 18.6 mm of rainfall. Scattered cloud cover was mainly observed during the morning and afternoon hours throughout the dekad.

2.7 NORTH EASTERN REGION:

Several stations in the region remained dry during the dekad. Scattered cloud cover was observed in the region during the morning and in the afternoon hours throughout the dekad. Mean air temperature ranged between 21.8 °C and 31.8 °C.

Pasture and forage in the region are slowly getting depleted due to overgrazing and water levels in most water/earth pans in the region also decreasing and could dry up soon.

DEKAD 27-2023 RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE MAPS/ CHARTS.

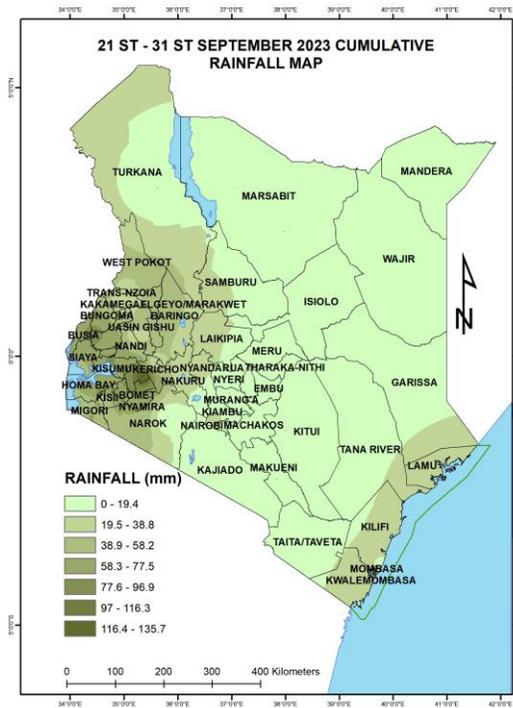


Fig: 3.1

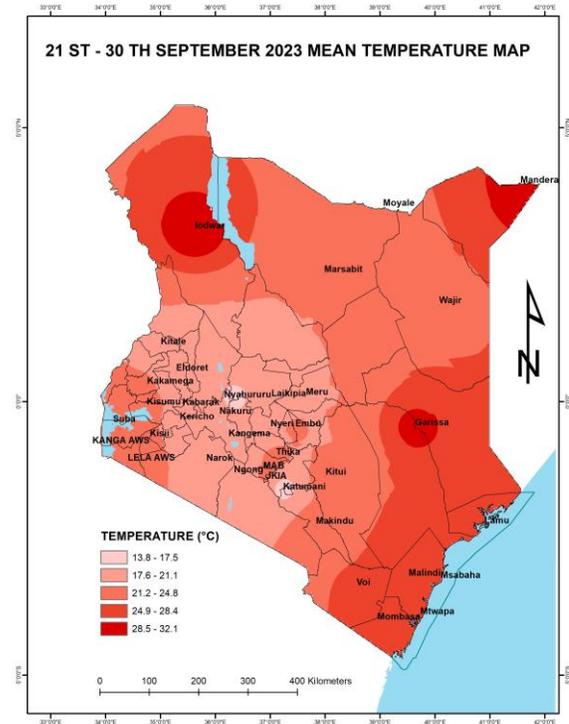


Fig 3.3

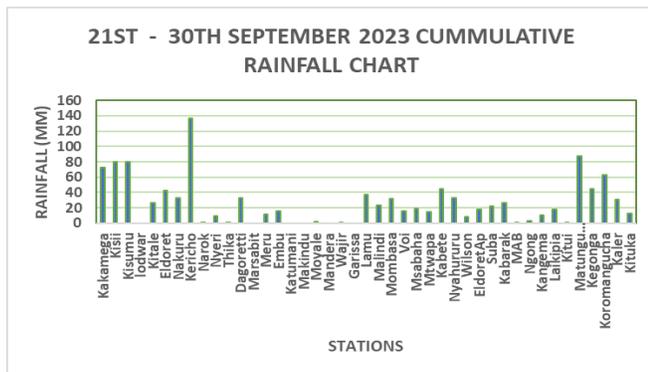


Fig: 3.2

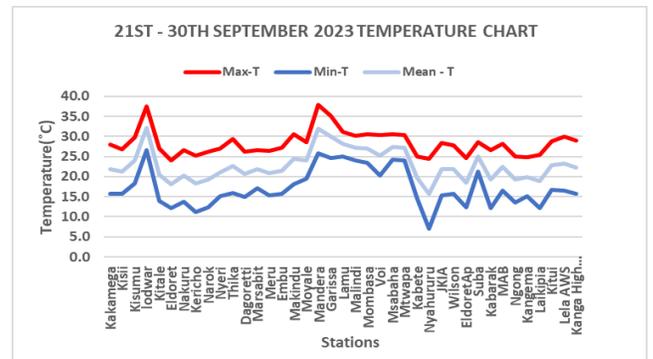


Fig: 3.4

4.0 EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT TEN (10) DAYS; 1ST – 10TH OCTOBER, 2023.

During the next ten (10) days, most parts of the Country are expected to receive occasional light to moderate rains specifically over several places in western, high ground areas and coastal parts of the country.

Over Western and Nyanza regions, sunny interval in the morning with occasional light to moderate rain is likely to occur over a few places in the afternoon. Therefore, farmers are advised to take advantage of the sunny intervals in the morning to continue land preparation for planting during the short rains.

In the Central region, Nairobi, and Eastern parts of the country, sunny interval with occasional light to moderate rain is likely to occur over a few places therefore, farmers who are still harvesting, carrying out post-harvest drying of cereals and those who are preparing for the second season planting are advised to take advantage of sunny periods within the dekad.

North Western/Eastern is likely to have sunny intervals with cloudy nights during the next dekad. However, morning rains as well as afternoon and night showers and thunderstorms are expected over few places during the first half of the forecast period. The expected weather conditions will be ideal for grazing, animal movement is expected to increase as they search for pasture hence increasing the possibility of conflicts.

South Eastern lowlands and Coastal regions are expected to receive occasional morning, afternoon and night showers over a few places during the next dekad.

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



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FOR: DIRECTOR OF METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES