

DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 28. 2013/14 Cropping Season

Review for June 11-20, 2014 and Outlook for June 21-30, 2014

HIGHLIGHTS

- Where strong winds and cold nights are expected, community is advised to take precautionary measures for their safety and property.

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING JUNE 11-20, 2014

During June 11-20, 2014, high pressure systems over the northern hemisphere relaxed significantly. In the southern hemisphere, the Mascarene high pressure system continued to intensify and extended a ridge over most parts of the country which was pushing the zonal arm of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) further north. As a result mainly dry conditions, strong winds and cool nights were observed over most parts of the country.

WEATHER SUMMARY DURING JUNE 11-20, 2014

During the period under review, seasonal dry conditions prevailed over much of the country except a few localized areas around Lake Victoria basin, north-eastern highlands and northern coastal areas that received rainfall between 20 mm and 30 mm. Figure 1 below is the analysis from Satellite Rainfall Estimates (RFE) merged with gauge data from Tanzania rainfall stations network showing rainfall performance during the dekad as percentage of long term average rainfall whereby only a few localized areas in Mwanza, Mara and Kilimanjaro regions received above normal rainfall.

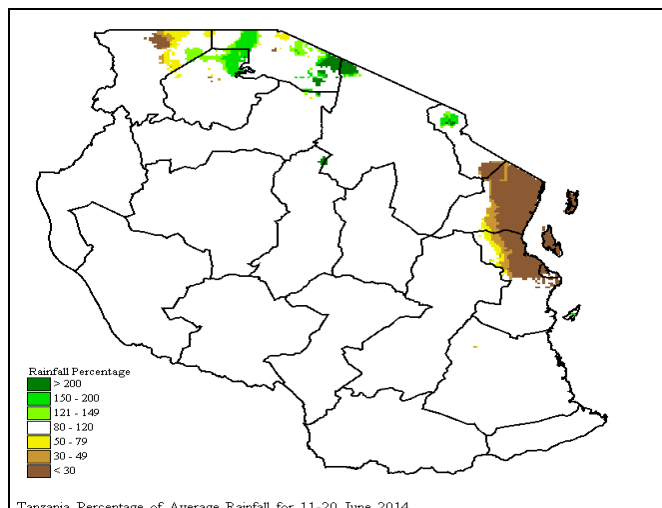


Figure 1: Satellite Rainfall Estimates merged with gauge data from Tanzania rainfall stations network showing percentage of long-term average rainfall during June 11-20, 2014.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING JUNE 11-20, 2014

During June 11-20, 2014, the observed seasonal dry conditions that prevailed over much of the country were favourable for crops harvesting activities especially over the unimodal areas. During the dekad, maize crop over bimodal areas was at full ripeness stage and was in general good condition. Pastures and water availability for livestock and wildlife was generally good.

HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING JUNE 11-20, 2014

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges were moderate across the country.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS DURING JUNE 11-20, 2014

During the period, relatively cooler temperature conditions especially during the night, prevailed in the country. Cold temperatures were experienced over high ground areas in the south and north-eastern highlands.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING JUNE 21-30, 2014

During June 21-30, 2014 pressure systems over the northern hemisphere are expected to relax significantly while in the southern hemisphere, both the St. Helena and the Mascarene high pressure systems are expected to intensify, thus increasing the strength of the East Africa Ridge. With these configurations, the ITCZ is expected to shift further north and confined mostly in the northern hemisphere. The meridional arm of the ITCZ is expected to shift further west towards Congo basin, leading to reduced weather over western parts of Lake Victoria basin. However, intensification of the southern pressure systems is expected to influence the wind speed regime over most parts of the country. Neutral to warm Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) in South West Indian Ocean, close to Tanzanian coast, are likely to induce embedded convection over some areas and therefore influence activities over the northern

coastal strip. This situation is expected to influence mainly dry and cold conditions over most parts of the country with periods of slight wet conditions over few areas.

EXPECTED WEATHER DURING JUNE 21-30, 2014

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Mwanza, Mara, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions including northern parts of Kigoma region): Rain showers and isolated thunderstorms are expected over few areas especially during the first half of the dekad. Cool nights and periods of strong winds are also expected over the Lake Victoria Basin. Northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions together with the isles of Unguja and Pemba): Rain-showers are expected over few areas especially during the first half of the dekad. Cool nights and periods of strong winds are also expected over few areas. North eastern highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions): Rain showers over few areas mainly over high ground areas are expected especially during the first half of the dekad. Cold conditions are also expected. Western regions (Kigoma, Rukwa and Tabora regions): Mainly dry conditions and cold nights are expected. Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions): Mainly dry conditions, cold and chilly weather conditions are expected. Southwestern highlands (Southern Rukwa, Katavi, Njombe, Iringa and Mbeya region): Mainly dry and cold nights are expected. Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): Mainly dry conditions and cool nights are expected. Occasional rainshowers are also expected during the period. Southern region (Ruvuma region): Mainly dry and cold night conditions are expected.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING JUNE 21-30, 2014

During the period of June 21-30, 2014, where strong winds and cold nights are expected (for example over high ground areas in the southwestern and northeastern highlands), community is advised to take precautionary measures for their safety and property. Farmers and livestock keepers are strongly advised to seek professional advice from nearby agriculture and livestock extension officers.

BIMODAL AND UNIMODAL AREAS

1. *Bimodal areas:* Areas which experience two rainfall seasons (Oct - Dec/Jan and March - May). These are areas covering Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Mwanza, Mara, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions including northern parts of Kigoma region), northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions together with the Isles of Unguja and Pemba) and northeastern highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions).

2. *Unimodal areas:* Areas which experience one rainfall season (Nov - Apr). These are areas covering western areas (Kigoma, Rukwa, Katavi and Tabora regions), central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions), southwestern highlands (Njombe, Iringa and Mbeya region), southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) and southern areas (Ruvuma region).

Prepared by

TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY

3rd, 4th & 10th Floors - Ubungu Plaza - Morogoro Road.

P.O. Box 3056 Tel. 255 -(0) 22 - 2460706-8 ; Fax: 255 - (0) 22 - 2460718 E-mail: (1) met@meteo.go.tz (2) agromet1_tz@meteo.go.tz

Dar es Salaam UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA