



KMD

# AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

## KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

Issue No. 05 / 2010, Season: DJF

Dekad 05; 11- 20 February, 2010

### HIGHLIGHTS

- During the 5th dekad, heavy rainfall was received over the Western and Nyanza provinces with Kisumu, Suba, Kisii and Kakamega, recording 52.1, 43.6, 33.4 and 20.0 mm respectively. In central and North Rift moderate to heavy rainfall was received in Nakuru, Eldoret, Kericho, Kabarak, Kitale and Narok of 69.2, 60.5, 56.2, 51.4, 41.5 and 21.1 mm respectively. Central Province and Nairobi area experienced heavy rainfall with JKIA, Nyeri, Mwea, Nyahururu, Wilson, Dagoretti and Thika, reporting 50.2, 42.6, 36.2, 34.9, 32.4, 29.9 and 28.5mm respectively. The Eastern and North Eastern regions experienced moderate to heavy rainfall with Meru, Embu, Machakos and Moyale recording 64.7, 42.2, 9.0 and 5.8mm respectively. The Coastal region was dry throughout the dekad except Voi and Mtwapa which recorded 2.6 and 1.2 mm of rainfall respectively. (Fig 1&2.)
- Day time temperatures slightly increased with Wajir, mandera, Garissa and Lodwar reporting dekad maximum temperatures of 37.8, 37.7, 37.5 and 37.4 deg. Celsius respectively (Fig 2&3).
- Night temperatures slightly increased during the dekad with Nyahururu, Eldoret Airport, Narok, Kericho and Kabarak, reporting dekad mean minimums of 10.6, 11.7, 11.8, 11.8 and 12.7 deg Celsius respectively (Figs 3&4).

### CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW FOR DEKAD 05; 11 – 20 FEBRUARY 2010

#### Central Province and Nairobi Area:

Maize crop in Nyeri region is between the wax ripeness and full ripeness with the expectation of above normal yield. In Nyahururu, land preparation has started in readiness for the next planting season. In Thika, maize harvesting has started and normal yields are expected.

#### Eastern Province:

In Machakos, Makueni and Kitui districts farmers are finalizing their maize harvest with expectation of normal to above normal yield. Other areas like Makindu and Kibwezi districts the yield is expected to be below normal due to insufficient amounts of rainfall received. In Meru and Embu districts farmers have started harvesting mature maize crop.

**Coast Province:**

Coastal area reported dry weather over the dekad (Fig 1&2). In Lamu, maize yield reported was below normal due to inadquate amount of rainfall within the area. Cashewnut yields reported is above normal with very poor market price due to over production. However, the crops are being destroyed by hungry baboons and stolen by poor villagers.

**North Eastern Province:**

Sunny conditions were experienced in the region (Mandera, Moyale, Wajir and Garissa) during the dekad (Figs.1-4). As a result, pasture and general vegetation continued to degenerate as depicetd in Fig.5.

**Western Province:**

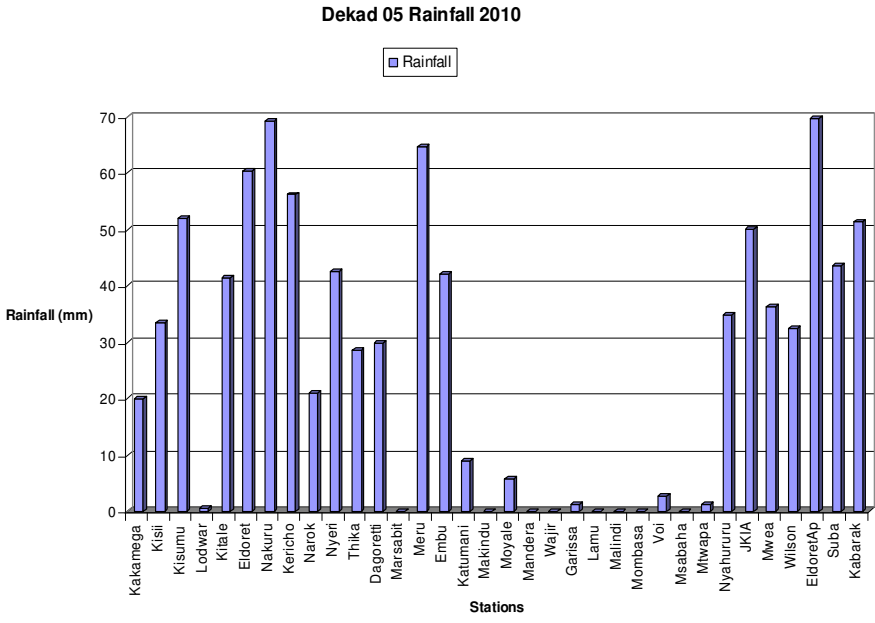
Heavy rainfall was experienced over several places in this region during the dekad. Farmers are still preparing for the next planting season which will be due by March.

