No: 28 2016/17 Cropping Season

Review for July 1-10 and Outlook for July 11-20, 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

- Dry condition continued to prevail over most of the country during July 1-10, 2017 with off-seasonal light rains observed in few areas of Mwanza and Kagera regions.
- Crops in most areas of the country were at full ripeness stage, with ongoing harvesting activities across the country.
- Periods of strong winds are likely to occur over coastal regions.
- Dry conditions will be favorable for crop harvesting, drying and storage, and it may lead to further declining in water and pastures for livestock. Livestock keepers are advised to make good use of the available water and pastures.

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING JULY 1-10, 2017

During the period under review, high pressure systems in the southern hemisphere (St. Helena and Mascarene) remained intensified, enhancing the overland East African Ridge. On the other hand, the high pressure systems in the northern hemisphere (Azores and Siberia) remained relaxed. The situation contributed to northward movement of the Inter-tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ). Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the western Indian Ocean were slightly warm whereas over the western Atlantic Ocean (close to Angola coast) warm to neutral SSTs were observed.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING JULY 1-10, 2017

In view of the observed synoptic features, the dry condition continued to prevail in the country as illustrated in Figure 1. However, off-seasonal light rainfall featured in few areas of Kagera and Mwanza regions, particularly in Ukerewe Island.

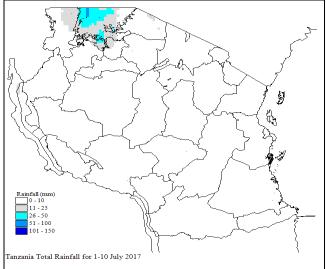


Figure 1: Total rainfall during July 1-10, 2017

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING JULY 1-10, 2017

Crops in most areas of the country were at full ripeness stage, with ongoing harvesting activities across the country. Water and pasture availability for livestock declined over some areas of Simiyu, Arusha and Manyara regions. Other areas had moderate water and pasture conditions.

HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING July 1-10, 2017

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges slightly decreased over most areas of the country due to the ongoing dry and windy conditions.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING JULY 11-20, 2017

Outhern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to intensify significantly and strengthen further the East African Ridge. The northern hemisphere high pressure systems are expected to relax, thus allowing the ITCZ to continue moving northwards away from the country. SSTs are expected to continue being slightly warm over tropical western Indian Ocean and warm to neutral over the southeastern Atlantic Ocean (closer to Angola coast). Due to intensification of the southern hemisphere high pressure systems, cool temperatures are likely to occur over most of the country and strong winds are also expected particularly the coastal regions.

EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING JULY 11-20, 2017

The country is expected to experience dry conditions with cool to cold temperatures due to intensification of the southern hemisphere pressure systems. However, off seasonal light rains are expected over few areas of Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mwanza, Mara, Geita, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions), northeastern highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions), northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions, the isles of Unguja and Pemba) and southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Iringa, Songwe and Mbeya regions). Periods of strong winds are also likely to occur over coastal regions including Tanga, Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Lindi, Mtwara, Pwani regions and the isles of Unguja and Pemba.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING JULY 11-20, 2017

Favourable condition is likely for crop harvesting, drying and storage due to dryness. However, dry conditions coupled with strong winds will lead to further decline in water for livestock. Pastoralists are advised to make good use of the available water and pasture resources in consultation with extension officers.

HYDROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING JULY 11-20, 2017

Water levels in dams and river flow discharge are expected to continue decreasing over most parts of the country due to the ongoing dry conditions coupled with strong winds. Water users are advised to make good use of the available water.