



Agrometeorological Bulletin N° 33, Dekad3, November (21– 30) 2020 Issued on 3rd December 2020

Summary

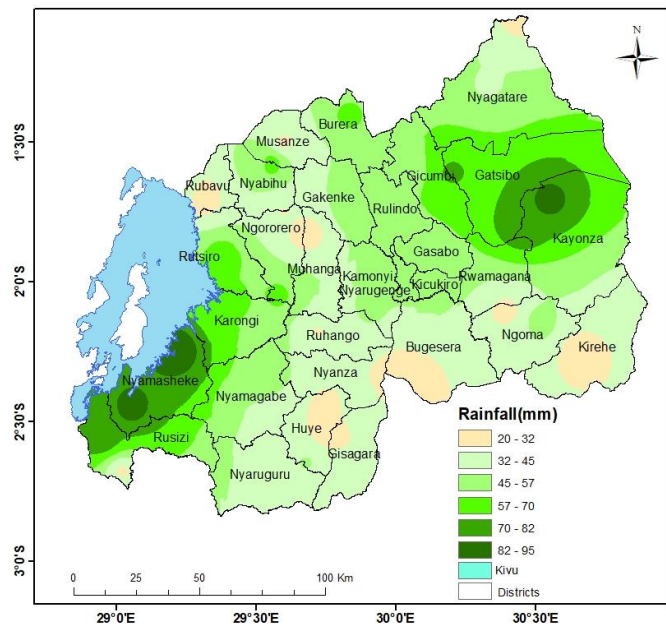
The third Dekad (21-30) of November 2020; indicated that the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) is still well located over the region and rainfall activities are well established across the country. Normal to above normal rainfall was recorded in most parts although few parts of the country recorded below normal rainfall. The highest rainfall amount was recorded, Nyamasheke District at Karama-Kirimbi station with 94.7mm in 5 rain-days, followed by Ntendezi station with 89.2mm in 9 rain-days both in Western Province and Kawangire station in Eastern Province with 81.3mm in 7 rain-days. The lowest rainfall less than 20mm was recorded in Eastern Province at Ruhuha station with 19.9mm. The temperature was within the range of Long Term Mean. The maximum temperature ranged between 19.7°C at Kinigi and 30.0°C at Bugarama stations. Minimum temperature ranged between 10.8°C at Musanze Airport and 18.3°C at Bugarama stations respectively.

1.0 Rainfall Pattern

This section provides the overview of observed rainfall amount, rainy-days and available soil moisture for the third dekad of November 2020.

1.1 Rainfall Amount

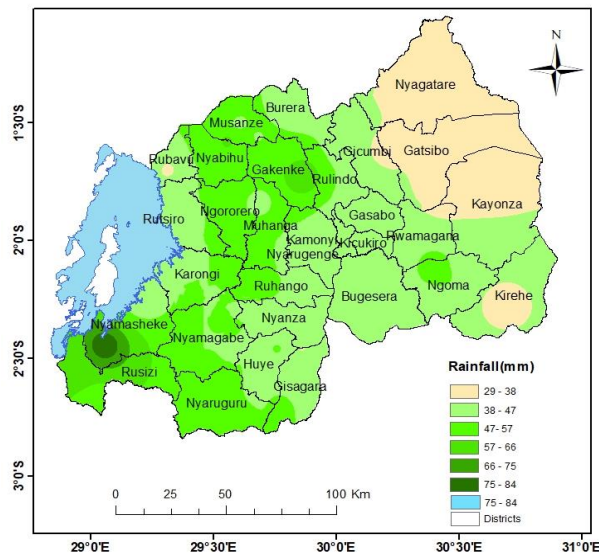
The actual total rainfall amount recorded in the third dekad of November, 2020 is presented in Map 1. On daily basis it was observed that third dekad received light to moderate rainfall in most parts of the country. Western and Eastern Provinces were comparatively wet. Stations across the country recorded good rainfall which was favourable for rainfed agriculture.



Map 1: Rainfall amount during 3rd Dekad of November 2020

1.2 Rainfall climatology for the 3rd dekad of November

The rainfall climatology for the 3rd dekad of November is shown in map 2, and it indicates that normally the rainfall ranges from 28.6 to 84.5mm across the country depending on the region. Comparing to the current dekad of November 2020 and the Long Term Mean (LTM) for the same period; it was observed that the current dekad was wet in Western and Eastern Provinces.

