

# LESOTHO METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES (LEKALA LA TSA BOLEPI)



## Ten-Day Agrometeorological Bulletin

1 – 10 December 2009



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*...dedicated to the agricultural community  
... aimed at harmonizing agricultural activities with weather and climate*

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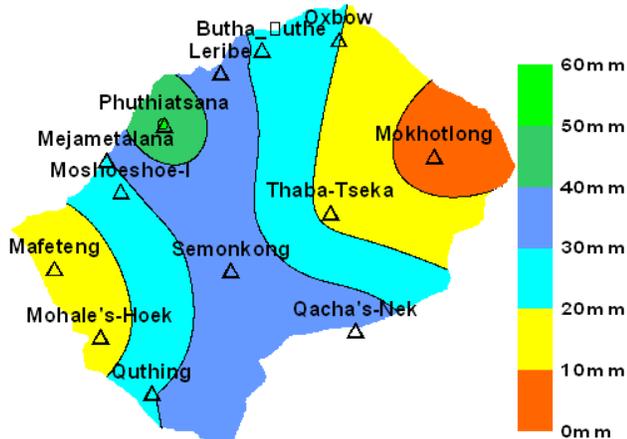
## Highlights

- ❑ Normal to below normal rainfall recorded.
- ❑ Normal to above normal mean temperatures recorded.
- ❑ Crops generally satisfactory.

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## RAINFALL SITUATION

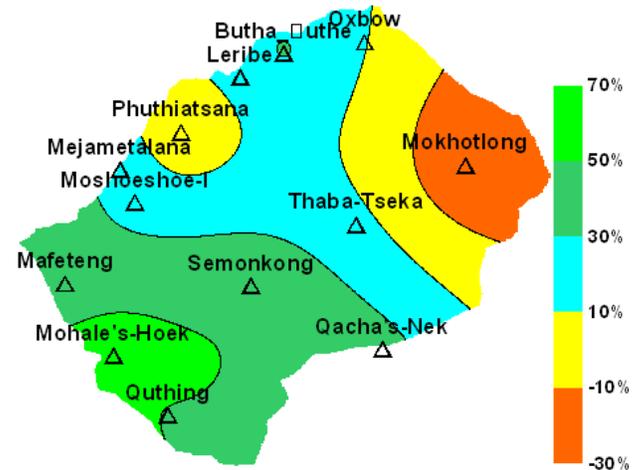


Map 1: December 1st Dekad 2009 Rainfall

The first dekad of December 2009 recorded normal to below normal rainfall countrywide. It was only at Phuthiatsana where rainfall was significantly above normal. Dekadal rainfall range from lowest sum of 4.9mm at Mokhotlong to highest sum of 51.5mm at Phuthiatsana (see Map 1).

### Cumulative Percentage Rainfall Departure from Normal

Cumulative rainfall since the first dekad of September remains above normal except at Mokhotlong where it is below normal, and few places where it is normal. Mokhotlong remains the only area to consistently record below normal cumulative rainfall (see Map 2).



Map 2: Cumulative Rainfall % Dep. from Normal

## TEMPERATURES

Mean temperatures ranged from normal to above normal during the first dekad of December 2009.

## CROP STAGE AND CONDITIONS

Summer crops are at various stages of their growth. They range from germination late vegetative stage. Weeding and other field operations have started. Crop's conditions are generally satisfactory. Cereal crops that will be planted from now onwards face a high risk of frost attack.

## DEKADAL OUTLOOK

11 – 20 December 2009

Fig.1

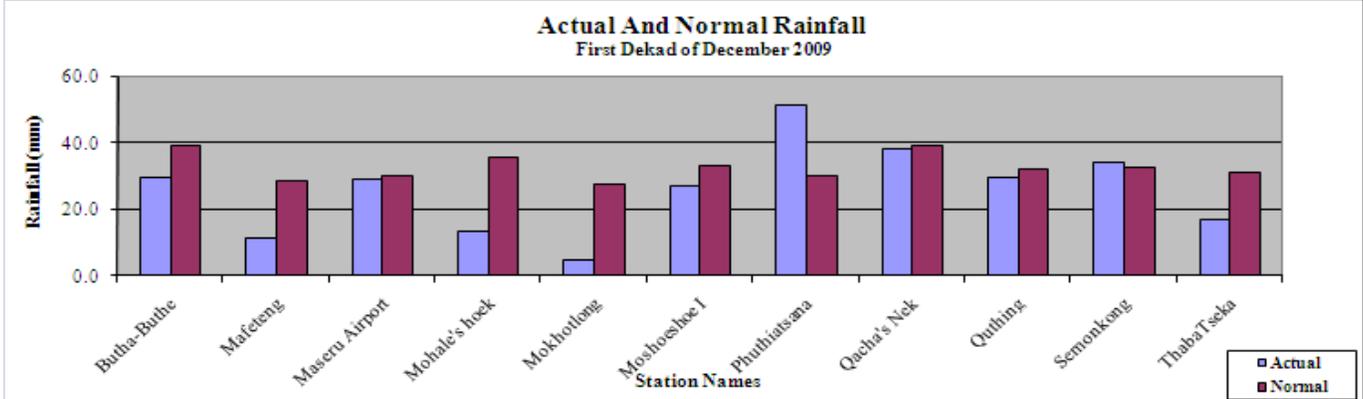


Fig.2

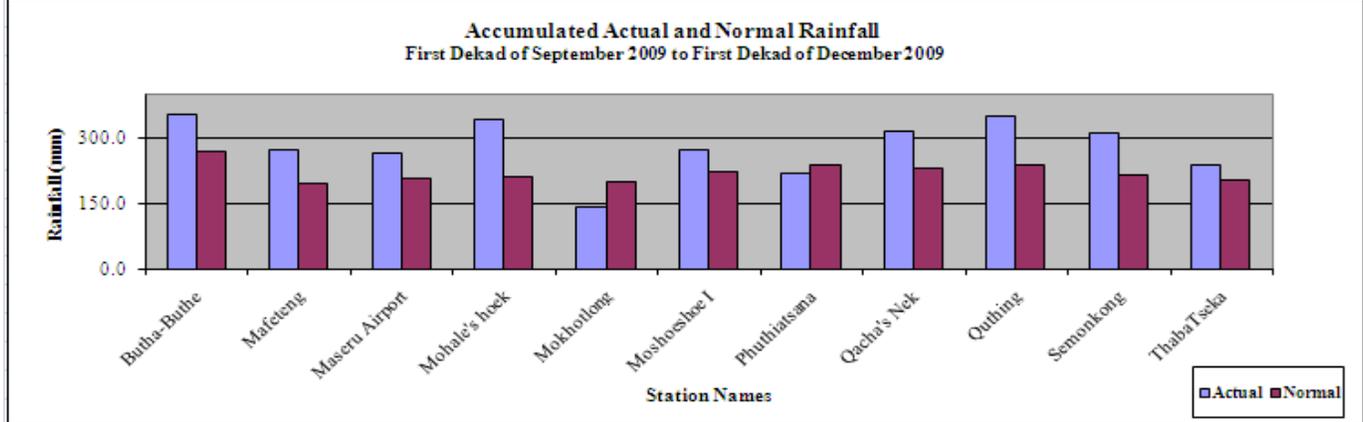


Fig. 3

Rainfall Anomaly (%) for the period September Dekad 1, 2009 - December Deakd 1, 2009

