



**KENYA METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE
DEKADAL AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN**

**WEATHER AND CROP REVIEW FOR DEKAD 09, 2015
21-31 MARCH, 2015**

1. HIGHLIGHTS ON RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE

There was a drastic increase in Rainfall activities both in intensity and in spatial distribution countrywide during the dekad. The highest rainfall of 209.6mm was received at Kakamega station in Western region. The second highest rainfall was received in Nyanza region with Kisumu, Suba and Kisii stations recording 207.1, 165.5 and 83.8 mm respectively.

Meru station in Eastern region recorded the highest rainfall amount of 105.5mm. Thika station in Central region, recorded the highest rainfall amount of 68.7mm. Rift valley region reported the highest rainfall amount of 55.4mm at Kericho station. Garissa station in North Eastern region recorded the highest rainfall amount of 55.0mm. In Coastal region, the highest rainfall of 54.1mm and 52.6mm was received at Mtwapa and Mombasa stations respectively. In Nairobi region, the highest rainfall amount of 41.3 was received at Wilson airport station.

Maximum and minimum temperatures continued to decrease and increase respectively. North-eastern region continued to record the highest maximum temperature of 36.6°C at Lodwar station compared to 38.3°C at the same station in the previous dekad. The lowest Minimum temperature of 8.8°C was recorded at Nyahururu station in central region compared to 5.8°C reported in the same station in the previous dekad.

For a more comprehensive summary of rainfall and other meteorological parameters, see Figures 3.1 to 3.4 as shown below.

2. CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW FOR DEKAD 09:21- 31 MARCH, 2015

2.1 NYANZA AND WESTERN REGIONS

2.1.1 Kakamega

The station received no rainfall during the dekad. The mean air temperature was 23.9°C. There was no report on sunshine duration and pan evaporation.

Farmers are still planting.

2.1.2 Kisii

The station received rainfall amount of 83.8mm. The mean air temperature and pan evaporation recorded were 21.5°C and 3.5mm respectively. There was no record on sunshine parameter.

Maize and beans are in emergence stage and in fair state. Some farmers are still planting.

2.2 RIFT VALLEY REGION

2.2.1 Kitale

The station reported rainfall amount of 24.8mm. The mean air temperature and pan evaporation recorded were 21.8°C and 4.7mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine duration.

No phenological report.

2.2.2 Eldoret-Kapsoya

The station received rainfall amount of 24.7mm. The mean air temperature and pan evaporation recorded were 19.8°C and 7.5mm respectively. There was no record on sunshine duration.

No phenological report.

2.3 CENTRAL KENYA HIGHLANDS AND NAIROBI AREA REGION

2.3.1 Nyeri

The station received rainfall amount of 22.5mm. The average air temperature was 20.1°C. There was no report on pan evaporation and sunshine parameters.

Maize and beans were in emergence stage and in fair state. Some farmers are still planting.

2.3.2 Kabete

The station received rainfall amount of 30.1mm. The pan evaporation reported was 5.4mm. There was no report on the mean air temperature and sunshine duration.

Most farmers have started planting.

2.3.3 Thika

The station recorded rainfall amount of 68.7mm. The mean air temperature and pan evaporation recorded were 23.9°C and 5.1mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine duration.

Maize, beans and potatoes were at emergence stage and in good state. Some farmers were still planting.

2.3.4 Nyahururu

The station reported rainfall amount of 0.5mm. The mean air temperature and pan evaporation recorded were 16.7°C and 6.0mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine duration.

The seasonal rains have not started however some farmers are have started dry planting.

2.3.5. Dagoretti

The station still reported rainfall amount of 29.9mm. The pan evaporation recorded was 5.5mm. There was no report on mean air temperature and sunshine duration.

No phenological report.

2.4 EASTERN KENYA REGION

2.4.1 Embu

The station received rainfall amount of 67.1mm. The pan evaporation recorded was 5.3mm. There was no report on mean air temperature and sunshine parameters.

Most farmers have finished planting. Maize and beans were at emergence stage and in fair state.

2.4.2 Meru

The station received rainfall amount of 105.5mm. The mean air temperature and pan evaporation recorded were 20.1°C and 5.2mm respectively. There was no report on sunshine duration.

Both maize and beans were at emergence stage and in fair state.

2.4.3 Katamani (Machakos)

The station reported rainfall amount of 17.4mm. The average air temperature and pan evaporation were 21.5°C and 6.0mm respectively. There was no report on Sunshine duration.

Maize and beans were at emergence stage and in fair state.

2.5. COASTAL REGION

2.5.1 Msabaha

The station received rainfall amount of 24.1mm. The average air temperature recorded was 28.9°C. There was no report on sunshine duration and pan evaporation.

Mangoes were at 100% fruit setting stage and in good state. Most farmers are in the process of planting their crops.

