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AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

DEKAD 30
PERIOD: 21ST – 31ST OCTOBER 2022

1.0 HIGHLIGHTS

- Several parts of the Country continued to register reduced rainfall activities compared to the previous dekad.
The Coastal and parts of Eastern region reported enhanced rainfall activities as Nairobi area remained dry during the same period.
- Cloud cover was mainly scattered during morning hours and increased to broken state in the afternoon throughout the dekad. Mean air temperature slightly increased over several parts of the country.
- During the next ten days, (1st – 10th November 2022) Several regions within the country are expected to receive moderate to heavy rainfall.

2.0 WEATHER AND CROP REVIEW FOR THE PERIOD: 21ST – 31ST OCTOBER 2022

Several parts of the Country continued to register reduced rainfall activities compared to the previous dekad. The Coastal and parts of Eastern region reported enhanced rainfall activities as

Nairobi area remained dry during the same period.

Meru station in Eastern reported the highest amount of rainfall (figure 3.2) followed by Embu and Moyale stations. Cloud cover remained broken over several parts of the country especially during the the afternoon hours. Mean air temperature generally increased slightly over several stations within the country during the dekad.

2.1 WESTERN AND NYANZA REGIONS

Most stations within the region recorded less rainfall compared to the previous dekad. Moderate rainfall (greater than 5.0 mm) was reported over Kisumu and Suba stations while the rest of the stations (Kisii, and Kakamega) reported light rain and dry conditions. Cloud cover was scattered during morning hours and changed to broken state in the afternoon and evening hours. Total pan evaporation at Kisii and kakamega stations was 40.5 and 47.4 mm and mean air Temperature in the region ranged between 21.0 - 25.0 °C.

Both maize and beans at Kisii were at flowering stage and both crops were in a fair state which corresponds to normal growth and normal yield is expected for both crops.

At Kakamega, maize has attained tasseling stage and the crop is in a fair

state. Beans have attained maturity stage and some farmers have already started harvesting and normal yield is expected.

2.2 RIFT VALLEY REGION.

Most stations in the region reported less gauge readings compared to the previous dekad. Kericho was leading in the region having received two days with moderate rainfall. Kapsoya station reported a single day with moderate rainfall while the rest of the stations (Kabarak, Kitale, and Nakuru) reported light rainfall or dry conditions.

Total pan evaporation at Kitale was 40.3 mm and 68.2 mm at Kapsoya station. Cloud cover in the region was scattered during morning hours and increased to broken state in the afternoon and evening hours. Mean air temperature ranged between 18.0 – 22.0 °C throughout the entire region.

Maize at Kericho was at flowering stage while beans had attained maturity stage. Both crops are in a fair state which corresponds to normal growth. Normal yield is expected for both maize and beans.

Harvesting of maize at Kitale is ongoing though the current cloudy and rainy conditions are delaying drying of maize.

Over the pastoral areas, the prevailing dry conditions especially in the south rift regions continued to adversely affect both pastoral communities and wildlife in these areas. Many animals both Domestic and wildlife are still dying due to lack of pasture/forage and Water. However, this situation is expected to change once the short rain season starts.

2.3 CENTRAL KENYA HIGHLANDS AND NAIROBI AREA REGION.

Central region reported less rainfall compared to the previous dekad. Only Laikipia and Nyahururu stations reported one day with moderate rainfall

(more than 5.0mm) as the rest of the region remained dry during the dekad.

Cloud cover remained scattered during morning hours and increased to broken state in the afternoon over the entire central including Nairobi area. Mean air temperature in the region ranged between 15.0 and 22.0 °C during the dekad Total pan evaporation was 62.0 mm at Thika, 66.5 mm and 90.0 mm at Dagoretti and Kabete stations.

Maize at Nyahururu has reached wax ripeness stage and was in a fair state which corresponds to normal growth. Normal yield is expected.

At Nyeri, Farmers have completed preparing their farms and are waiting for the onset of rains to start planting their farms.

Thika farmers, have completed preparing their farms and are waiting for the onset of the short rain season and then start planting their farms

2.4 EASTERN REGION.

Meru station recorded the highest amount of rainfall with a total of three rainy days (greater than 5.0 mm) during the dekad. Embu followed in amount but had a total of six rainy days. Moyale received one day of moderate rainfall while the rest of the stations in the region remained dry or reported light rains during the same period. Cloud cover in the region was scattered during morning hours and increased to broken in the afternoon hours. Mean air temperature ranged between 21.0 and 25.0 °C and total pan evaporation of 30.9 mm at Moyale, 47.7 mm and 68.5 mm at Meru and Makindu stations.

Farmers have completed preparing their farms and are waiting for the onset of rains to start planting their crops.

Mangoes (variety apple) were at 100% fruit setting stage. The crop condition was fair which corresponds to normal growth.

Weeds are seen very seldom within the farm and much sunshine seems to be adversely affecting the mangoes which have already attained a sensitive phase.

Oranges (Washington Navel) were at 100% flowering stage and the crop condition was fair corresponding to normal growth. Infestation by aphids and too much sunshine are affecting the flowering phase. Weeds are seen very seldom within the farm

With the onset of the short rain season, farmers at Meru and Embu, have started planting their farms during this dekad.

2.5 NORTH EASTERN REGION

Mandera and Garissa stations received moderate rainfall during the past dekad. The rest of the region continued to report light rainfall or dry conditions. Scattered to broken cloud cover was predominant in the region during both morning and afternoon hours. High pan evaporation value at Mandera station 77.0 mm attributed mainly to the dry hot and windy conditions prevalent in the area. Pasture and forage regeneration is expected to slowly start improving because of the rains the region continued to receive during the previous dekad.

