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AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

DEKAD 2
PERIOD: 11TH – 20TH JANUARY
2022

1.0 HIGHLIGHTS

- Increased rainfall activities occurred over most parts of the Country during the dekad.
- Several places along the coastal region remained dry during the first and second dekad.
- Temperatures remained quite high over most parts of the country, although there was a zone of low temperatures covering parts of rift valley and the central highlands.
- During the next ten days, (21st - 31st January 2022) Most parts of the country expected to experience dry conditions except over the Southeastern lowlands and the coastal region.

2.0 WEATHER AND CROP REVIEW FOR THE PERIOD: 11TH – 20TH AUGUST 2021

During the period under review, most areas in the country experienced a wet dekad than in the previous one. Matungu station in western reported the highest rainfall (figure 3.2) followed by Marsabit and Suba stations. Cloud cover was moderate over most parts of the country.

Mean air temperatures remained above 25 °C at the Coastal and North Eastern regions while the rest of the country had mean air temperatures ranging between (14 – 25) °C.

2.1 WESTERN AND NYANZA REGIONS

The region recorded increased rainfall activities compared to the previous dekad. Moderate rainfall occurred in Matungu. Suba, Kisii and Kakamega areas. Kisumu station only experienced light rains during the same period. Cloud cover was moderate with total pan evaporation of 32.2mm at Kisii station. Average air Temperatures were above 20 °C in the entire region.

At Kisii, maize was at maturing stage and the crop condition was fair, which corresponds to normal growth. No adverse effects were reported and normal yield is expected.

In Kakamegha land preparation is ongoing in readiness for the next planting season.

2.2 RIFT VALLEY REGION.

The region showed a marked improvement in rainfall during the current dekad compared to the previous one. Light rainfall was reported over several areas in the region- Kapsoya, Eldoret Kericho Kabarak and Narok. The area

continued to experience significant soil moisture deficits, with total pan evaporation ranging from 34.3 mm to 62.6 mm at Kitale and Eldoret respectively. Moderate cloud cover was reported during the period and mean air temperatures ranged between 16.0 °C and 27.0 °C at Eldoret and Lodwar stations.

At Kericho maize was at harvesting stage and crop condition fair, which corresponds to normal growth. No adverse effects reported and normal yield is expected.

Over the pastoral areas, high temperatures coupled with low rainfall pose a great threat to pasture and browse regeneration for both livestock and wildlife. Water resources for both domestic and animal use has been dwindling and the situation is likely to worsen if rains delay.

2.3 CENTRAL KENYA HIGHLANDS AND NAIROBI AREA REGION.

The entire region reported increased rainfall activities during the current dekad. Moderate rainfall was reported at Kangema and Kabete stations while the rest of the stations reported light rains.

The central areas including Nairobi reported mean air temperatures below 20 °C with moderate cloud cover during the dekad. Total pan evaporation in the region ranged between 14.7 mm and 66.3 mm at Nyahururu and Ngong respectively

At Nyahururu maize was at harvesting stage and crop condition fair, which corresponds to normal growth. No adverse effects reported and normal yield is expected.

At Nyeri, maize is mainly at tussling stage and in fair state though maize stock borer and slight moisture stress due to periodic dry spells are affecting it. Beans are also in the flowering stage but the crop state is poor which corresponds to below normal growth. The beans were affected by excess rainfall and below normal yield is expected.

In Thika, maize was at flowering stage and crop condition is fair, which corresponds to normal growth. No adverse effects reported and normal yield is expected. Beans are at harvesting stage and crop condition fair, which corresponds to normal growth. No adverse effects reported and normal yield is expected.

2.4 EASTERN REGION.

Except for Marsabit station which received moderate rainfall, most stations in Eastern region received light rains during the dekad. The Eastern region had mean air temperatures ranging between 19.0 and 24.0 °C with moderate cloud cover during the dekad. Total pan evaporation ranged between 29.0 mm and 44.1 mm at Meru and Makindu stations.

At Katumani, maize (**Duma 43**) was at 100% ninth leaf stage and the crop condition was poor (below normal) due to insufficient rainfall. Beans (**KAT B1**) were at 90% flowering stage and the crop condition was also poor (below normal) due to insufficient rainfall.

Mangoes (Apple) were at 100% fruit setting stage and the crop condition was poor (below normal) due to insufficient rainfall. Aphids are also affecting the crop.

Oranges (Washington Navel) were at 100% flowering and the crop condition was poor (below normal) due to insufficient rainfall. Aphids have affected the crop.

At Embu, maize was at flowering stage and crop condition fair, which corresponds to normal growth. No adverse effects reported and normal yield is expected. Beans were at maturity stage and crop condition fair, which corresponds to normal growth. No adverse effects reported and normal yield is expected.

4.0 EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS; 20TH – 31ST JANUARY 2022.

During the next 10 days, Western, Nyanza regions are likely to experience afternoon or evening showers over few areas during the forecast period.

Crops are expected to continue doing well both in the high ground and low-lying areas. Mean air temperatures are likely to go up due to the expected sunny conditions.

Central Highlands, Nairobi area are likely to experience dry conditions during the forecast period. Decreasing soil moisture status in the region is likely to affect crops in the region which are already showing signs of moisture stress.

In South Eastern lowlands, morning rains as well as afternoon and night showers are expected over few places during the the forecast period. This is expected to improve pasture and forage situation in the region which is currently poor.

The Coastal region is expected to have morning and early afternoon showers over some places during the forecast period.

In summary, normal yields expected in Western Province and Central Rift Valley and Central highlands. However, in Eastern only the central areas are likely to receive normal yield. Over the pastoral region hot and dry conditions are expected to persist and this will negatively affect pasture and forage situation in the region.

For clarification, feedback or further guidance, please Contact:

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