

No.36: 2018/19 Cropping Season

Review for September 11-20, 2019 and Outlook for September 21 - 30, 2019

HIGHLIGHTS

- Farmers in bimodal areas are continuing with land preparation for the coming "Vuli" rains
- The expected dry conditions over the unimodal areas will 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 SEPTEMBER 11-20, 2019

uring this dekad, the northern hemisphere high pressure systems (Azore and Siberian) intensified while the southern high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) relaxed. This scenario forced the meridional arm of the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone further to the western Lake Victoria basin and western sector of the country with isolated thundershowers mainly during the first half of the dekad. Slightly warm Sea Surface Temperature (SSTs) over the western Indian Ocean persisted and favored weak depression that enhanced the southerly to southeasterly moisture flux towards the coastal belt with light rain showers. During the last half of the dekad, the slight enhanced warmer SST over the southeast Atlantic Ocean (Angola coast) weaken and this enhances the westerly moist wind to blow towards the western sector of the country favoring dry condition alongside.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING SEPTEMBER 11 - 20, 2019

D uring the dekad, most parts of the country were generally dry except for a few areas over east, south and western parts of the Lake Victoria, easten and northen parts of Kigoma region received off seasonal rains. The amount of rainfall recorded ranged from 11 mm to 50 mm as shown.

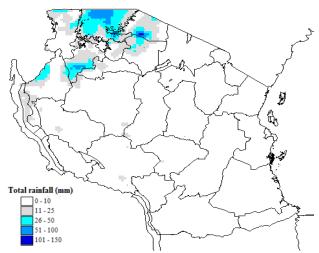


Figure 1: Total rainfall for the period of September 1 - 10, 2019.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING SEPTEMBER 11 - 20, 2019

armers in bimodal areas continued with land preparation for the coming "Vuli" season, except in Kagera region where planting of maize and beans crops were going on. Over the unimodal areas, farmers have started land preparations for the coming "Msimu" rainy season which normally expected to start between November and December. Water and pasture availability for livestock have been decrease over much of Mwanza, Mara, Simiyu, Shinyanga, Singida, Arusha, Manyara and Dodoma regions. Other areas had moderate water and pasture conditions.

HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING SEPTEMBER 11-20 2019

Water levels in dams and river flow discharges continued decreasing over most areas of the country due to the ongoing dry condition.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2019

During the first half of this dekad the southern high pressure systems are expected to continue relaxing while the northern high pressure systems intensifying. This situation will squeeze the meridional arm of the ITCZ further to extreme northern part of the country. During the second half of the dekad, the southern high pressure systems are expected to intensify and likely to enhance strong winds along the entire coast. The slightly warmer SST over the western Indian Ocean are expected to continue fostering isolated light rain showers over the northern coast during the second half of the dekad. Slightly enhanced warmer SST over the Angola coast is expected to persist and become much stronger during the second half of the dekad, favoring weak westerly wind towards the western sector of the country.

EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS DURING SEPTEMBER 21 - 30, 2019

n view of the expected weather areas around Lake Victoria basin (Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu and Mara regions) are expected to feature isolated Thundershowers particularly over western sector of the Lake Victoria basin.

Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions) are expected to feature mainly partly cloudy conditions with isolated light rain showers towards the end of the dekad.

Northern coast (Tanga, Northern part of Morogoro, Coast and Dar es Salaam regions together with isles of Unguja and Pemba) are expected to feature isolated light rain showers over few areas mainly during the second half of the dekad. Western areas (Kigoma, Katavi and Tabora regions), central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions), southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe and Iringa regions), southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) and southern region (Ruvuma and Southern part of Morogoro regions) are expected to feature partly cloudy and generally dry conditions.

EXPECTED AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2019

The expected dry conditions over most parts of the unimodal areas may lead to further reduction of water for livestock and human use. The expected rains will be beneficial for farm preparation over bimodal regime. Farmers, fishers and livestock keepers are advised to consult extension officers for optimal use of this forecast and advisory.

EXPECTED HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30 2019

ater levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to continue declining over much of the country due to ongoing dry conditions. Water users are advised to use available water carefully especially where forecast has shown poor rainfall performance.