



**Agrometeorological Bulletin № 05, Dekad 2, February (11– 20) 2021
Issued on 22nd February 2021**

Summary

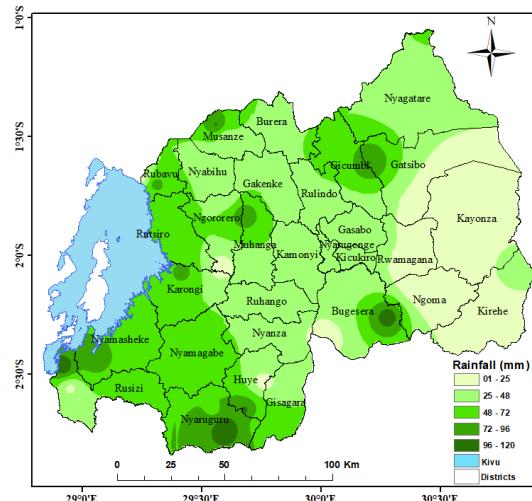
The second dekad of February 2021 from 11th to 20th, showed that the country characterized by wet weather conditions in many parts of the country but there was a slight rainfall reduction in Eastern Province compared to the climatology. Above normal rainfall was recorded in few part of Eastern Province and in many parts of Southern and Western Provinces . The highest rainfall amount was recorded in Southern Province at Cyahinda station with 120.2 mm in 6 rain-days, followed by Kamembe Aero station with 110.3 mm in 8 rain-days and Karama Kilimbi Station located in Eastern Province with 109.5 mm in 5 rain-days. The lowest rainfall less than 10mm was recorded at Mwiri, Zaza and Kirehe stations all located in Eastern Province. The temperature was generally within the range of Long Term Mean. The main activity during the second dekad was post-harvesting activities in most parts of the country.

1.0 Rainfall Pattern

This section provides the overview of observed rainfall amount, rainfall anomalies, comparison of observed rainfall with LTM, rainy-days and available soil moisture.

1.1 Rainfall Amount

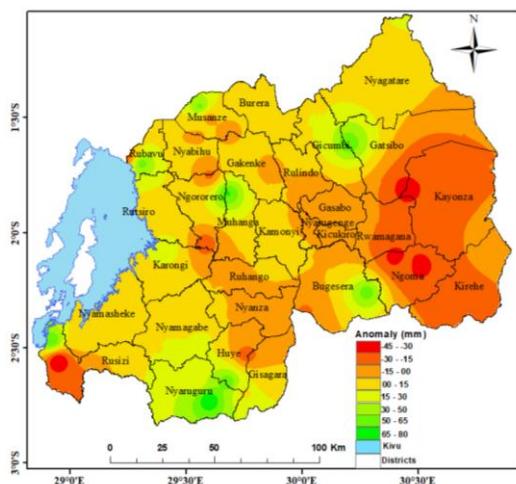
The actual total rainfall amount recorded in the second dekad of February, 2021 is presented in Map 1, it was observed that this dekad was wet in many parts of Southern and Western Province and in few part of Northeastern Province where those parts recorded above normal rainfall. The highest rainfall amount was recorded in Southern Province at Cyahinda station with 120.2 mm in 6 rain-days, followed by Kamembe Aero station with 110.3 mm in 8 rain-days and Karama Kilimbi Station located in Eastern Province with 109.5 mm in 5 rain-days.



Map 1: Rainfall amount during 2ndDekad of February 2021

1.2 Rainfall Anomaly (Deficiency and Surplus)

The rainfall anomaly as shown in map 2, shows that many parts of Eastern Province, some parts of Kigali City, part of Amayaga in Southern Province and South Western Province (Bugarama) experienced deficit rainfall..



Map 2: Rainfall anomaly during 2nd Dekad of February 2021

1.3. Comparison of Observed rainfall with Long Term Mean for the dekad 1.

The comparison of recorded rainfall amount and long term mean records for the 2nd dekad across the country are shown in figure 1 and 2. above normal conditions were experienced specifically in Southern and Western Provinces, and in some parts of Eastern Province in this dekad.

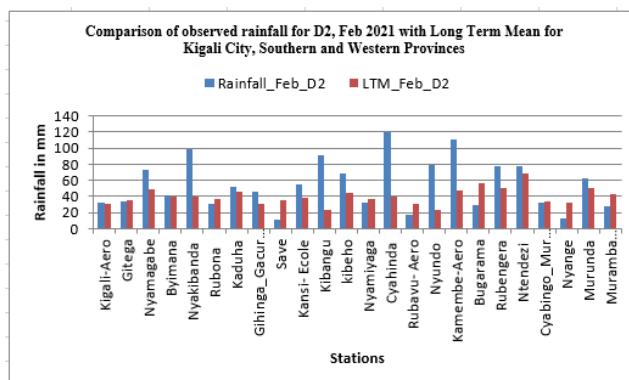


Figure1: Comparsion of observed rainfall with long term mean for the dekad 2 in Kigali City, Southern and Western Provinces.

