



Agrometeorological Bulletin N° 25, Dekad1, September (01– 10) 2020 Issued on 13th September 2020

Summary

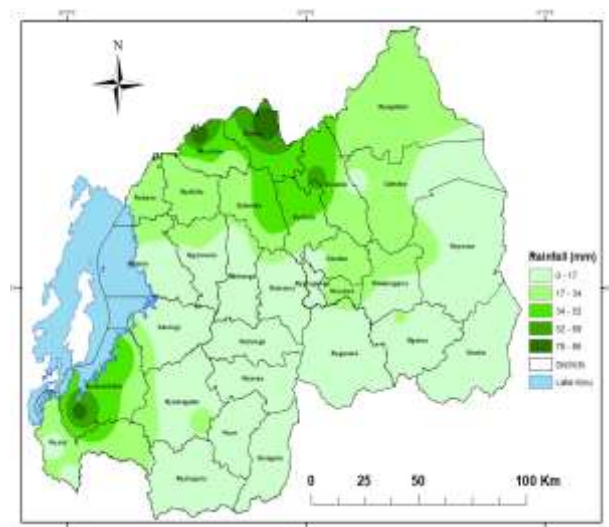
In the first Dekad (01- 10) of September 2020; indicated that the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) was near our region especially in the northern part of the country and rainfall activities was well observed in some parts of the country. Normal to above-normal rainfall was recorded in the Northern and Western Provinces, the Southern, Central and Eastern Provinces recorded normal to below rainfall. The highest rainfall amount was recorded in Northern Province at Kinigi station with 85.9mm in 4 rain days, followed by Butaro station with 80.5mm in 3rain-days and Ntendezi station with 76mm in 4 rain-day. The lowest rainfall less than 1mm was recorded at Mpanga station (0.3mm), Ruhuha station (0.4) and Kaduha that recorded 0.7mm. The temperature was within the range of Long Term Mean. The maximum temperature ranged between 21.5°C at Gicumbi station, and 31.8°C at Bugarama station. Minimum temperature ranged between 11.6°C at Busogo and 19.0°C at Bugarama stations. The wetness indicates good moisture conditions for agriculture activities including land preparation and seed planting it's expected to continue in the following dekad.

1.0 Rainfall Pattern

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

1.1 Rainfall Amount

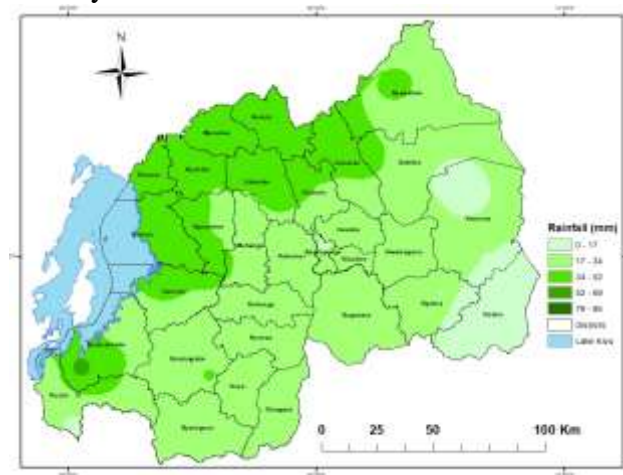
The actual total rainfall amount recorded in the first dekad of September, 2020 is presented in Map 1. On daily basis it was observed that this dekad received light to moderate rainfall in most parts of the country. The Northern and Western parts of the country received much rainfall compared to the other parts of the country. The accumulation of rainfall in ten days ranged from 85.9mm at Kinigi station which was the highest recorded in 4days and the lowest was less than 1mm was observed at Mpanga, Kaduha and Ruhuha stations.



Map 1: Rainfall amount during 1st Dekad of September 2020

1.2 Rainfall climatology for the 1st dekad of September

The rainfall climatology for the 1st dekad of September is shown in map 2, which indicates that rainfall ranged from 13.1mm to 55.8mm across the country. Comparing the 1st dekad of September 2020 and the Long Term Mean (LTM) for the same period; it was observed that in all parts of the country, the first dekad recorded slightly less rainfall compared to the Long Term Mean in most part of the country except in Northern and Southwestern parts of the country.

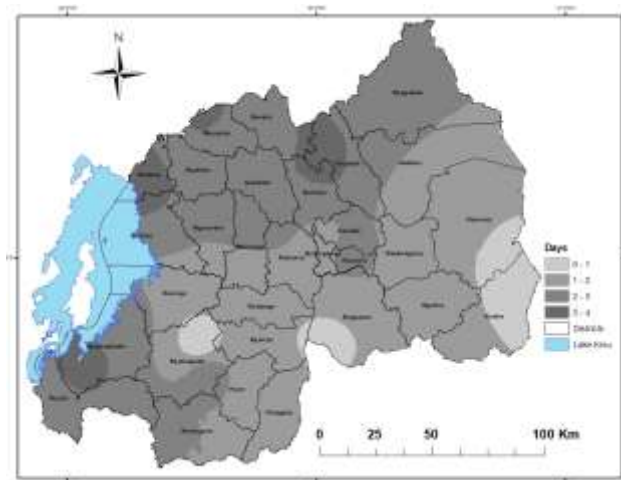


Map 2: Rainfall amount during 1st Dekad of September (LTM)

1.3. Number of Rain Days

Map 3 shows the distribution of number of rain-days across the country. A rainy day is defined as a day with rainfall of 0.85mm or more.

At least a total of 2 days were observed at most stations in the country except Kaduha, Ruhuha and Mpanga that had no rainy day within the dekad, Stations in the North and West recorded as high as 3 to 4 rain-days



Map 3: Rainy days for dekad1 of September 2020

1.4 Soil moisture index

This section shows the available soil moisture across the country. Soil moisture showed a slight increase over most parts of the country due to wet weather conditions experienced during the first dekad of September 2020. The soil moisture will increase during the second dekad of September 2020 due to the expected wet weather conditions.

