# TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY

# DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Above normal rainfall observed over most of the country during April 1-10, 2016 with cases of heavy rainfall in few places.
- Above normal rainfall performance caused excessive soil moisture and flooding conditions in some areas.
- With the expected rainfall over the bimodal area during April 11-20, 2016, farmers over the bimodal area especially in lowland areas are advised to take precautions against damage of crops at germination stage due to excessive soil moisture.

**No: 21. 2015/16 Cropping Season** **Review for April 1-10, 2016 and Outlook for April 11-20, 2016**

## SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING APRIL 1-10, 2016

Pressure systems in the southern hemisphere high-pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) intensified while their counterparts to the north (Azores and Siberian) relaxed and caused the ITCZ to continue moving northwards. The slightly warm Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the South Eastern Atlantic Ocean (SEAO) closer to Angola coast as well as those over the Southwestern Indian Ocean and Central Indian Ocean were maintained. On the other hand persistently neutral to warm SSTs in the North West Indian Ocean (closer to Somali coast) were observed; these caused convergence of winds from north and westerly that influenced wet conditions over most part of the country.

## RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING APRIL 1-10, 2016

In view of the observed synoptic conditions during the period, most of the country received above normal rainfall with flooding cases in some areas including Kyela district (Mbeya region) and Chamwino district (Dodoma region). The highest decadal total rainfall was 416.9mm recorded over Tukuyu Meteorological station followed by Mbamba bay (357.9 mm), Ilonga (220 mm), Naliendele (192.0 mm), Hombolo (157.3 mm), Same (147.4 mm), Mahenge (146.0 mm) and Mtwara (144.0 mm). Figure 1 is Satellite Rainfall Estimates merged from GeoWRSI model merged with gauge data from Tanzania rainfall stations network showing rainfall performance in Tanzania as percentage of long term average during the dekad whereby most places in the country experienced above normal rainfall performance.

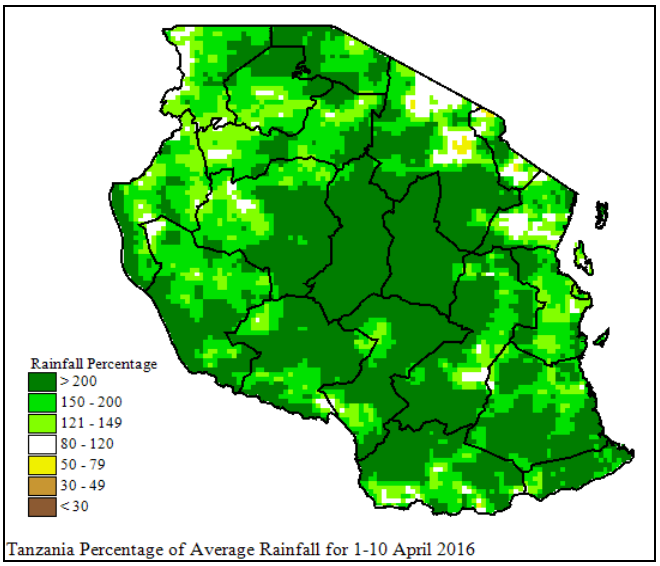


Figure 1: Rainfall performance during April 1-10, 2016 as percentage of long term average.

NOTE: In Figure 2, above normal rainfall is indicated by greenish-yellow and deep green colours, normal is indicated by white colour whereas below normal is indicated by yellow and blown colours.

## TEMPERATURE CONDITIONS DURING APRIL 1-10, 2016

Moderate temperature conditions prevailed in most places of the country.

## AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING APRIL 1-10, 2016

Above normal rainfall performance observed in the country caused excessive soil moisture leading to flooding conditions in some places. However farming activities over the bimodal area progressed well. Crops over the unimodal were also generally in good condition. Pasture and water availability for livestock and wildlife was good.

## HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING APRIL 1-10, 2016

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

## EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING APRIL 11-20, 2016

During the period, cool SSTs over the South-Eastern Atlantic Ocean closer to Angola coast, while slightly warm SSTs over the South-Western Indian Ocean and warm SSTs over the Central Indian Ocean are expected. Slightly neutral to warm SSTs in the North-West Indian Ocean (closer to Somali coast) are expected to persist and cause weak convergence of the northerlies and westerlies winds and influence wet conditions over the Lake Victoria basin, western, central and southern parts of the country, also weak easterlies to south-easterlies which will influence wet conditions over the nor-theastern highlands and coastal areas of the country. The remaining parts of the country are expected to experience few wet conditions due to these systems. However, chances of development of Tropical Cyclones in the South-Western Indian Ocean are likely during the period, which may influence intensity of the rainfall over the country depending on the position.

## EXPECTED WEATHER DURING APRIL 11-20, 2016

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mwanza, Mara, Geita, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions): rain showers and thunderstorms are expected. Northeastern highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions): few rain showers and thunderstorms are expected, especially during the first half of the dekad. Northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions, the isles of Unguja and Pemba): few isolated, rain showers and thunderstorms are expected, especially during the first half of the dekad. Western regions (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions): rain showers and thunderstorms are expected.Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions): few isolated, rain showers and thunderstorms are expected, especially during the first half of the period. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Iringa and Mbeya regions): rain showers and thunderstorms are expected. Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): few isolated, rain showers and thunderstorms are expected during the period. Southern region (Ruvuma region): rain showers and thunderstorms are expected.

## AGROMETEOLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING APRIL 11-20, 2016

The expected rainfall over the bimodal areas during April 11-20, 2016 may contribute to water lodging and possibly flooding of fields especially in lowland areas due to large amount of moisture that has already accumulated in the soil. This situation may damage crops at germination stage. Farmers are therefore advised to ensure that the excess water is well drained if that happens. However, farmers should always consult Agricultural Extension Officers in their localities whenever they plan their agricultural activities.

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