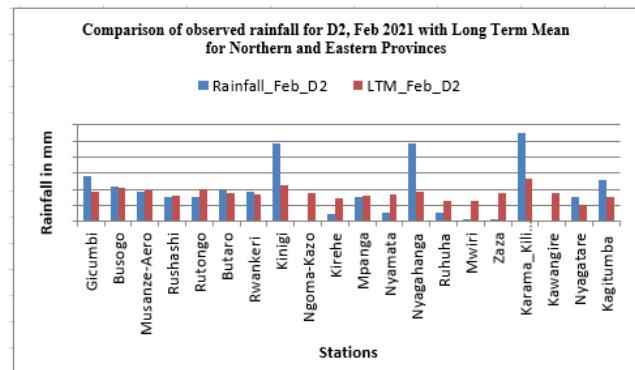
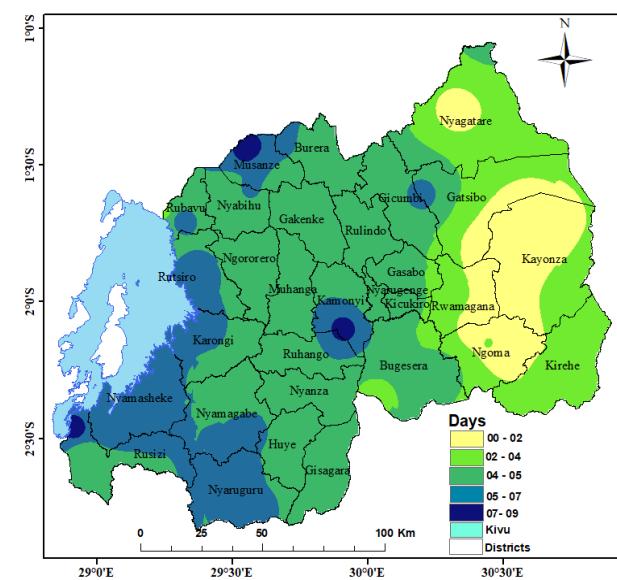


Figure 2: Comparison of Observed rainfall with long term mean for the dekad 2 in Nothern and Eastern Provinces.

1.4 Number of Rain Days

The Map 3 shows the distribution of number of rain days across the country. A rainy day is defined as a day with at least 0.85mm of rainfall. The distribution shows that rainy days ranged between 1 and 8 rainy days over many stations in the country. The distribution of rain days affected post-harvesting activities in many parts of the country. Rainy days are expected to vary between two (2) and four (4) days in the third dekad of February 2021.



Map 3: Rainy days for dekad 2 of February 2021

1.5 Soil moisture condition

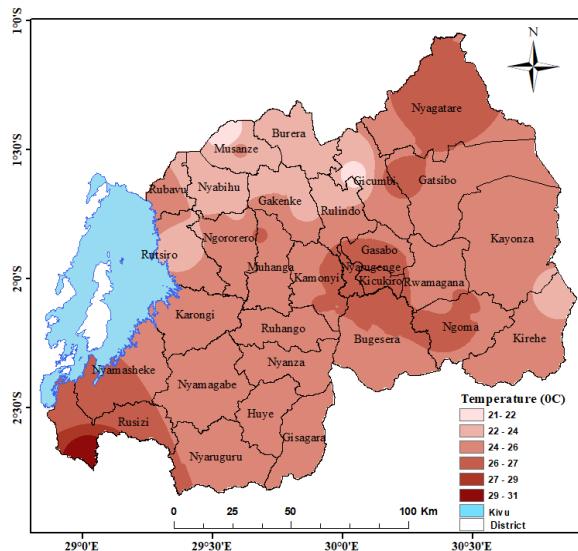
This section shows the available soil moisture content across the country. The soil moisture was increased over most parts of the country due to wet weather conditions experienced. The soil moisture content will continue to increase in the third dekad of February 2021 due to expected rainfall in the next dekad.

2.0 Temperature observation

The average maximum and Minimum temperature across the country is highlighted in the section below.

2.1 Mean Maximum Temperature

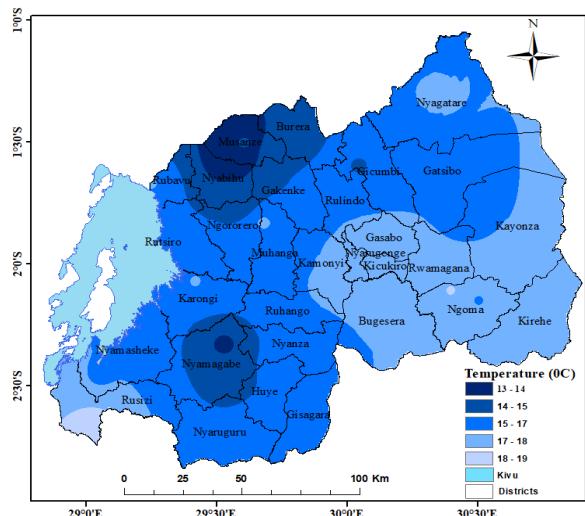
Map 4 shows the actual mean maximum temperature distribution across the country which indicates that the southwestern parts, Eastern Province and Kigali City were warmer than the rest of the country. The mean maximum temperature ranged between 20.7°C and 30.6°C at Kinigi and Bugarama stations respectively.