2.5.2 Mtwapa.

The station received rainfall amount of 54.1mm. The average air temperature recorded was 28.4°C. There was no report on Pan Evaporation and Sunshine duration.

Mangoes were at flowering stage and in fair state. Most farmers are ready for planting.

3.0 ANALYSIS OF RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE CONDITIONS.

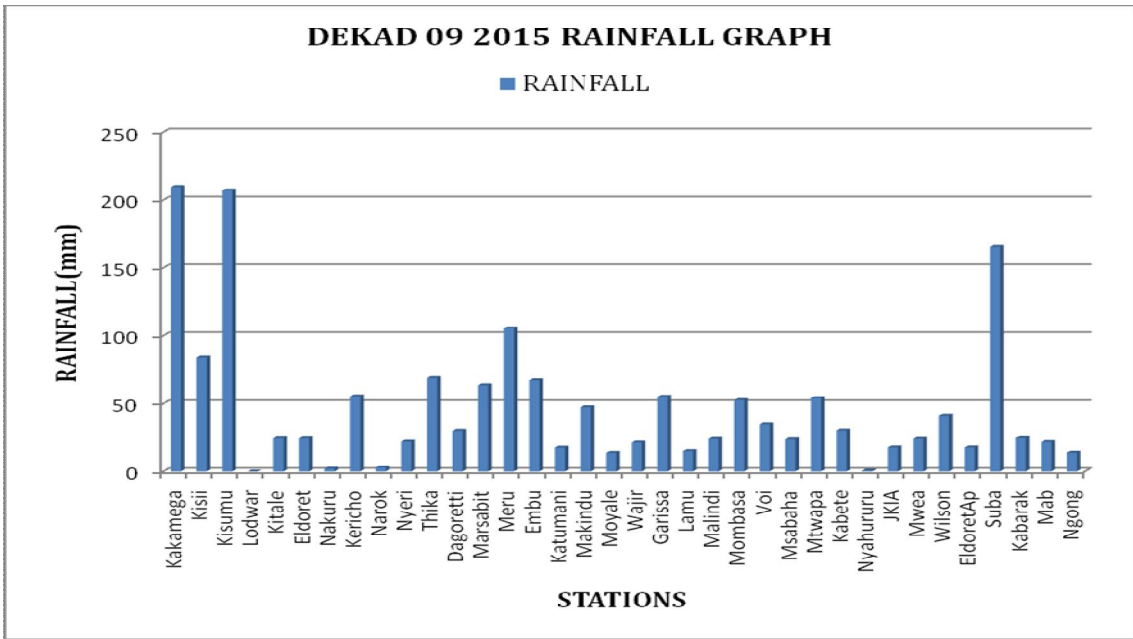


Figure 3.1: Dekadal rainfall totals for 21 – 31 MARCH 2015

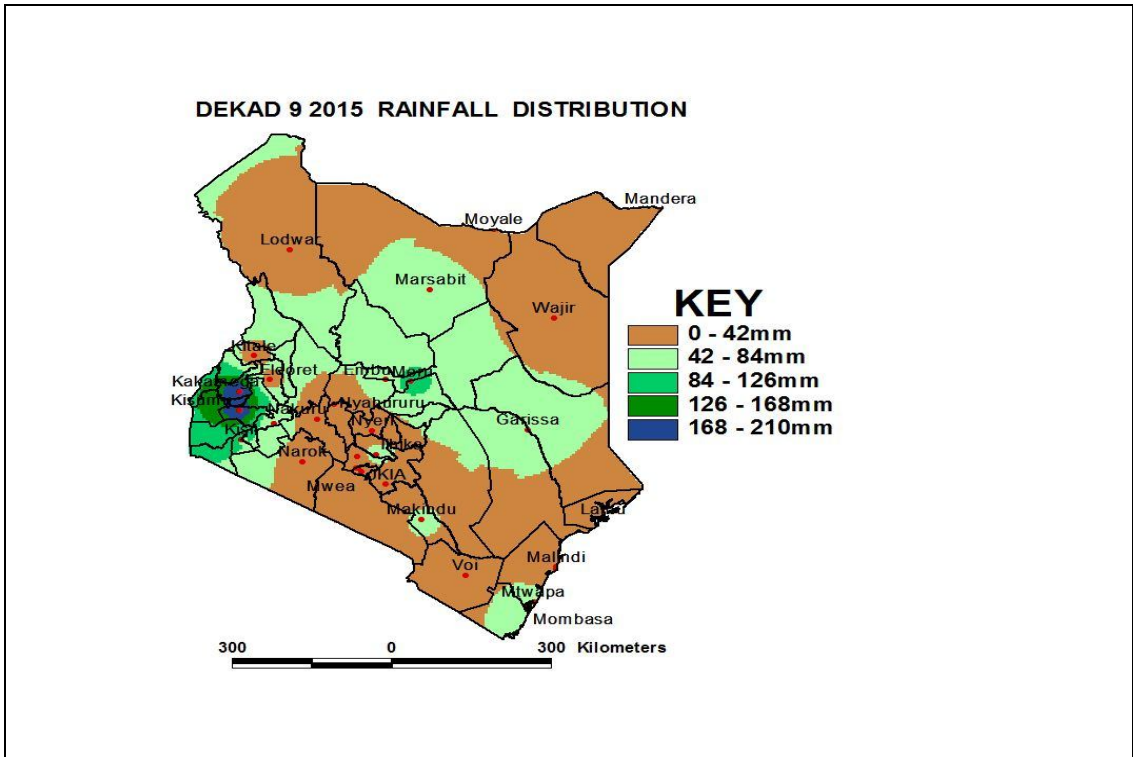


Figure 3.2: Dekadal rainfall distribution for dekad 09, 2015

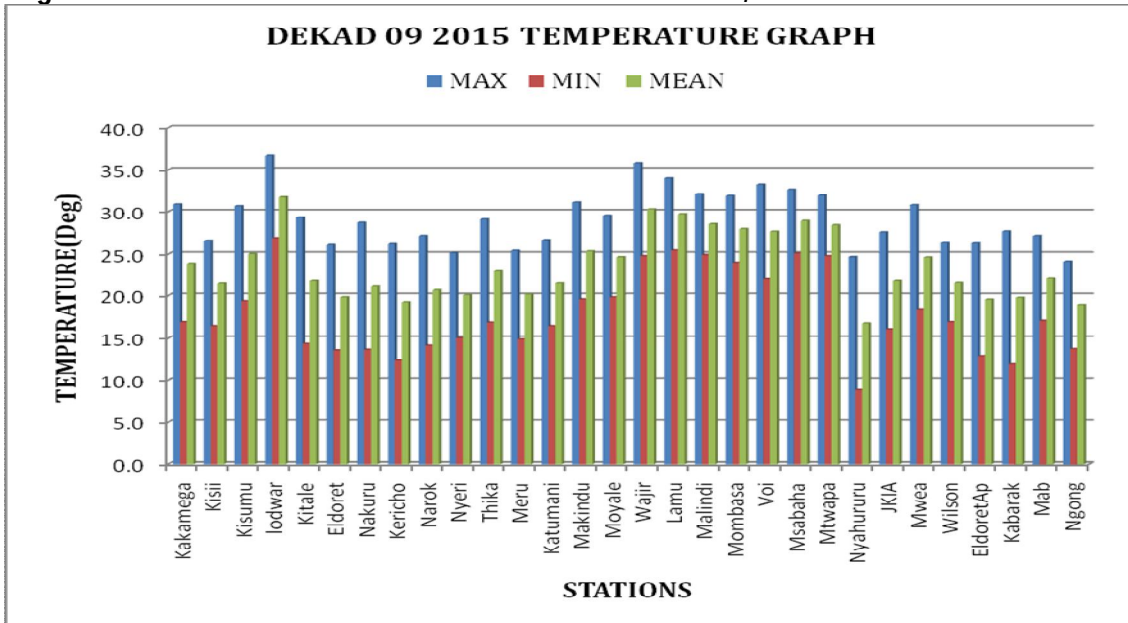


Figure 3.3: Maximum, Minimum and Average temperature for dekad 09 2015

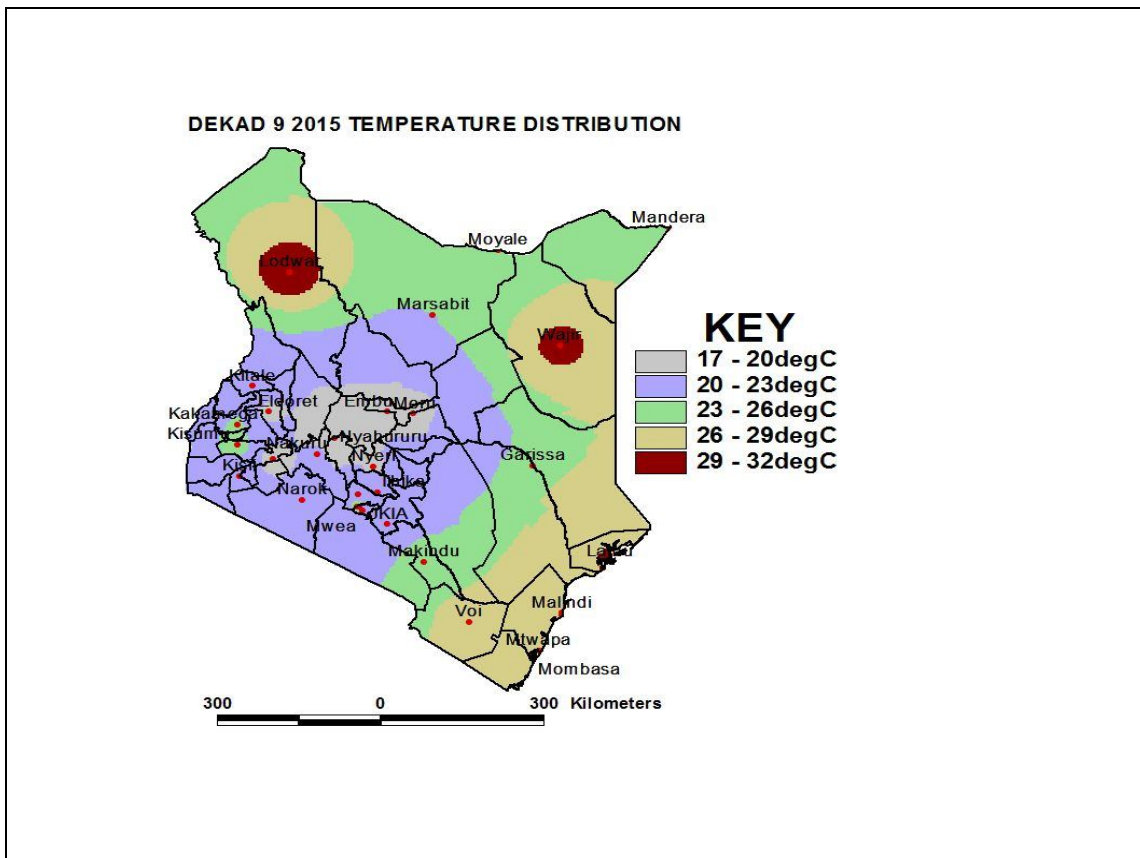


Figure 3.4: Mean temperature distribution for dekad 09 2015

4. EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS; 01-10 APRIL, 2015.

- ❖ **Counties within the Lake Victoria Basin, Highlands west of the Rift Valley, Nyamira, Kericho, Bomet, Uasin-Gishu, Nakuru, Narok, Trans Nzoia, Elgeyo Marakwet, Nandi, Laikipia, Kajiado, Vihiga and Busia),** are expected to experience rains over few places in the morning for the entire forecast period. Afternoons are expected to receive showers and thunderstorms over several places for the first five days reducing to few places thereafter.

