No.18: 2018/19 cropping season

Review for March 21-31 and Outlook for April 01 - 10, 2019

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Soil moisture conditions are expected to continue improving in some areas of Lake Victoria basin, southwestern highlands and Southern coast to support crop growth and development.
- Farmers, Fishers and livestock keepers are advised to consult extension officers to make use of the forecast and advisory

### SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING MARCH 21 - 31, 2019

he strength of the northern hemisphere high-pressure systems (Azores and Siberian) were slightly weak while the southern high-pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) were slightly stronger causing the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) shade the southern part of the Country. Warm Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) over the West Indian Ocean and cooling over the channel created convergence of winds over southern sector of country hence influenced precipitation over Southern sector of the country. Also, persistence of warm sea surface in the South West Indian Ocean fostered formation of a series of Tropical depressions and cyclones. Warming over southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast) persisted hence the reduction of rainfall over the western parts of the county.

#### RAINFALL PERFORMANCE DURING MARCH 21 - 31, 2019

uring the ten day (dekad) period, most parts around unimodal regions received rainfall of amount between 26mm – 100mm, however some parts of Dodoma and Singida received rainfall below 26mm and rainfall above 200mm observed in southern Lindi region. Also, most parts of bimodal regions received rainfall between 26mm – 100mm except some parts of Manyara and Arusha region received rainfall below 26mm as shown in figure.

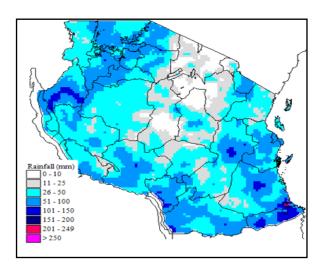


Figure. Total rainfall for the period of March 21 - 31, 2019.

# AGROMETEROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING MARCH 21 - 31, 2019

uring the dekad, in most of the unimodal areas maize crop was at wax to full ripeness stage. However, poor condition of maize crop was reported in Dodoma, Singida, Tabora due to prolonged dry conditions. On the other hand, dry spells were observed during the first half of the dekad in some parts of bimodal areas, specifically Kilimanjaro, Moshi, Same, Kiteto, Pwani and Isles of Unguja and Pemba that affected crops development and growth. On contrary, Kagera region specifically Bukoba continued to receive rains which supported crop growth and development. Water and pasture availability for livestock were in good conditions over most parts of the country.

#### No.18: 2018/19 cropping season

### HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING MARCH 21-31, 2019

water levels in dams and river flow discharges are increasing slightly due to ongoing seasonal rains.

### EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING APRIL 01-10, 2019

he northern high pressure systems are expected to slightly relax while the southern high pressure systems are expected to slightly intensify. This is expected to allow the ITCZ be well organized over large part of the country especially during the first half of the dekad. Warm SSTs over the west Indian Ocean are expected to persist and foster development of tropical depression near to the Tanzania coastline resulting to enhancement of precipitation over the western, Lake Victoria basin and southern sector of the country. However, the tropical depressions and cyclones may reduce precipitation over the extreme northern coast and northeastern highland. Over southeast Atlantic Ocean (near Angola coast), SSTs are expected to be slightly warm, and likely to cause slightly shift of the Congo air mass towards the country and influence rainfall activities over western sector of the country.

## EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITION DURING APRIL 01 - 10, 2019

n view of the expected synoptic conditions, Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu and Mara regions) and Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe and Iringa regions) is expected to feature thundershowers over some areas. Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions) is expected to feature periods of rain showers associated with thunderstorms over few areas. Northern coast (Tanga, northern part of Morogoro, Pwani and Dar es Salaam regions together with isles of Unguja and Pemba) is expected to feature rain showers associated with thunderstorms over few areas with sunny periods. Western regions (Kigoma,

#### Review for March 21-31 and Outlook for April 1 - 10, 2019

Katavi and Tabora regions) and southern region (Ruvuma and Southern part of Morogoro regions) are expected to feature thundershowers over few areas. Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions) is expected to feature rain showers associated with thunderstorms over few areas especial first half of dekad. Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) is expected to feature thundershowers over some areas especially during first half of the dekad.

### EXPECTED AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING APRIL 01-10, 2019

The expected rains over some areas in the south western highlands, southern coast and south will improve soil moisture conditions for crops development. Farmers and livestock keepers over the bimodal and unimodal areas are advised to consult agriculture extension officer for proper utilization of the expected rains during the dekad.

### HYDROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING APRIL 01 - 10, 2019

ater levels in dams and river flow discharges are expected to increasing in unimodal and bimodal areas as the Msimu and Masika rains continues over those regions especially Lake Victoria, Tanganyika, Ruvuma and Wami Ruvu water basins. Water users are advised to use available water carefully despite expected rainfall over some areas.