



KMD

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

6th Dekad, 21st to 29th February 2008

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HIGHLIGHTS

- *During the 6th Dekad i.e. 21st to 29th February 2008, Light rainfall was received over the Western, Central Rift Valley, Kakamega, Kisii, Kisumu, and Nakuru recording a Dekadal total of 1.5, 13.9, 8.5.0, 2.1 mm respectively.*
- *Mean daily temperatures were relatively high over most parts of the country with Mandera recording maximum day temperature of 38.4 Low night temperatures were recorded over some parts of Central Rift Valley with Nyahururu recording a minimum of 4.8 deg Celsius on 23th and 24th February 2008. (Fig.2)*
- *The pastoral regions and game parks of Northern and Southern Rift Valley, North Eastern and South Eastern lowlands, experienced light or no rains at all during the entire period resulting in inadequate pastures and water . Incidences of human animal conflict over food and water have been reported in some areas of Laikipia and parts of Nyeri and Meru Districts bordering Mt. Kenya. (Figs.1 & 3).*

CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW

(21st to 29th February 2008)

Central Province and Nairobi area:

Light rainfall or no rains were received over Central province, Nairobi area and its environs.

crops have dried up in some regions due to the prolonged dry spells experienced during the season in several lowlands regions. Land preparations in these regions has started in readiness for the Long rain season. However, in the highlands regions of Nyeri and Kirinyaga harvesting of the maize crop is ongoing with below normal yeilds being reported, land preperation has also srarted in readiness rainy season.

Eastern Province:

Hot and dry conditions continued to be experienced during the Dekad. Crops have reached full maturity and harvesting is taking place with below normal yeilds being reported. Land preparations have started in readiness for the long rains.

To the south (Machakos, Mwingi and Kitui), dry and hot conditions dominated the region. Crops have dried up in several areas but around Makindu crops are at the maturity stage with poor yields expected. Land preparations have started in some areas in readiness for the long rains.

Coast Province:

Dry and hot conditions were experienced over this region during the review period. Land preparations have started in readiness for the long rains.

North Eastern Province:

Dry and hot conditions continued to be experienced over this region resulting in poor pastures and inadequate water sources for both domestic and animal use. This poses risk of human and animal conflicts and pastoralists may be forced to migrate to othr regions in search of pasture and water and times are received with hostilities by other communities. (Figs.1, 2, 3)

Western Province:

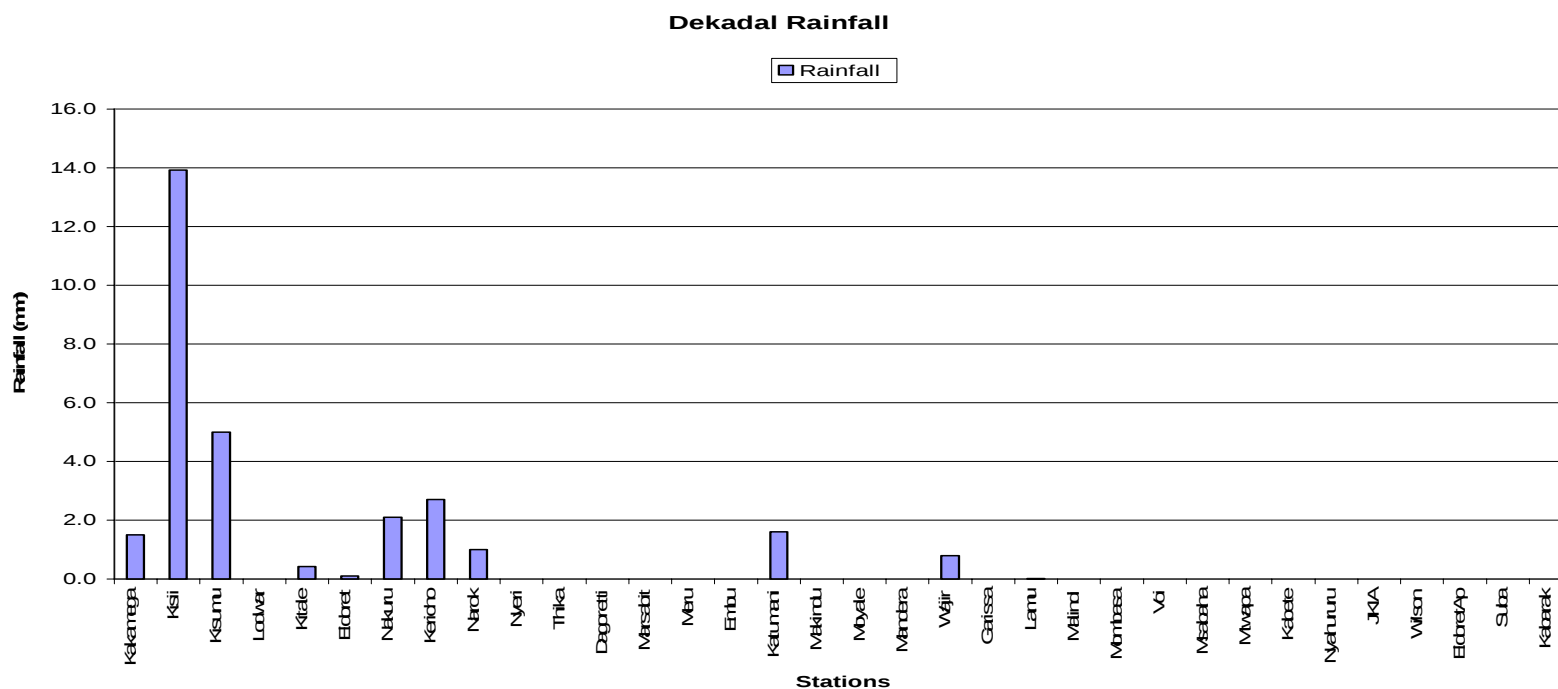
Insignificant light rainfall was received in some parts of this region (Kakamega, Bungoma and Busia). Land preparations is in progress in readiness for the long rain season. (Fig.1).