**Nyanza and Central Rift Valley:**

Moderate to heavy rainfall was experienced over most places in this region (Kisumu, Kisii, Nakuru, Kabarak, and Kericho) during the dekad (Figs.1&2). Harvesting of maize in Kisii is complete. Land preparation for the next season continues, while some farmers have already started planting. In Kisumu, farmers are still preparing their land for the next planting season which starts in March.

**Northern and Southern Rift Valley:**

North western Rift Valley (Lodwar, Lokitaung) experienced dry conditions during the dekad. The pastoral regions of Southern Rift Valley (Narok, Kajiado, Mara) received significant amount of rainfall (Figs.1 &2). As a result, there was slight improvement of pasture and vegetation as can be seen in Figure 5.



**Fig. 1: Dekad 05 2010; Actual Rainfall**

DEKAD NO.05 RAINFALL DISTRIBUTION 2010

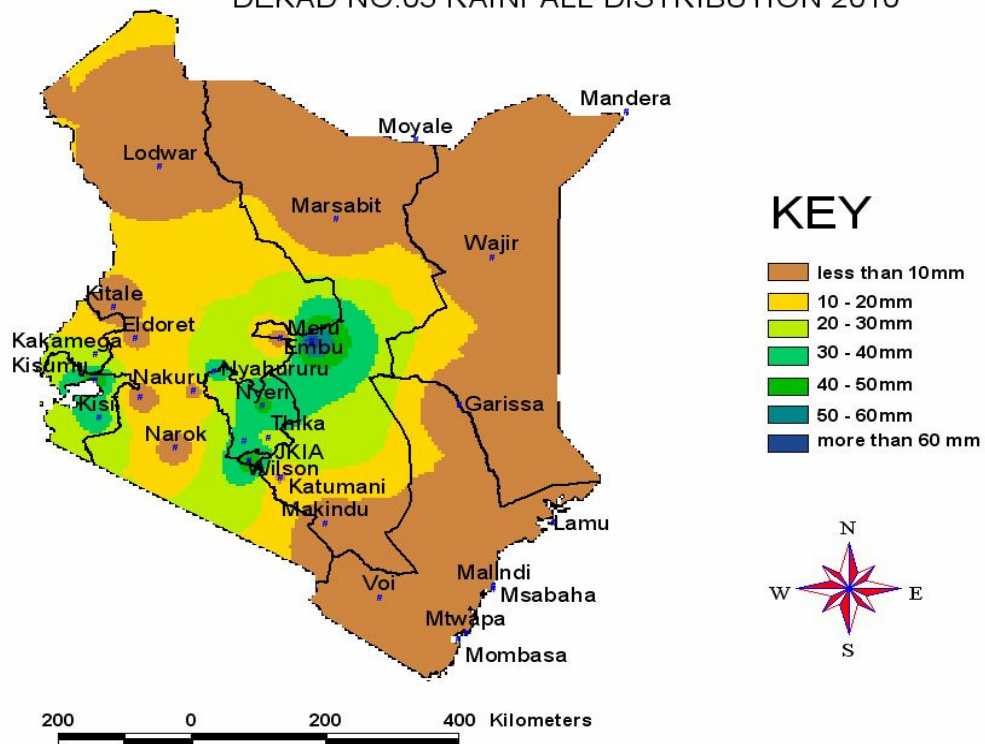


Fig. 2: Dekad 05, 2010; Rainfall distribution.