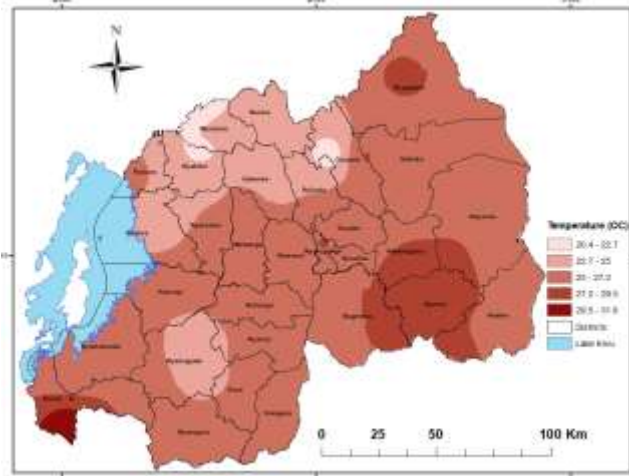
2.0 Temperature observation

The average maximum and Minimum temperature across the country during the first dekad of September 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 Province, Kigali City, Northern and Southern parts of the Eastern Province were warmer compared to Northern and Southern Provinces.

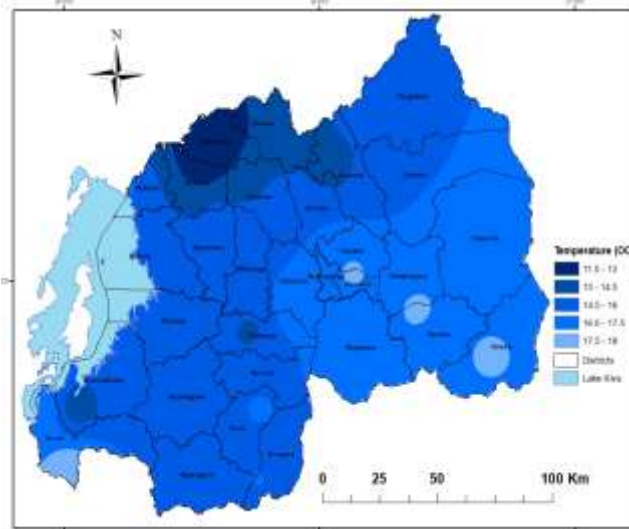
However, in most parts of the country the mean maximum temperature ranged between 21.5⁰C and 28.8⁰C with exceptional case of slightly high temperature of 31.8⁰C at Bugarama station.



Map 4: Mean Maximum Temperature for dekad1 September 2020

2.2 Minimum Temperature

The average minimum temperature across the country is shown in Map 5. The Northern part experienced colder temperature compared to other parts of the country. The minimum temperature ranged between 11.6⁰C at Busogo and 19.0⁰C at Bugarama.

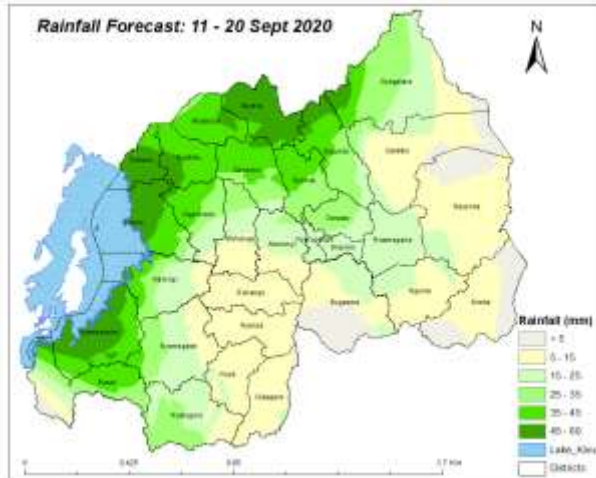


Map 5: Mean Minimum Temperature for dekad1 of September 2020

3.0 Weather Outlook and Agricultural advisory for the second dekad (11-20) September, 2020.

3.1 Weather Outlook for the second dekad of September 2020.

The map 6 below show the Rainfall forecast. The rainfall expected from 11th to 20th September 2020 will range between 0 and 60mm countrywide. Less than 15 mm of rainfall is expected in most parts of Eastern Province, Gatsibo, Kayonza, Bugesera, Kirehe and Ngoma, in Southern Province (Huye, Gisagara, Nyanza, Ruhango, southern parts of Kamonyi and Muhanga and eastern parts of Nyamagabe and Nyaruguru. Rainfall ranging between 45 and 60mm is expected in Districts of Rubavu, Burera, parts of Gicumbi, Nyabihu, Rutsiro and Nyamasheke. Rainfall ranging between 35 to 45 mm is expected in remaining parts of Nyamasheke and Rutsiro, in Musanze district, western part of Karongi, Ngororero and Nyagatare, in northern parts of Gakenke, Rulindo and Gicumbi. The remaining parts are expected to receive rainfall ranging between 15 and 35mm as shown in the map below. The expected rain is associated with drifting of Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) toward our region. The rainfall will be well distributed along the dekad, with rain starting from 12th to 18th across many parts of the country. The rain will be within the range of Long Term Mean of September dekad2.



Map 6: Rainfall Forecast for second dekad of September 2020

3.2 Agricultural Activity/Advisories

Stakeholders in Agricultural sector are advised to fast track land preparation activities, seed and fertilizers delivery to the farmers, timely planting and encourage agricultural practices that increases soil water holding capacity. Sowing of main staple food crops and vegetables will be the main activity in the country. 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.