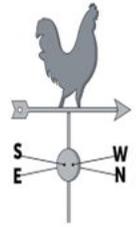




# TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AUTHORITY



## AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

No.35: 2018/19 cropping season

Review for September 1-10, 2019 and Outlook for September 11 - 20, 2019

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Soil moisture over Lake Victoria basin is expected to improve slightly due to expected rains.
- Further decline in water and pasture is expected to persist over much of the country due to ongoing season dry conditions.
- Farmers over bimodal regime are advised to continue preparing their farms for the coming short rains season that is expected to start during October 2019.

### SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING SEPTEMBER 1-10, 2019

**D**uring this dekad, the northern hemisphere high pressure systems (Azore and Siberian) relaxed while southern high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) intensified over the last half of the dekad. The scenario confined the ITCZ further to the north while the ridging high fostered strong southerly to southeasterly wind over the coastal belt towards the end of the dekad. The warm Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the western Indian Ocean persisted and favoured the development of weak depression that enhanced the southeasterly moisture flux towards the coastal belt. The slightly warmer SST over the southeast Atlantic Ocean (Angola coast) reduced the westerly moisture wind towards the western sector of the country.

### RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING SEPTEMBER 1 - 10, 2019

**D**uring the dekad, most parts of the country were generally dry except for a few areas over east, south and western parts of the Lake Victoria, eastern and northern parts of Kigoma region and central areas of the country received off seasonal rains. The amount of rainfall recorded ranged from 26 mm to above 200 mm over Lake Viktoria basin and Kigoma region, while more than 200 mm was recorded over central areas in a dekad as indicated in Figure 1.

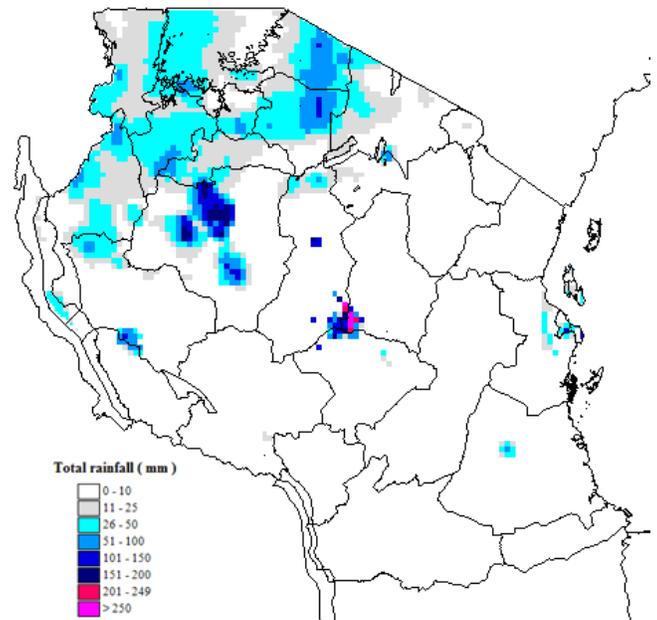


Figure 1: Total rainfall for the period of September 1 - 10, 2019.

### AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING SEPTEMBER 1 - 10, 2019

**D**uring the first dekad of the September 2019, soil moisture conditions improved slightly compared to that of the third dekad of August 2019. Agro meteorological reports from areas with a bimodal rainfall pattern (Lake Victoria basin, northeastern highlands, and northern coast) showed that farmers had started

land preparations for coming short rains 'vuli' cropping season. Improved soil moisture conditions from early rains experienced over the Lake Victoria basin favoured regeneration of pastures. The root crops (cassava and sweet potatoes) were progressing well at various growth stages. Pasture conditions and water availability for livestock and wildlife have continued decreasing over central areas and northeastern highlands as the dry season progresses.

central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions), southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe and Iringa regions), southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions), southern areas (Ruvuma and southern part of Morogoro regions) are expected to feature mainly dry condition.

Northern coast (Tanga, northern part of Morogoro, Pwani and Dar es Salaam regions together with isles of Unguja and Pemba) is expected to feature isolated light rain showers especially the first half of the dekad.

**HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS  
DURING SEPTEMBER 1-10 2019**

**EXPECTED AGROMETEOROLOGICAL  
OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING  
SEPTEMBER 11-20, 2019**

**W**ater levels in dams and river flow discharges continued slightly decreasing over most areas of the country due to the ongoing dry condition.

**S**oil moisture over Lake Victoria basin and northern coast is expected to improve slightly due to expected rains. These rains will not be favorable for planting seasonal crops. Farmers over bimodal regime are advised to continue preparing their farms for the coming short rainy season that is expected to start during October 2019. The expected dry condition over unimodal regime specifically central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions) is likely to lead to further declines in water for livestock and human use. Pastoralists across the country are advised to use the available water and pasture sparingly in consultation with extension officers.

**EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS  
DURING SEPTEMBER 11-20, 2019**

**D**uring this period, the southern pressure systems are expected to continue relaxing while the northern high pressure systems intensifying there by squeezing the meridional arm of the ITCZ further to extreme northern part of the country (i.e., Lake Victoria Basin). The slightly warmer SST over the western Indian Ocean are expected to continue influencing isolated light rain showers over the northern coast during the first half of the dekad. Slightly warmer SST over the Angola coast is expected to persist and become much stronger during the second half of the dekad.

**EXPECTED HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL  
CONDITIONS DURING SEPTEMBER 1-10  
2019**

**EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS  
DURING SEPTEMBER 11 - 20, 2019**

**W**ater levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to continue slightly decreasing over much of the country. Water users are advised to have sustainable use of the available.

**I**n view of the expected weather systems, areas around Lake Victoria basin particularly over western(Kagera and Geita) and eastern sectors(Mara and Simiyu) are expected to feature isolated thundershowers .

Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions), western areas (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions ),

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