

UGANDA NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL AUTHORITY (UNMA)

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DEKADAL AGROMET - HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

Period: 1st -10th July 2017 Vol.7, Issue No: 1 Date of Issue: 14th July 2017

1. Highlights

- ♣ Wet conditions were still concentrated in most areas of Elgon sub region, Northern and some areas in Bunyoro sub region.
- ♣ Dry conditions have persisted in South western and several parts of Western region; an indication of the usual dry season at this time of the year.

2. Rainfall Performance

The South Western and Western parts of the country are currently experiencing dry conditions. This has also affected the adjacent districts/areas such as the Lake Victoria in the south west and the central cattle corridor. The highest amount of rainfall received was 183.3mm at Bulengeni rainfall station in Sironko District followed by 118.8 mm and 114.4 mm at Mafana Washing rainfall station in Manafwa District and Gulu weather station in Gulu District respectively. Most parts of West Nile and other areas of Lake Victoria Basin were characterised by minimal rains tending to moderate rain amount (15 to 35 mm). The detailed features of rainfall performance across the country are depicted in figure 1 below;

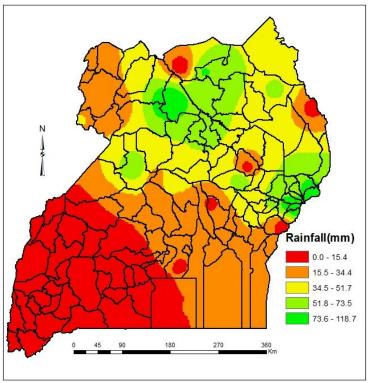
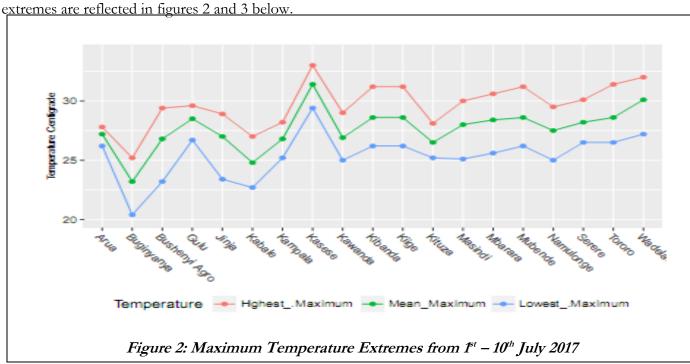
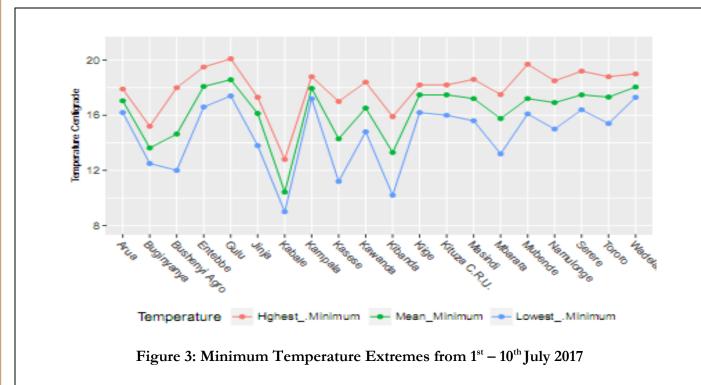


Figure 1: Spatial distribution of the observed rainfall for selected weather stations across the country during the period 1st-10th July 2017

3. Temperature

Hotter conditions are still persisting in the lower areas of Kasese District. During this period (1st – 10 July 2017) the highest average maximum temperature of 31.4°C was recorded at Kasese weather station in Kasese district; indicating a reduction of 1.3°C from the previous period (21st – 30th June 2017). The lowest of the average maximum temperature was recorded at Buginyanya in Bulambuli District. Overall, the highest of the daily maximum temperatures observed was 33.0°C. In the period 1st – 10th July 2017, the mean minimum temperatures of 10.4°C to 18.6°C were recorded respectively at Kabale and Gulu weather stations and the lowest of daily minimum temperatures of 9.0°C was observed at the former. The details of the characteristics of temperature





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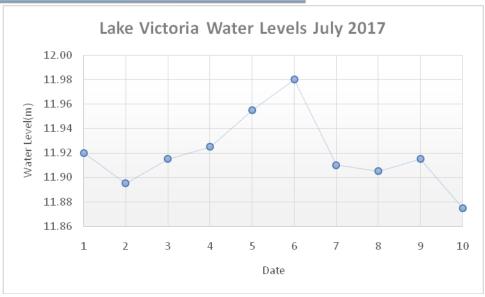


Figure 4. Fluctuation of water levels in Lake Victoria

During the first ten days of July 2017 there were moderate rains in the Lake Victoria basin resulting into a rise in water levels from 11.89 to 11.98metres.

4. Impacts on Agriculture

The Northern and North Eastern sub regions are still experiencing wet conditions which favour crop growth and development.

Western and south Western regions are water stressed due to multiple prolonged dry spells which have given way to the usual dry season.

5. Advisory

- Northern region, parts of Eastern region and Karamoja sub region are expected to continue with careful weeding of already planted crops as the rains are still on
- 4 Any cropping activity in South Western and Western parts of the country at the moment needs the application of localized irrigation.
- The farming communities need to implement proper harvesting techniques as advised by agriculture extension officers.

Expected Weather outlook for the period, 11th – 20th July 2017.

The rainfall outlook for 11th - 20th July 2017 indicates that dry conditions are expected to persist in South Western and Western sub regions including most parts of the cattle corridor in central. By contrast, the rainfall situation is likely to be characterised by isolated rains in most areas of Lake Victoria Basin with the exception of south west basin. A relaxation in rainfall conditions is anticipated in the Northern sector of the country while the eastern stretch bordering Kenya from Elgon sub region is expected to receive wet conditions. The temperature conditions currently being experienced are expected to prevail.

Explanatory notes

A dekad is a ten-day period, whereby:

1 dekad = 10 or 11 Days and (9 or 8 days for the last dekad of February)

One year is composed of 36 dekads