



**Highlights:**

- **The overall cumulative rainfall** for dekad2\_March\_2018; we observe that only at Musanze and Rusizi station the amount was little while elsewhere it was an above normal situation
- The soil moisture content kept on increasing for the rainy period we had, especially the eastern part where they experienced a wet spell stretching from the 1<sup>st</sup> dekad up to the second dekad of March\_2018
- The rainfall during third and last dekad of March\_2018; we expect rain to **continue** being in the above normal range and to have more rains over the western part compared to the rest of the country

**I. Introduction**

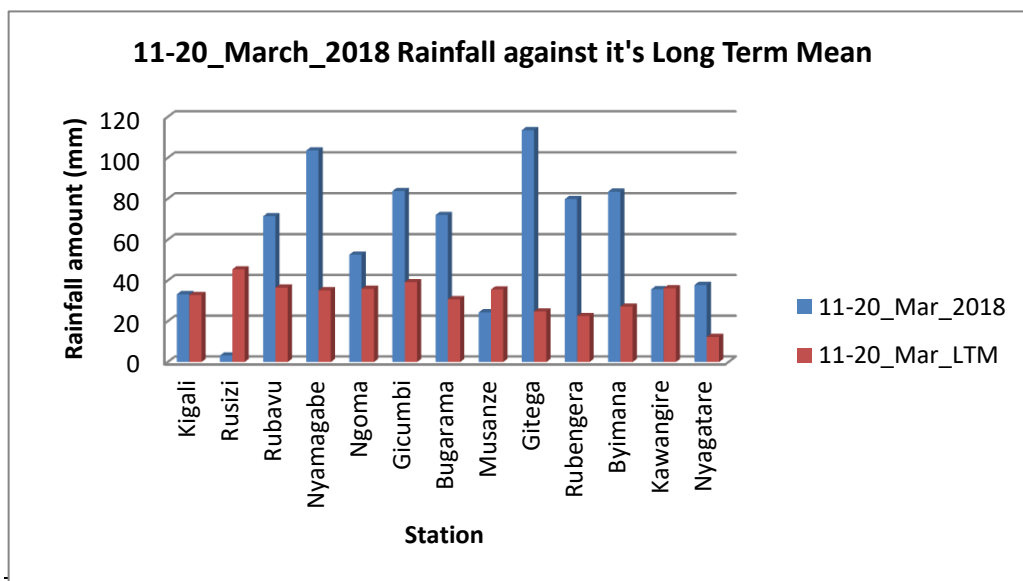
The 2<sup>nd</sup> dekad of March\_2018 had rains that generally ranged in the above normal except only two stations of Musanze and Rusizi that recorded amount of rain that is little compared to the rest of the country and the long term mean at each station

a) The table and histogram below indicates the rainfall recorded during dekad2 March\_2018:

**Cumulative rainfall (in mm) recorded at different stations**

Station	11-20_Mar_2018	11-20_Mar_LTM
Kigali	33.3	32.9
Rusizi (Kamembe)	3.2	45.5
Rubavu (Gisenyi)	71.5	36.5
Nyamagabe (Gikongoro)	103.6	35.2
Ngoma (Kibungo)	52.7	35.9
Gicumbi (Byumba)	83.8	39.2
Bugarama	72.1	30.8
Musanze (Ruhengeri)	24.4	35.6
Gitega	113.5	24.8
Rubengera	79.9	22.6
Byimana	83.5	27.2
Kawangire	35.7	36.2
Nyagatare	37.8	12.3