The rains and showers will be of great beneficial to the crops, which are mostly in emergence stage in places like Kisii. They will also replenish the soil with moisture in the pasture and vegetation that supports livestock keeping in this region.

- ❖ **The Northwestern counties (Turkana, West Pokot and Samburu),** are expected to experience in the morning sunny intervals throughout the entire forecast period. Afternoons are expected to experience showers and thunderstorms over few places on the first and second days of the forecast, breaking into sunny intervals for the next two days, then showers and thunderstorms over few places thereafter.

The showers will replenish growth of pasture and vegetation for the livestock kept in these regions.

- ❖ **The Central highlands including Nairobi area (counties of Meru, Murang'a, Kiambu, Nyeri, Nairobi, Embu, Nyandarua, Tharaka and Kirinyaga),** are expected to experience in the morning rains over few places for the first five days, breaking into sunny intervals thereafter. Afternoons are expected to experience showers over few places for the first three days, increasing to several places on the third and fourth days and then reducing to few places thereafter.

The rains and showers will benefit the crops that are in their emergence stage in places like Meru, Thika and Embu.

- ❖ **Northeastern counties (counties of Marsabit, Mandera, Wajir, Garissa and Isiolo),** are expected to experience in the rains over few places on the first day, breaking into sunny intervals on the following two days, then rains over several places on fourth and fifth days, reducing to few places thereafter. Afternoons are expected to experience showers over few places throughout the forecast period.

The rains and showers will continue to replenish the growth of pasture and vegetation that sustain livestock keeping in this region.

- ❖ **Southeastern lowlands (counties of Taita Taveta, Makueni, Machakos and Kitui),** are expected to experience in the morning rains over few places on the first two days, breaking into sunny intervals for the rest of the forecast period. Afternoon will experience showers over few places throughout the forecast period.

The morning rains and the afternoon showers will continue replenishing the soil with moisture that will enhance the pasture and vegetation growth for livestock rearing in this region.

- ❖ **In the Coastal strip (counties of Mombasa, Malindi, Kilifi, Lamu, Kwale, etc),** are expected to experience morning showers over few places for the first five days breaking into sunny intervals thereafter. Afternoons are expected to experience sunny intervals throughout the forecast period.

The morning showers will continue benefiting the development of mangoes that are in the flowering and 100% fruit setting stages in places like Mtwapa and Msabaha respectively.

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