Nyanza and Central Rift Valley:

Light rainfall was received in some parts of this region. Crops are doing well and in Kisii maize crop is at the maturity stage and corresponding to normal growth with normal yields expected. (Figs 1)

Northern and Southern Rift Valley:

Dry and hot conditions prevailed in the region resulting in poor pastures and inadequate water sources for domestic, wildlife and animal use. (Figs.1, 2, 3)



ig. 1: Actual Rainfall (21st to 29th February 2008)

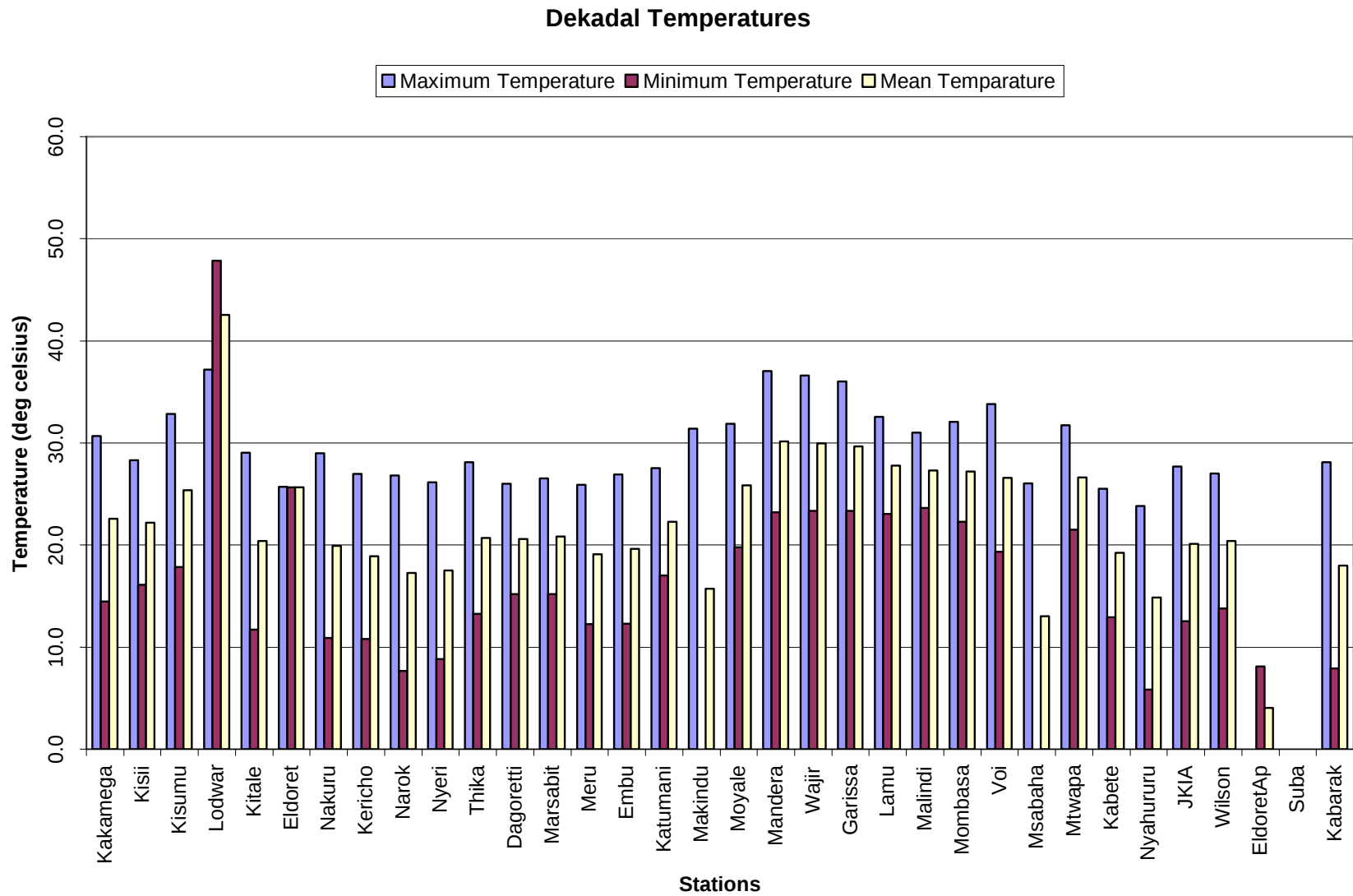


Fig 2: Mean Temperatures (21st to 29th February 2008)

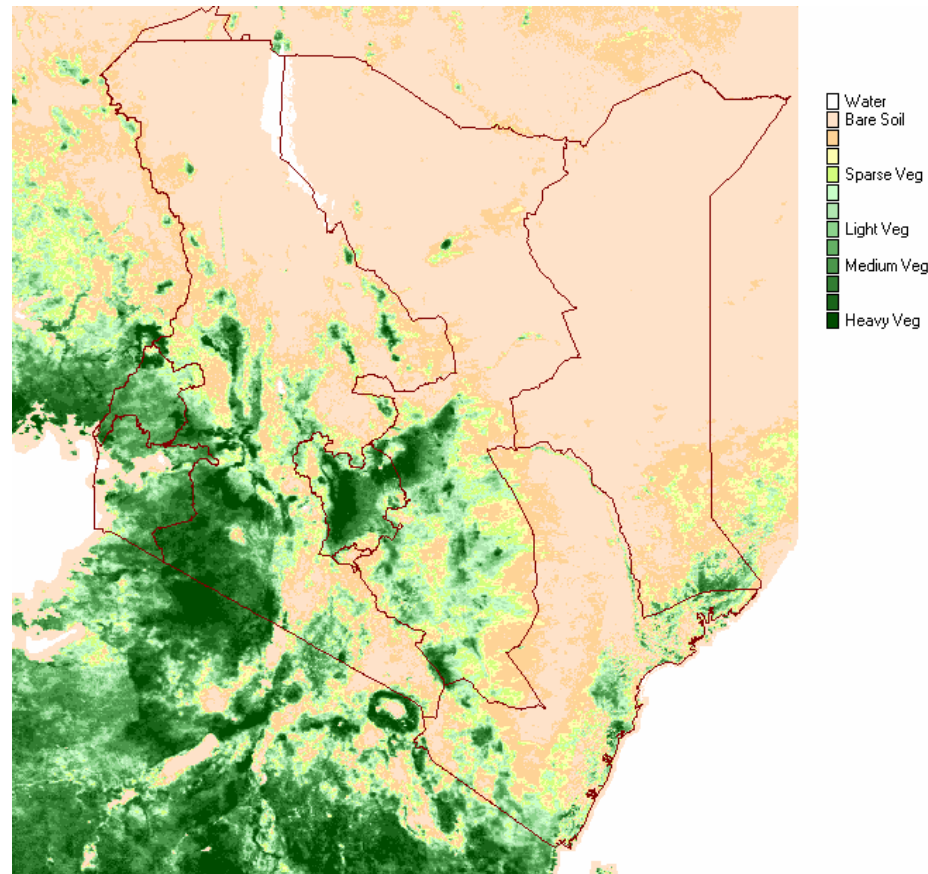


Fig. 3: Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (21st to 29th February 2008)

EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS (1st –10th March 2008).

During the next 10 days Western, Nyanza and Central Rift Valley regions are expected to experience light rainfall over a few places. Land preparation is commencing in some regions whereas in other areas around Kisii crops are at maturity stage and normal yields are expected.

Central Highlands, Nairobi area and its environs, are expected to receive light rainfall in few places. Harvesting is taking place in some areas with reports of below normal yields. Land preparation is expected to continue in several places in readiness for the long rains.

In South Eastern lowlands, hot and dry conditions are expected to prevail. Harvesting of maize crop is expected to commence in some regions which were not adversely affected by the prolonged drought. Land preparation is expected to commence in some areas in readiness for the long rains.

In the pastoral regions of North Eastern and North Western including Southern Rift Valley dry and hot conditions are expected to continue resulting in poor pastures and scarce water sources for domestic, wildlife and animal use posing a risk of human and animal conflict in search of food and water.

In summary land preparations are expected to commence over most regions of the country. The Government machineries should be put on alert on food security for the most vulnerable livelihoods.

In the pastoral regions and game parks dry and hot conditions are expected to prevail resulting in inadequate pastures and water for both domestic and animal use.

This product should be used in conjunction with the daily 24-hour forecast issued by the Department.

This product should be used in conjunction with KMD weather forecasts

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