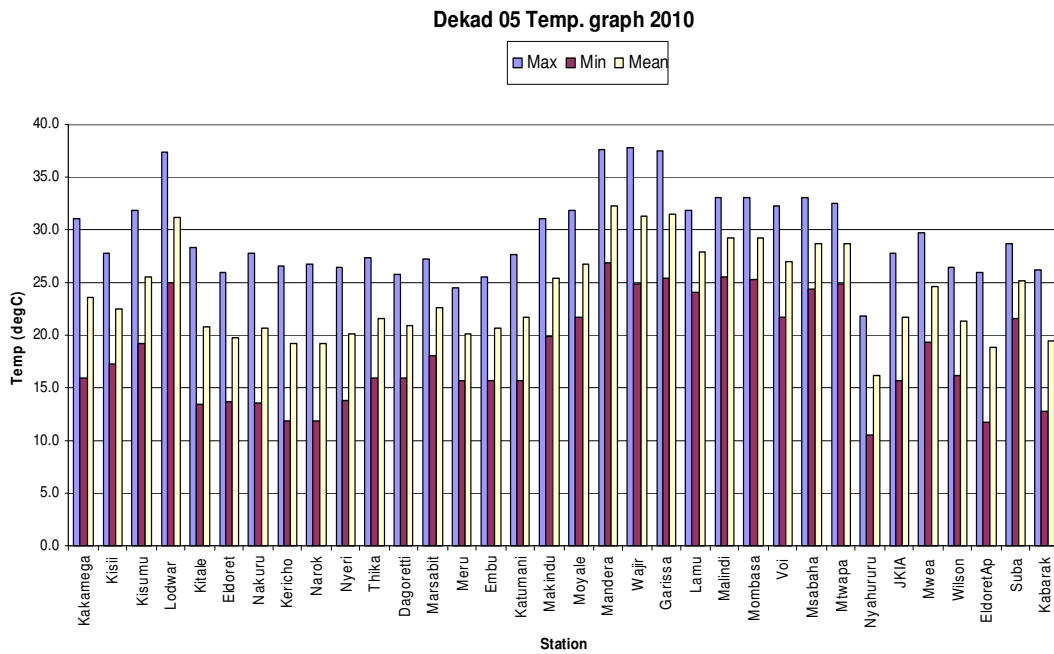
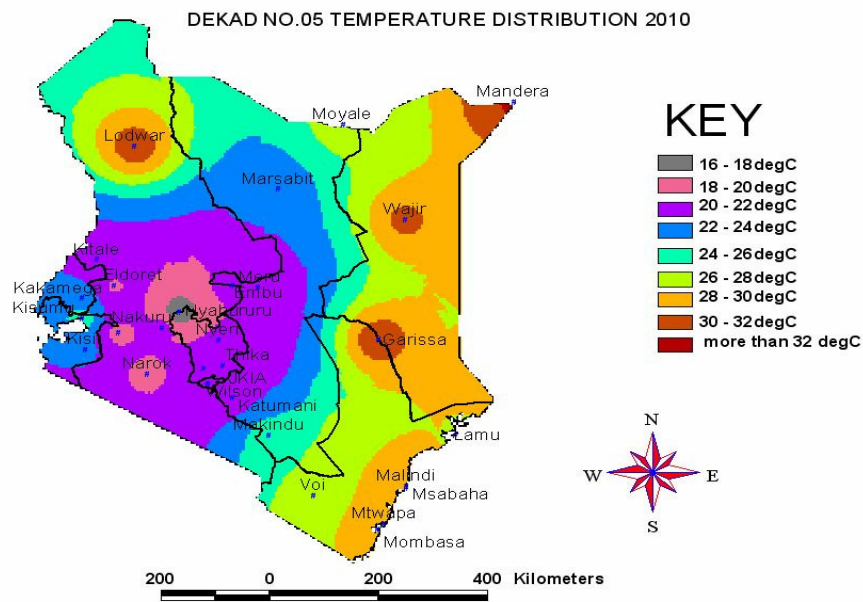
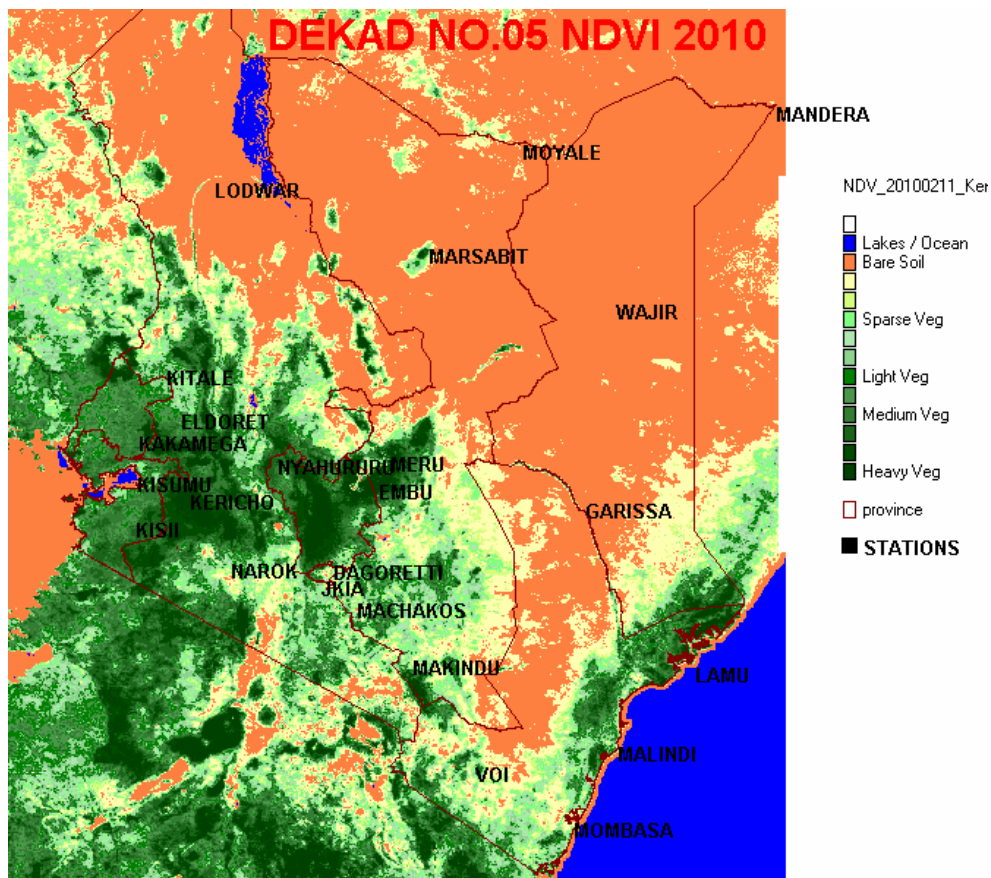


