

DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 01 2017/18 Cropping season

Review for October 1 - 10 and Outlook for October 11-20, 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- Farmers in bimodal areas are continuing with land preparation and planting except Kagera region where early-planted *vuli* crop was at weeding stage.
- Due to ongoing dry conditions over most parts of northeastern highlands and unimodal areas, livestock keepers are advised to make good use of the available water and pastures.

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING OCTOBER 1-10, 2017

During the period under review, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) continued to relax while the north systems (Azores and Siberian) continued to intensify, which allowed the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) to migrate towards southern hemisphere. Sea Surface Temperature (SSTs) over the tropical western Indian Ocean was slightly warm. The Southeast Atlantic Ocean (closer to Angola coast) experienced significant warming which contributed to relatively few wet periods over the western areas.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING OCTOBER 1-10, 2017

In view of the observed synoptic features, rains ranging from 26 to 150 millimeters (mm) were experienced over the Lake Victoria basin, western and high grounds of southwestern highlands with few observed pockets areas in the lake area receive above 150 mm rainfall. As shown in figure 1.

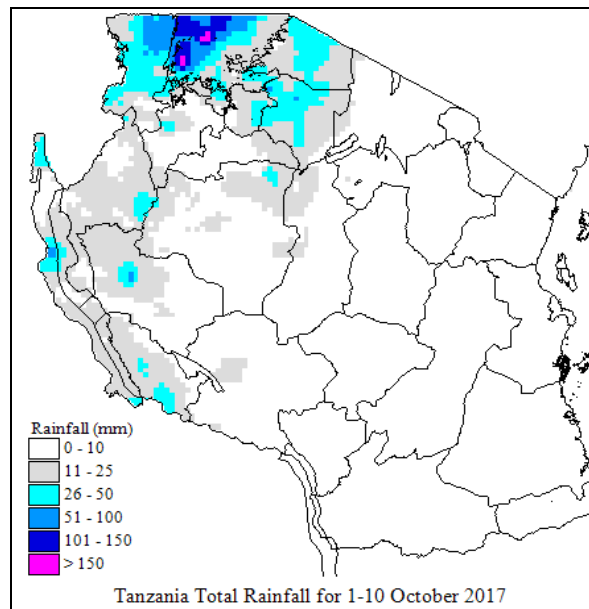


Figure 1: Total rainfall during October 1 – 10, 2017

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING OCTOBER 1-10, 2017

Farmers in bimodal areas were continuing with land preparation and planting except Bukoba district in Kagera region farmers where weeding are the main practise. Over the unimodal areas, farmers are continuing with planning for the coming *msimu* rainy season which starts normally between November and December. Water and pasture availability for livestock declined over much of Mwanza, Mara, Simiyu, Shinyanga, Singida, Arusha, Manyara and Dodoma regions. Other areas had moderate water and pasture conditions.

HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING OCTOBER 1-10, 2017

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges continued to decrease over most areas of the country due to the ongoing dry conditions.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING OCTOBER 11-20, 2017

Southern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to relax while the northern hemisphere high pressure systems are intensify. This situation will cause the ITCZ to continue migrating towards southern hemisphere. Warm SSTs over the Tropical Western Indian Ocean are expected to maintain and this is likely to keep occasionally moist southerly to southeasterly winds along the coast, resulting into isolated rain showers over those areas. The Southeast Atlantic Ocean is expected to experience significant warm SSTs, which will suppress moisture flow towards the western areas and the Lake Victoria basin.

EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING OCTOBER 11-20, 2017

In view of the expected synoptic conditions, the **Lake Victoria Basin** (Kagera, Mwanza, Mara, Geita, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions) is expected to have occasional rainy showers and thunderstorms while **Northeastern highlands** (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions) and **Southwestern highlands** (Rukwa, Iringa, Njombe, Songwe and Mbeya regions) are expected to feature dry conditions, occasional rain showers especially over high grounds. **Northern coast** (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions, the isles of Unguja and Pemba) is expected to have occasional rain showers especially during the second half of the dekad.

Western area (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions) are expected to feature mainly dry with isolated rainy showers and thunderstorms. **Central areas** (Dodoma and Singida regions) are expected to feature dry conditions. **Southern Coast** (Mtwara and Lindi regions) is expected to feature dry conditions with isolated rainy showers over few areas. **Southern region** (Ruvuma and southern part of Morogoro regions) is expected to feature dry conditions.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING OCTOBER 11-20, 2017

Rains are expected over the bimodal areas mainly Lake Victoria basin and northern coast. Farmers over these areas are advised to make use of these rains for planting. However over Kagera region and much of the northern coast are advised to plant drought tolerant crops due to the expected normal to below normal *Vuli* rains. Northeastern highlands and unimodal areas off seasonal rains are not adequate for planting seasonal crops. Pastoralists are also advised to use the available water and pasture resources sparingly in consultation with extension officers.

HYDROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING OCTOBER 11-20, 2017

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected slightly increase especially over lake Victoria basin. Water users are advised to use available water carefully.

Prepared by

TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY

3rd, Floor - Ubungo Plaza – Morogoro Road, Dar es Salaam – The United Republic of Tanzania

P.O. Box 3056 Tel. 255 -(0) 22 – 2460706-8 ; Fax: 255 - (0) 22 – 2460718 E-mail: (1) met@meteo.go.tz (2) agromet@meteo.go.tz