



Agrometeorological Bulletin N° 26, Dekad2, September (11– 20) 2020 Issued on 22nd September 2020

Summary

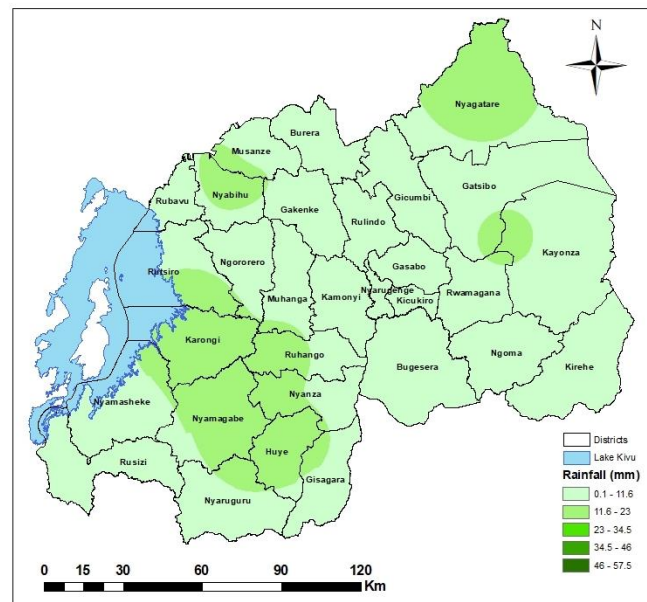
The second Dekad (11- 20) of September 2020; indicated that the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) was near our region especially in the northern part of the country and rainfall activities was well observed but not well-distributed. Normal to below normal rainfall was recorded across the country. The Southern and the Eastern Provinces were relatively wet compared to other parts of the country. The highest rainfall amount was recorded in Northern Province at Busogo station with 18.8mm in 4 raindays, followed by Rubengera station with 17.8mm in 2 raindays and Nyagatare station with 16.8mm in 3 raindays. The lowest rainfall less than 1mm was recorded at Gihinga-Gacurabwenge station (0.0mm) in Kamonyi district. The temperature was within the range of Long Term Mean. The maximum temperature ranged between 22.7°C at Gicumbi station and 33.1°C at Bugarama station. Minimum temperature ranged between 12.0°C at Busogo and 19.9°C at Zaza station. The soil moisture contents was not good enough for seed planting but some agriculture activities including land preparation were carried out.

1.0 Rainfall Pattern

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

1.1 Rainfall Amount

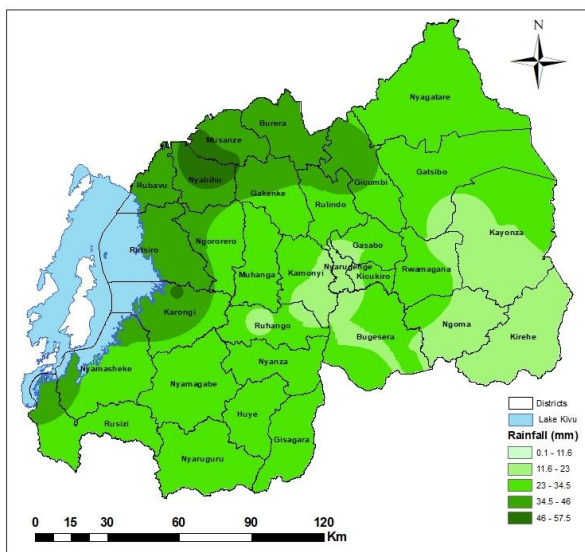
The actual total rainfall amount recorded in the second dekad of September, 2020 is presented in Map 1. On daily basis it was observed that this dekad received light rainfall in most parts of the country. The Southern, Eastern and some parts of the Northern province received much rainfall compared to the other parts of the country. The accumulation of rainfall in ten days ranged from 0.0mm at Gihinga-Gacurabwenge station and the highest rainfall of 18.8 was observed at ISAE-Busogo station.



Map 1: Rainfall amount during 2nd Dekad of September 2020

1.2 Rainfall climatology for the 2nd dekad of September

The rainfall climatology for the 2nd dekad of September is shown in map 2, which indicates that rainfall ranged from 20.6mm to 57.6mm across the country. Comparing the 2nd 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 second dekad was dry, since it's recorded less rainfall compared to the Long Term Mean in most part of the country.

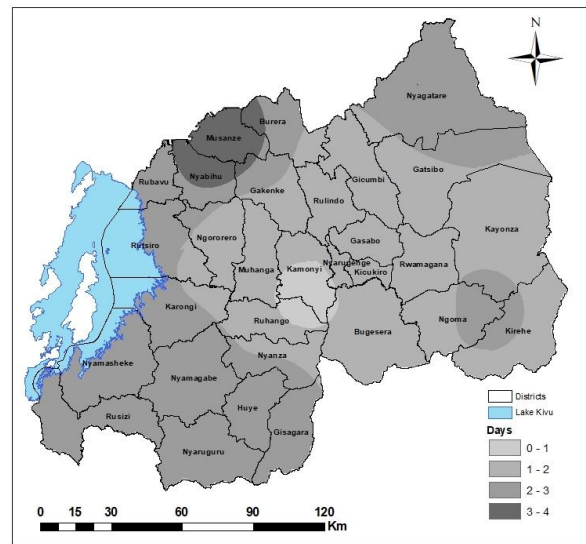


Map 2: Rainfall amount during 2nd Dekad of September (LTM)

1.3. Number of Rain Days

Map 3 shows the distribution of number of raindays 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 Gihinga-Gacurabwenge station that had no rainy day within the dekad, Stations in the Northern and Southern provinces recorded as high as 3 to 4 rain-days