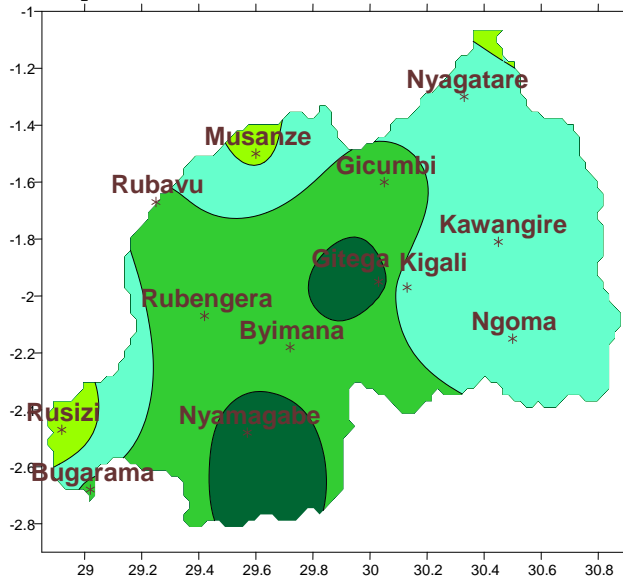
*Table1*



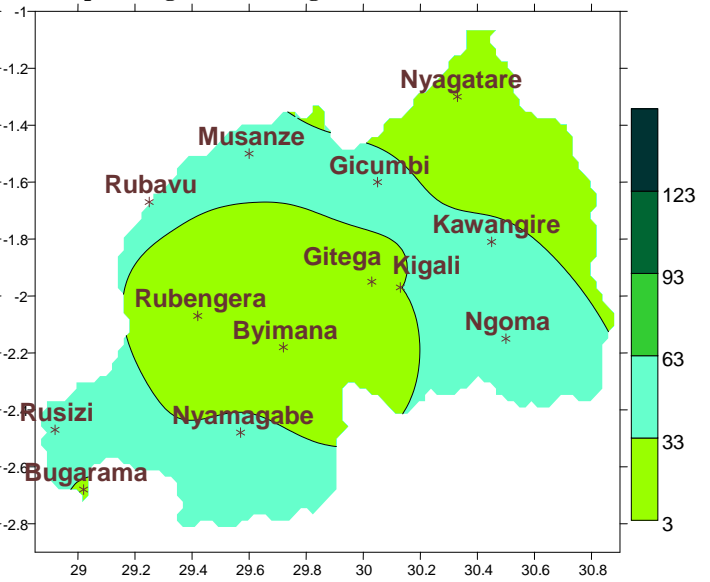
*Plot1*

b) **Rainfall analysis:** The maps “**Map 1 and 2**” below show the cumulative rainfall recorded during dekad2 March\_2018 and the cumulative rainfall for the same period  
 The maps “**map 3 and 4**” show the cumulative rainfall recorded during dekad1 March\_2018 and the cumulative rainfall for the same period

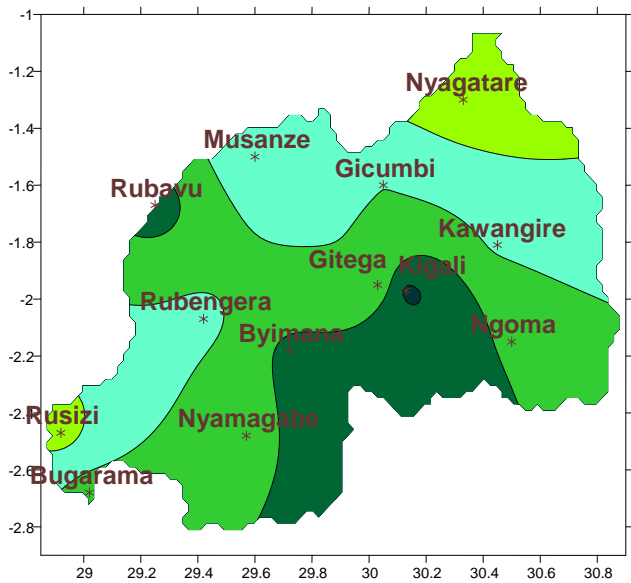
**Map1: Total Rainfall (mm): dekad2\_Mar\_2018**



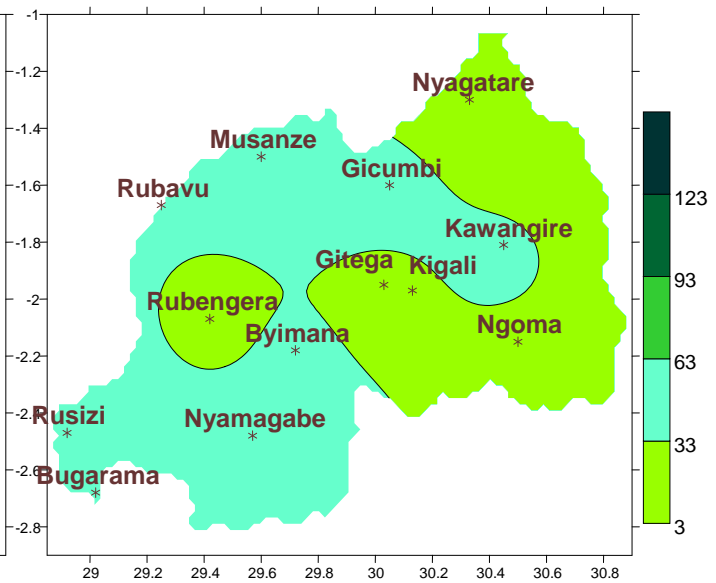
**Map2: Long Term Average Rainfall (mm): dekad2\_Mar\_LTM**