Map 4: Mean Maximum Temperature for dekad2 February 2021

2.2 Minimum Temperature

The average minimum temperature across the country is shown in Map 5. The Northern and Southern Provinces experienced colder temperature than the other parts of the country. The minimum temperature ranged between 12.8°C and 19.2°C at Busogo and Bugarama stations respectively.



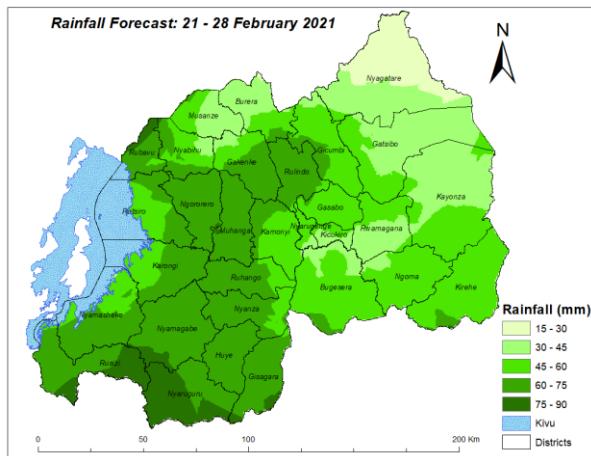
Map 5: Mean Minimum Temperature for dekad2 February 2021

3.0 Weather Outlook and Agricultural advisories for the second dekad (21-28) February, 2021.

3.1 Weather Outlook for the third dekad of February 2021.

Rainfall expected between 21st and 28th February 2021 will range between 15 and 90 mm across the country. Reduction of rainfall compared to the last dekad is expected. Normal rainfall conditions for February dekad 3 are expected in many parts of the country except in Southern Province where slightly above normal rainfall is expected. Rainy days are expected to vary between two (2) and four (4) days and are evenly distributed in the dekad. The expected rainfall is due to the northward migration of Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ).

- **Eastern Province:** Expected rainfall is ranging between 15 and 60 mm. Rainfall ranging between 15 and 30 mm is expected from northern to central parts of Nyagatare. Rainfall ranging between 30 and 45 mm is expected in southern parts of Nyagatare, central to eastern parts of Gatsibo, northern and central parts of Kayonza, southern parts of Rwanamagana and a small part of northern Bugesera. Rainfall ranging between 45 and 60 mm is expected in Kirehe, Ngoma and remaining parts of Bugesera, Rwanamagana, Kayonza and Gatsibo districts.
- **Kigali City:** Rainfall ranging between 30 and 60 mm is expected. Southern part of Kicukiro and South eastern Nyarugenge are expected to receive rainfall ranging between 30 and 45mm while Gasabo District and northern parts of Nyarugenge and Kicukiro are expected to receive rainfall ranging between 45 and 60 mm.
- **Southern Province:** Expected rainfall will range between 45 and 90 mm. Rainfall ranging between 45 and 60 mm is expected from central to eastern parts of Kamonyi, eastern parts of Ruhango and Nyanza. Rainfall ranging between 60 and 75 mm is expected in Muhanga, Huye and Gisagara districts, most parts of Nyamagabe and remaining parts of Ruhango and Nyanza districts. Rainfall ranging between 75 and 90 mm is expected in South and western parts of Nyaruguru and a small part of southern Nyamagabe district.
- **Western Province:** Expected rainfall will range between 30 and 90 mm. Rainfall ranging between 30 and 45 mm is expected in small part of north eastern Nyabihu. Rainfall ranging between 45 and 60 mm is expected in central and northern parts of Nyabihu, western parts of Rutsiro, Karongi and Nyamasheke districts. Rainfall ranging between 60 and 75 mm is expected in Ngororero, Rubavu, remaining parts of Nyabihu, Nyamasheke, Karongi and Rutsiro and most parts of Rusizi except eastern part of Rusizi and Bugarama plain where rainfall ranging between 75 and 90 mm is expected.
- **Northern Province:** Expected rainfall will range between 30 and 75 mm. Rainfall ranging between 30 and 45 mm is expected in eastern parts of Musanze district and northern parts of Burera. Rainfall ranging between 45 and 60 mm is expected in remaining parts of Musanze and Burera, northern parts of Gakenke and most part of Gicumbi district. Rainfall ranging between 60 and 75 mm is expected in Rulindo district, small part of western Gicumbi and remaining parts of Gakenke.



Map 6: Rainfall Forecast for the second dekad of February 2021

3.2 Agricultural Activity/Advisories

Generally, in most parts of the country, seasonal crops are on post-harvesting period. The focus in these coming days should be on the farming preparation activities as we move towards start agricultural season B. Farmers are advised to work closely with Agriculture Extension Officers for detailed information which will support their agriculture activities. For more meteorological information you can visit Meteo Rwanda's website: www.meteorwanda.gov.rw or call the toll free number 6080.