

## DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 36: 2017/18 cropping season

Review for September 21-30 and Outlook for October 01-10, 2018

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Farmers in bimodal and unimodal areas continued with land preparation with exceptional of Kagera region where planting of beans and maize have already started.
- Farmers over the bimodal areas are advised to continue with land preparation until when there is sufficient soil moisture to allow crop germination
- Livestock keepers are advised to make good use of the available water and pasture due to excessive evaporation as a result of prevailing dry conditions over much of the country.

### SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2018

The northern high pressure systems (Azores and Siberian) continued to intensify while the southern systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) relaxed. Similarly, the zonal arm of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) was further north off the country, while the meridional arm extended further south, thereby influenced weather over the Lake Victoria basin. Also the onshore southeasterly wind flow continued over the coastal areas. Over the southwest Indian Ocean, Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) were neutral, which reduced the possibility of cyclonic activities. The southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast) SSTs were also neutral to slight warm which resulted into less westerly winds, hence suppressed activities over the western sector of the country.

### RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2018

During the ten-day (dekad) period, the country was generally dry except in some parts of Lake Victoria, northeastern highlands, northern coast, northern part of Morogoro region and the isles of Unguja and Pemba which received more than 50 mm of rainfall as seen in Figure 1. Observed rains over bimodal areas in the Lake Victoria basin and extreme northern coast is the indication of onset of Vuli rains in those areas although their spatial distribution and amounts were generally poor during the dekad under review

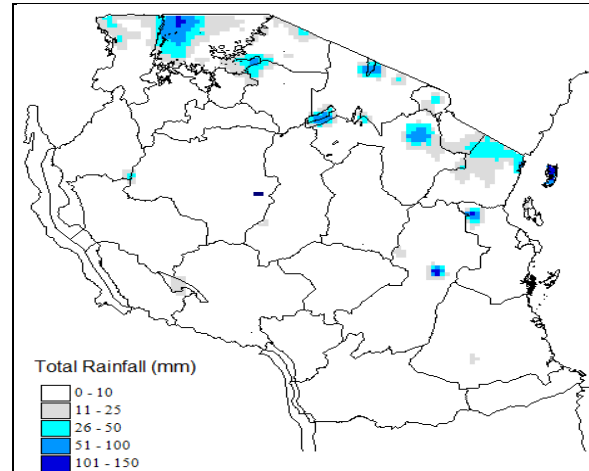


Figure 1: total rainfall for the period of September 21 - 30, 2018.

### AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2018

Farmers in bimodal areas continued with land preparation for the coming *vuli* season, except in Kagera region where planting of maize and beans crops were going on. Over the unimodal areas, farmers have started land preparations for the coming *msimu* rainy season which normally expected to start between November and December. Water and pasture availability for livestock have been decreased slightly over much of Mwanza, Mara, Simiyu, Shinyanga, Singida, Arusha, Manyara and Dodoma regions. Other areas had moderate water and pasture conditions..

### HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2018

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges continued to decrease across the country due to current dry conditions.

feature partly cloudy conditions.

### EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING OCTOBER 01-10, 2018.

The Azores and Siberian highs are expected to continue intensifying while the St. Helena and Mascarene highs are expected to relax. The zonal arm of the ITCZ will still be further north off the country, while the meridional arm will extend further south thereby influencing some weather over the Lake Victoria basin. Also the onshore southeasterly flow is expected to continue over the coastal areas. Over the southwest Indian Ocean, SSTs are expected to continue being neutral to slight warm that will result into moist south easterlies. Possibility of tropical cyclonic activities is still very low. The southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast) SSTs are expected to be neutral to slight cool which is expected to result into enhanced activities over the western sector of the country.

### EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING OCTOBER 01-10, 2018

In view of the expected synoptic conditions, Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu and Mara regions) are expected to feature showers and thunder storms over few areas.

Northern coast (Tanga, Northern part of Morogoro, Pwani and Dar es Salaam regions together with isles of Unguja and Pemba) are expected to feature showers over few areas especially the second five days of this dekad and Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) are expected to feature showers over few areas.

Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions), Western regions (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions) and Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe and Iringa regions) are expected to feature mainly partly cloudy conditions.

Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions) and Southern region (Ruvuma and Southern part of Morogoro regions) are expected to

### AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING OCTOBER 01-10, 2018.

Over the bimodal areas generally Lake Victoria basin and northern coast, rains are expected to peak during the dekad. Farmers are advised to make use of these rains for planting when there is enough soil moisture. However over Kagera region, farmers are advised to plant drought tolerant and early maturing crops due to the expected normal to below normal *vuli* rains. In unimodal areas the expected off seasonal rains are not adequate for planting seasonal crops. Livestock keepers are advised to make use of the available water and pasture sparingly. Farmers, fishers and livestock keepers are advised to consult extension officers for optimal use of this forecast and advisory. .

### HYDROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING OCTOBER 01-10, 2018

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to continue declining especial in unimodal areas due to ongoing dry conditions. The increasing is expected in bimodal areas due to *vuli* rainfall season kickoff.. Water users are advised to use available water carefully.

Prepared by

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