

DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 2 2017/18 Cropping season

Review for October 11 - 20 and Outlook for October 21-31, 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- Farmers in bimodal areas are continuing with land preparation and planting except Kagera region where early-planted *vuli* crop is 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 11-20, 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 allows the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) to migrate towards southern hemisphere. Sea Surface Temperature (SSTs) over the tropical western Indian Ocean remained slightly warm which led to occasionally moist southerly to southeasterly winds along the coast. The Southeast Atlantic Ocean (closer to Angola coast) experienced significant warming which contributed to occasional rainfall over the western areas.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING OCTOBER 11-20, 2017

In view of the observed synoptic features, from 20 to 150 millimeters (mm) of rainfall were observed over the Lake Victoria basin and western areas while parts of southwestern and northerneastern highlands received less than 20 mm. As shown in figure 1.

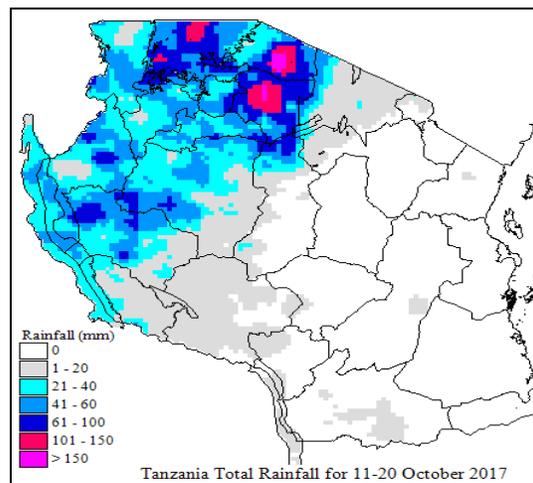


Figure 1: Total rainfall during October 11– 20, 2017

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING OCTOBER 11-20, 2017

Farmers in bimodal areas especially Lake Victoria basin continued with land preparation and planting. Over the unimodal areas, farmers continued with land preparation and planning for the coming *msimu* rainy season which starts normally between November and December. Water and pasture availability for livestock declined over most parts of Mwanza, Mara, Simiyu, Shinyanga, Singida, Arusha, Manyara and Dodoma regions. Other areas had moderate water and pasture conditions.

HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING OCTOBER 11-20, 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 21-31, 2017

Southern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to relax while the northern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to intensify. This situation will cause the ITCZ to continue migrating towards southern hemisphere. Warm SSTs over the Tropical Western Indian Ocean are expected to be maintained and this is likely to keep occasionally moist southerly to southeasterly winds along the coast, resulting into occasional rain showers over these areas. The southeast Atlantic Ocean is expected to experience significantly warm SSTs, which will suppress moisture flow towards the western areas of the country as well as 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 rain 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. However occasional rain showers are expected 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.

Western regions (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions) are expected to feature occasional rainshowers and thunderstorm during the last five days of the decade. **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 occasional rainshowers over few areas. **Southern region (Ruvuma)** is expected to feature dry conditions.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING OCTOBER 21-31, 2017

Rain showers 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, farmers over Kagera region and 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 21-31, 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

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