Fig 3: Dekad 05, 2010; Mean Temperature (deg. Celsius)



**Fig 4: Dekad 05, 2010; Mean Temperature Distribution**



**Fig 5: Dekad 05, 2010; Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI)**

## EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 8 DAYS; (21 –28 FEBRUARY, 2010)

- ✚ During the next 8 days, the western regions are expected to experience afternoon showers and thunderstorms over several places and morning rains over few places. This will have no significant impact on agricultural activities since crops have been harvested.
- ✚ Nyanza and Central Rift Valley are expected to experience afternoon showers, thunderstorms and morning rains in few to several places. Farmers are now preparing their farms for the next growing season.
- ✚ Central Highlands, Nairobi area and its environs, will experience afternoon showers over several places reducing to few places with time. This will continue to benefit the maize ripening in Nyeri and Thika even though it may hamper land preparation in Nyahururu.
- ✚ Eastern Province districts and its environs are expected to experience night/morning rains over several places with occasional afternoon showers over few places. This will have no major impact on agriculture as most farmers are either harvesting or have harvested their crops.
- ✚ The Coastal region rainfall activities are expected in few places. Other places will experience sunny conditions. There are no major agricultural activities since harvesting of all crops has been completed.
- ✚ In North Western districts Lodwar, Locating and Lokichoggio will experience occasional afternoon showers and thunderstorms over few places. This will slightly benefit the pasture condition.

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