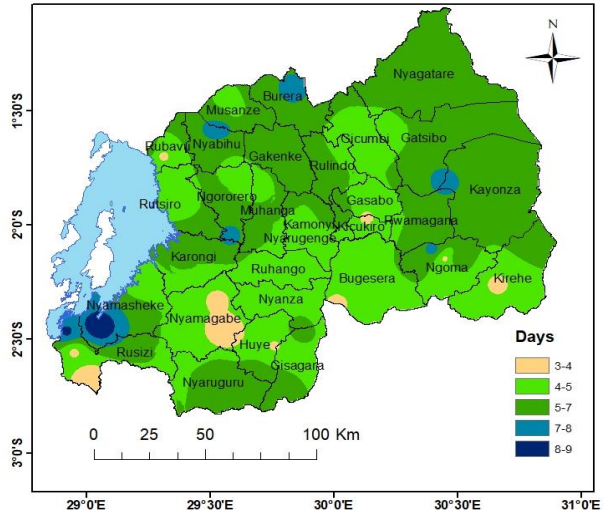


Map 2: Rainfall amount during 3rd Dekad of November (LTM)

1.3. 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.

As it is shown in map 3, most parts of the country had 3 to 9 rainy days. The rainfall distribution was adequate and suitable for rain-fed agriculture across the country. During the forecasting period (first dekad of December 2020) rainy days will be varying between 2 and 5 with decreasing trend toward the end of the dekad.



Map 3: Rainy days for dekad3 of November 2020

1.4 Soil moisture index

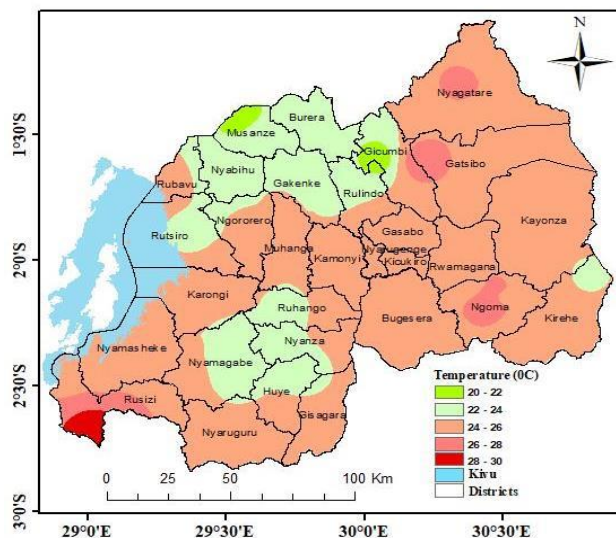
This section shows the available soil moisture across the country. The soil moisture showed a normal to surplus soil moisture over most parts of the country due to wet weather conditions experienced during the third dekad of November 2020. The soil moisture will continue to be better for crops in the first dekad of December 2020 due to the expected wet weather conditions.

2.0 Temperature observation

The average maximum and Minimum temperature across the country during the third dekad of November 2020 is highlighted in the section below.

2.1 Mean Maximum Temperature

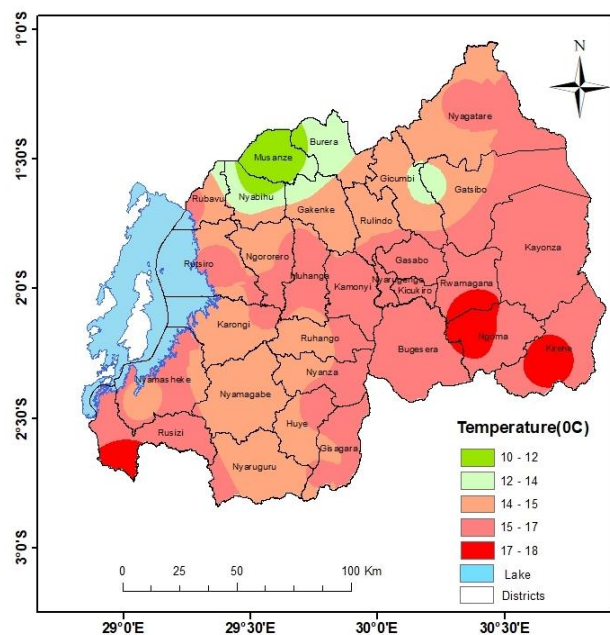
Map 4 shows the actual mean maximum temperature distribution across the country which indicates that the south western parts, Kigali City, northern and southern parts of the Eastern Province were warmer than the Northern, Southern and the Western Provinces. The mean maximum temperature ranged between 19.7⁰C and 27.5⁰C with exceptional case of slightly high temperature of 30.0⁰C recorded at Bugarama station.



