

HIGHLIGHTS

- Farmers over bimodal areas are advised to start planting especially areas with adequate soil moisture to support seed germination.
- Farmers are advised to use good techniques in land preparation, crop harvesting and crop seed selection in excessive soil moisture areas especially over low land.
- Farmers, livestock keepers, and fishers are advised to consult agricultural extension officers for crop management and use meteorological update issued by TMA.

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING MARCH

01-10, 2020

The northern high pressure systems (Azores and Siberian) were intensifying while southern high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) were relaxing. The situation allowed the ITCZ to remain over the southern part of our country. Slight warm Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the south west Indian Ocean were experienced that triggered weak formation of low pressure system. However, neutral to slight warm SSTs were observed over the southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast), the situation caused low level weak westerly wind flow and enhance less contribution to moisture flux from Congo forests to some parts of the county.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING

MARCH 01-10, 2020

The weather system during this dekad, enhanced rainfall over the country as shown in Figure 1. The amount of rainfall ranging from 51 mm to 200 mm was recorded in most areas over the country. Either, spots of higher rainfall amount with more than 201 mm were observed over southern part of Morogoro, eastern part of Mtwara and eastern part of Dar es Salaam also the same amount was observed in western part of Moshi, northern part of Kigoma and northern part of Lindi region. However, less than 50 mm of rainfall was observed in southern part of Ruvuma and Mtwara.

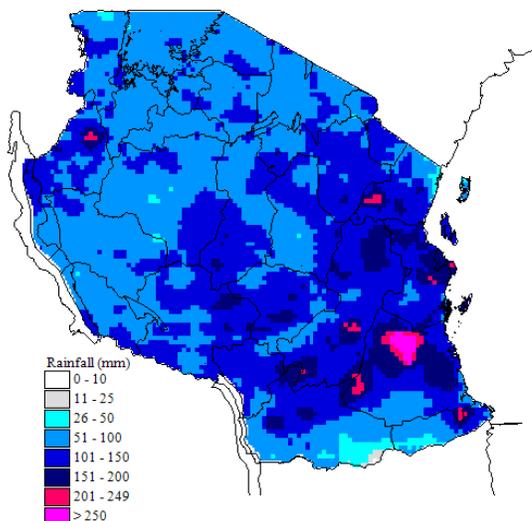


Figure 1: Total rainfall for the period of March 01 - 10, 2020.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING MARCH 01-10, 2020

In this dekad, most of the unimodal areas maize were at tasseling stage and farmers were engaged in crop weeding activities. The region of Mbeya, farmers were involved in planting of beans while in Njombe were engaged in harvesting of Irish potatoes. On the other hand, most of the bimodal areas farmers continued with land preparation and planting activities. The regions of Simiyu and Kagera, farmers engaged in planting of maize and beans although some areas farmers were proceeding with harvesting of late grown *Vuli* maize crop. Few

areas of northern coast (Morogoro, Tanga and isles of Pemba and Unguja) paddy crop was observed at flowering stage and farmers continued with weeding activities. In Mwanza region reported maize was at emergence stage while in central regions (Singida and Dodoma) maize was at flower of tasseling stage.

Generally, over most areas of the country was observed sufficient soil moisture for crop and pasture growth except over Mtwara region observed less amount of rainfall in some areas resulted to relative decrease of soil moisture.

**HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING
MARCH 01-10, 2020**

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges were improved over the most areas of the country.

**EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING
MARCH 11-20, 2020**

The northern high pressure systems (Azores and Siberian) are expected to continue intensifying while the southern high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) are expected to continue relaxing. The condition is expected to push the ITCZ to remain over the southern part of the country. However, warm (SSTs) condition is expected over the south west Indian Ocean and this is likely to trigger the formation of low pressure system. Also, over southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast), SSTs are expected to be slight warm to warm, this condition is likely to cause low level weak westerly wind flow and enhance less contribution to moisture flux from Congo forests to some parts of the country. Also, winds at the surface and at high level are expected to have less contribution to the rainfall making mechanisms.

**EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING
MARCH 11-20, 2020**

Few areas around Lake Victoria basin (Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu and Mara), southern coast

(Mtwara and Lindi regions), western regions (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora), central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions), and southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) are expected to feature with isolated thundershowers. Also, few areas over northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro) are expected to experience rain showers while northern coast regions (Tanga, northern part of Morogoro, Pwani, Dar es Salaam and together with isles of Unguja and Pemba) are expected to observe isolated thundershowers over few areas especially during the first half of the dekad. The southwestern highlands regions (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe, and Iringa) and southern region (Ruvuma and southern part of Morogoro region) are expected to feature thundershowers over some areas.

**EXPECTED AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK
AND ADVISORY DURING MARCH 11-20, 2020**

The started seasonal rains (MAM) in most of the bimodal regions is likely to improve soil moisture condition favorable for growth of crops and pasture. Thus, in this dekad farmers are advised to use these rains for crop planting especially areas with adequate soil moisture to support seed germination. Also, farmers are advised to use good techniques in land preparation, crop harvesting and crop seed selection for planting in areas with excessive soil moisture especially over low lands. The expected rainfall over some areas of unimodal will improve soil moisture for crop growth such as beans and root crops (cassava and sweet potatoes). Farmers, fishers, and livestock keepers are advised to consult agricultural extension officers for crop management and use meteorological update issued by TMA.

**EXPECTED HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL
CONDITIONS DURING MARCH 11-20, 2020**

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to continue to improve over most areas of the country especially over the bimodal regime. Users are advised to continue using available water carefully.

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