2.6 COASTAL REGION.

Mombasa and Mtwapa stations reported moderate rainfall while the rest continued to report light or dry conditions during the dekad

Scattered to broken cloud cover during both morning and afternoon hours was the most predominant situation in the region during the past dekad. Mean air temperatures slightly increased over all stations within the region.

Voi meteorological station reported total pan evaporation of 55.5 mm during the same period.

Farmers have completed preparing their land and are waiting for the onset of rains to start planting.

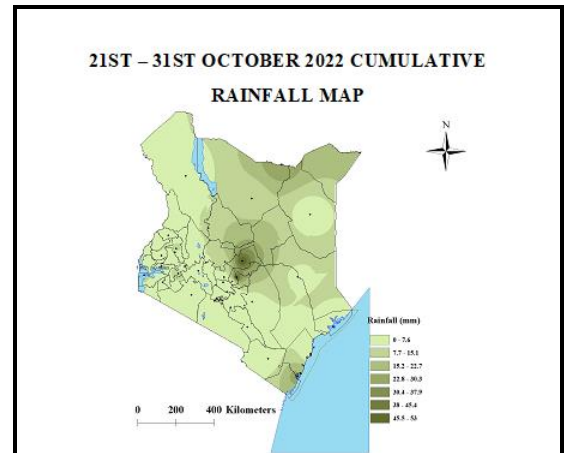


Figure 3.1: Actual rainfall totals for dekad 30, 2022

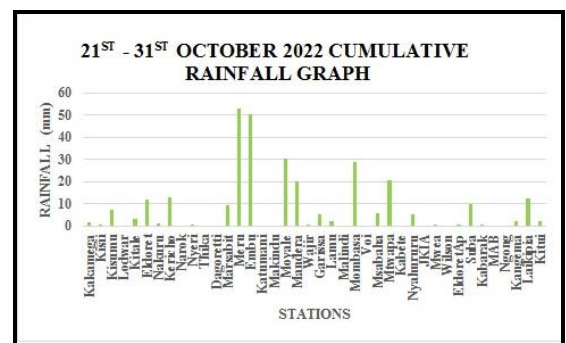


Figure 3.2: Dekadal rainfall totals in (mm)

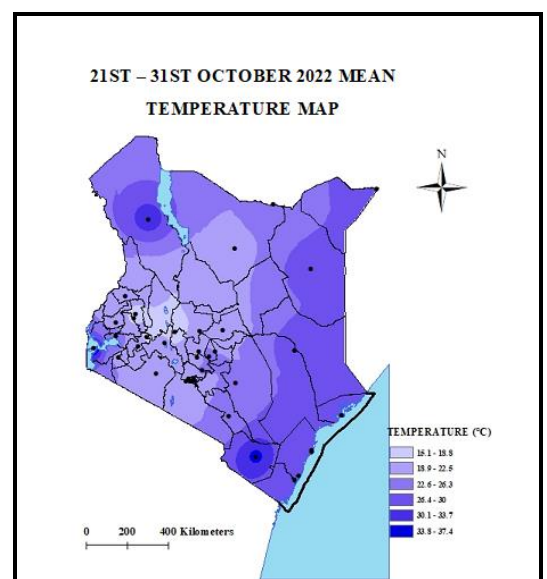


Figure 3.3: Mean temperature distribution for dekad 30, 2022

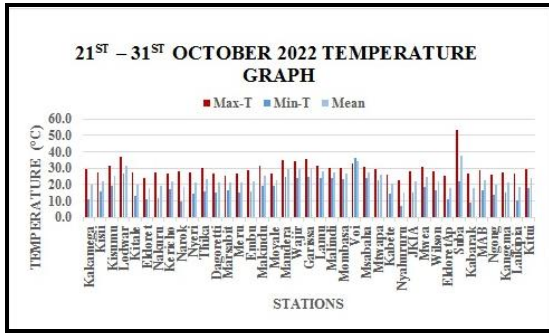


Figure 3.4 Dekadal temperatures in (°C).

moderate to heavy rainfall during the next dekad. The expected rains will enable small scale subsistence farmers in the region to plant some food crops. Pasture and forage regeneration will greatly change and the current status of water resources in the region will change positively as most earth/water pans will be recharged by the rains.

In summary, the next dekad (1st – 10th Nov. 2022) is expected to be a busy period for many farmers especially over central and Nairobi area. Eastern south eastern coastal regions.

4.0 EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS; 1ST – 10TH NOVEMBER 2022.

During the next 10 days, Counties in western Kenya, Nyanza and Central Rift Valley are expected to receive moderate to heavy rainfall during the forecast period.

The expected rain over these regions will supply the necessary soil water required to support maize attain the remaining development phases at Kisii, Kericho, and Kakamega areas

Central Highlands, Nairobi area and the surrounding are likely to receive moderate to heavy rainfall during the next dekad (1st – 10th Nov. 2022).

Farmers within this region (Nyeri, Thika and Kabete) are expected to start planting their farms immediately the rains start

At Nyahururu the expected onset is expected to delay drying of maize which is already at maturity stage.

South Eastern lowlands and the coastal regions are expected to receive light to moderate rainfall (greater than 5.0 mm) during the next dekad. Farmers within this region are therefore expected to start planting their crop during the coming dekad.

The North Eastern region especially mandera county is expected to receive

For clarification, feedback or further guidance, please Contact:
**The Director,
Kenya Meteorological Department,**