Map 4: Mean Maximum Temperature for dekad3 November 2020

2.2 Minimum Temperature

The average minimum temperature across the country is shown in Map 5. The Northern part experienced colder temperature than the other parts of the country. The minimum temperature ranged between 10.8⁰C at Musanze Airport station and 18.3⁰C at Bugarama station respectively.



Map 5: Mean Minimum Temperature for dekad3 November 2020

3.0 Weather Outlook and Agricultural advisories for the first dekad (01-10) December, 2020.

3.1 Weather Outlook for the first dekad of December 2020.

Rainfall expected between 1st and 10th December 2020, will result from Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) which is drifting towards Southern Hemisphere. The forecasted rainfall will range between 20 and 120mm across the country and the distribution is highlighted below:

Eastern Province: Rainfall ranging between 20 and 80mm is expected in Eastern Province. western parts of Kayonza and Ngoma, most parts of Rwamagana and Bugesera, south_ western part of Gatsibo and northern part of Nyagatare are expected to record less rainfall ranging between 20 and 40mm. The entire Kirehe District and eastern parts of Kayonza, Gatsibo along the border and south east of Nyagatare are expected to receive between 60 and 80 mm in ten days. The remaining parts are expected to receive between 40 and 60 mm of rainfall.

Kigali City: Rainfall ranging between 20 and 60mm is expected in Kigali. Kicukiro District and eastern part of Gasabo are expected to receive between 20 and 40 mm while Nyarugenge District and remaining part of Gasabo will receive between 40 and 60mm.

Southern Province: It is expected to receive rainfall ranging between 40 and 120mm. eastern part of Kamonyi bordering Kigali and Bugesera is expected to receive between 40 and 60 mm, the entire Nyaruguru District together with Southern parts of Huye, Nyamagabe, and Gisagara are expected to receive between 100 and 120 mm. Remaining parts of the Province are expected to receive between 60 and 100mm.

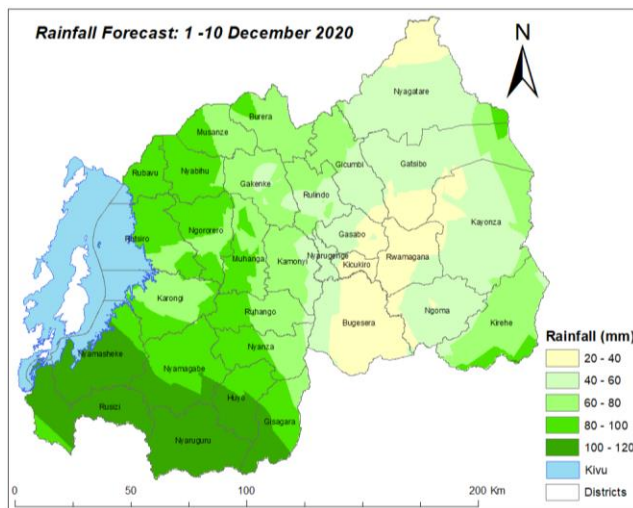
Western Province: Most parts of Rusizi and Nyamasheke are expected to receive rainfall ranging between 100 and 120 mm except Bugarama valley and northern part of

Nyamasheke which are expected to receive between 80 and 100 mm. Remaining Districts are expected to receive rainfall ranging between 60 and 100mm.

Northern Provinces: It is expected to receive rainfall ranging between 40 and 100mm. Rainfall ranging between 80 and 100mm is expected in western parts of Musanze and north western parts of Burera, rainfall ranging between 40 and 60mm is expected in southern parts of Rulindo and Gicumbi and central parts of Gakenke while the remaining parts are expected to receive rainfall ranging between 60 and 80mm.

3.2 Agricultural Activity/Advisories

The flowering of seasonal crops is in the undergoing stage in most parts of the country; weeding and application of pesticides where necessary will be the main activity for coming ten days. Farmers are advised to work closely with Agriculture Extension Officers for more 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.



Map 6: Rainfall Forecast for the first dekad of December 2020