Map 3: Rainy days for dekad2 of September 2020

1.4 Soil moisture index

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

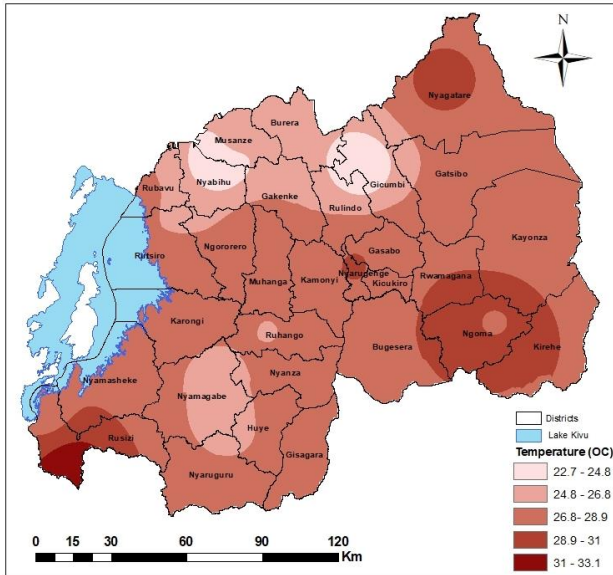
2.0 Temperature observation

The average maximum and Minimum temperature across the country during the second 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 - than the Northern and the Southern Provinces.

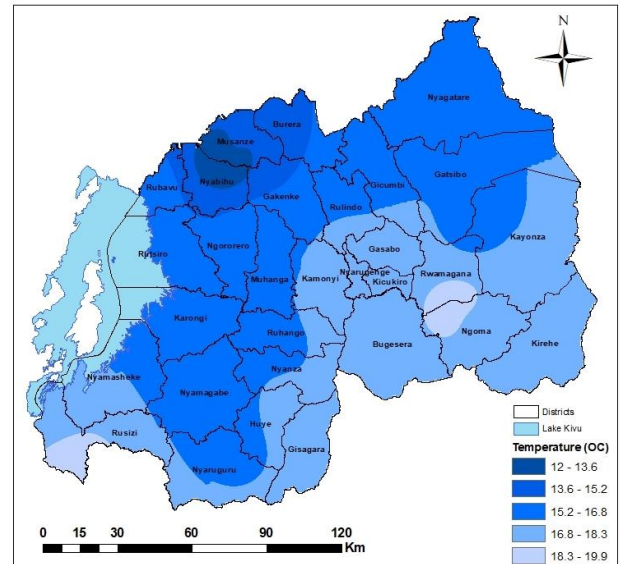
However, in most parts of the country the mean maximum temperature ranged between 22.7.5⁰C and 29.2⁰C with exceptional case of slightly high temperature of 31.0⁰C and 33.1⁰C respectively recorded at Nyamata and Bugarama stations.



Map 4: Mean Maximum Temperature for dekad2 September 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 12⁰C at Busogo and 19.9⁰C at Zaza stations respectively.



Map 5: Mean Minimum Temperature for dekad21 of September 2020

3.0 Weather Outlook and Agricultural advisories for the third dekad (21-30) September, 2020.

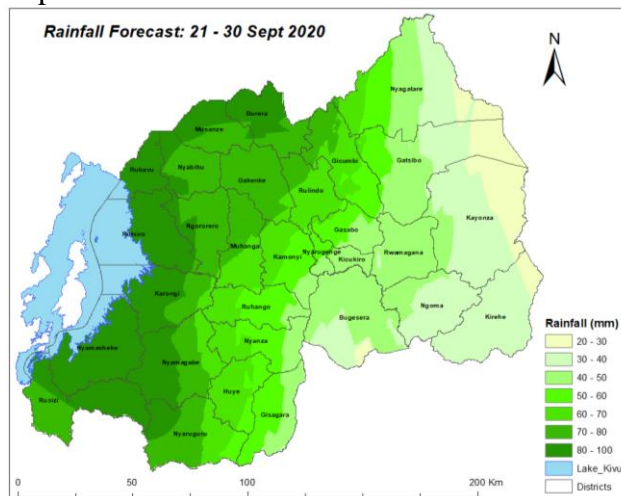
3.1 Weather Outlook for the third dekad of September 2020.

The map 6 below show the Rainfall forecast. The rainfall expected between 21st and 30th September 2020 will likely increase compared to the previous dekads of September 2020 and will range between 20 and 100mm. The Eastern Province and Kigali City are expected to receive rainfall ranging between 20 and 60mm which is expected to increase from eastern to western parts of the mentioned area. Southern Province is expected to get rainfall ranging between 40 and 70 mm but Northern parts of Muhanga is expected to receive up to 80mm while Nyungwe forest with its surrounding area of Southern Province are expected to receive up to 100mm. Western and Northern Provinces are expected to get rainfall ranging between 70 and 100mm but southern parts of Rulindo and Gicumbi will experience rainfall ranging between 50 and 70mm. The expected rain

marks the start of rainy season in many parts of the country and will be associated with the southward migration of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) over region that will enhance mesoscale systems such as Lake Victoria and Congo Air Mass. The rainfall is expected on the following dates according to the area, 21st, 22nd and from 25th to the end of the forecasting period with at least 4 rainy days in the dekad in most parts of the country. The rain will be above the range of Long Term Mean of September dekad3.

3.2 Agricultural Activity/Advisories

The 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. In the next tend days, 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.



Map 6: Rainfall Forecast for third dekad of September 2020