**Map1: Total Rainfall (mm): dekad1\_Mar\_2018**



**Map2: Long Term Average Rainfall (mm): dekad1\_Mar\_LTM**

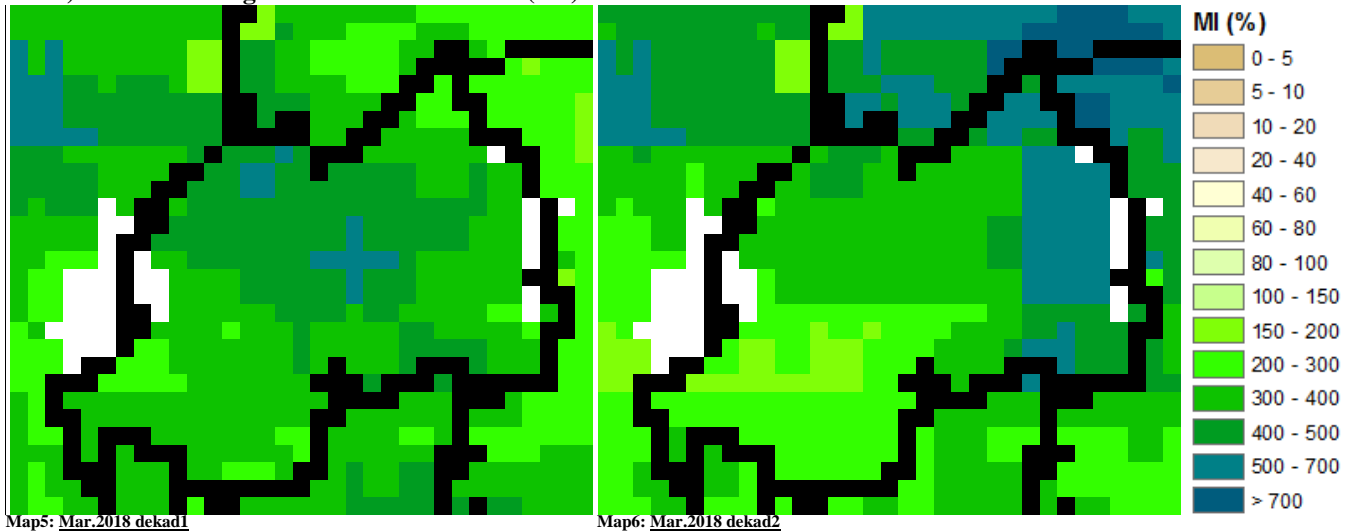


**II. Detailed observed rainfall during the dekad2\_March\_2018**

Cumulative rainfall for dekad2\_March\_2018 shows an above normal except at only two stations of Musanze and Rusizi that recorded amount of rain that is little compared to the rest of the country and the long term mean at each station (see **Map1&2**) while for dekad1\_March\_2018 was higher than normal at every representative station (see **Map3&4**)

### III. Agricultural impact.

#### a) Satellite images: Soil Moisture Index (MI)

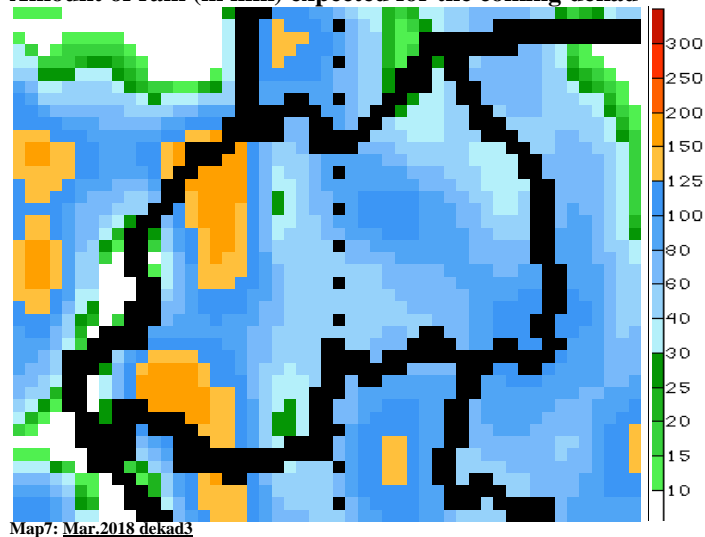


Observing the dekad1 to dekad2\_March\_2018 satellite derived moisture index; we see a gradually increase of moisture content in dekad2 as result of wet spell we have experienced during the same period (see **Map 5&6**)

#### b) Rainfall forecast for dekad3\_January\_2018

The distribution of rains during dekad3\_March\_2018 is expected to have the same pattern as what was observed within the second dekad of March\_2018; with the west as to have more rainfall amount compared to the rest of the country

#### Amount of rain (in mm) expected for the coming dekad



**N.B:** This forecast should be used in conjunction with the daily (24-hour), Three (3), Five (5) and Seven (7) days forecasts issued by the Rwanda Meteorology Agency (Meteo Rwanda)