



Agrometeorological Bulletin N° 24, Dekad3, August (21– 31) 2020 Issued on 2nd September 2020

Summary

In the third Dekad (21- 31) of August 2020; parts of Bugarama, Nyamagabe, Kamembe Airport and Rubengera in the West and Ngoma in the East received the rainfall amount greater than the Long term average whereas the other parts received the rainfall below the range of Long Term Mean (LTM). During the 3rd dekad of August 2020, the highest rainfall amount was recorded at Rubengera station (33.5mm) in Karongi District while the lowest rainfall was recorded at Kawangire station (0mm) in Kayonza District. Generally south western of the country was comparatively wet than other parts of the country. The wetness indicates good moisture conditions for crop growth.

The temperature was within the range of LTM. The maximum temperature ranged between 21.7°C at (Gicumbi and Busogo) stations, and 32.1°C at Bugarama station. Minimum temperature ranged between 10.6°C at Musanze and 18.8°C at Bugarama stations.

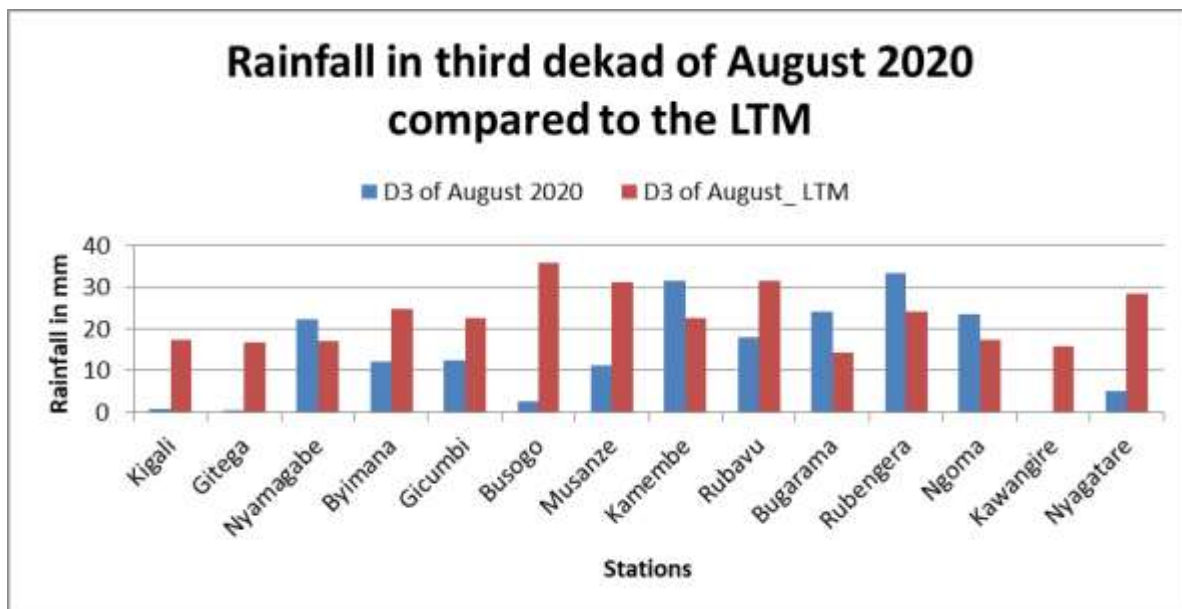


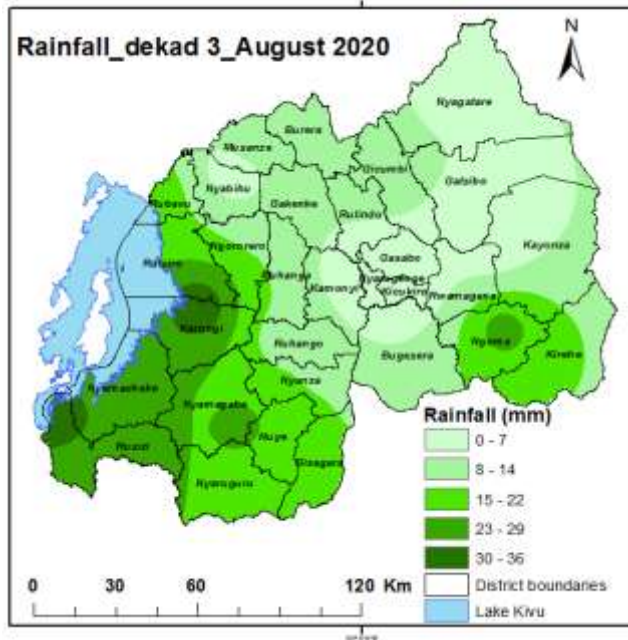
Figure 1: August D3 2020 Rainfall performance as Compared to the LTM

1.0 Rainfall Pattern

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

1.1 Rainfall Amount

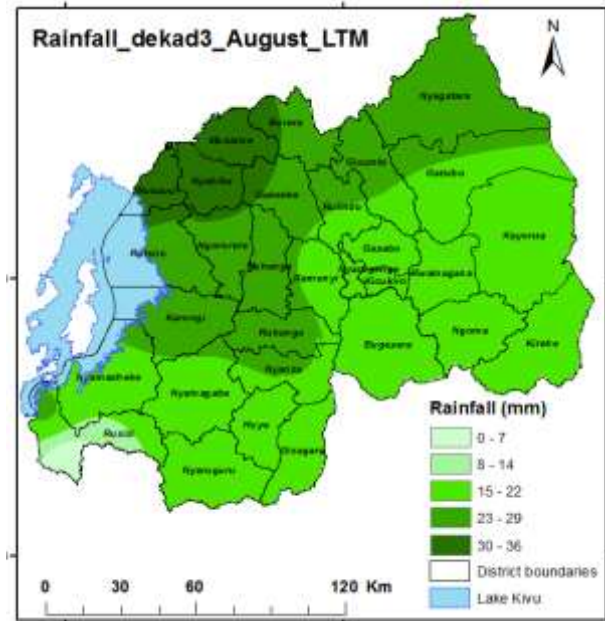
The total rainfall amount for the third dekad of August, 2020 is presented in map 1. On daily basis it was observed that this dekad received light to moderate rainfall in most parts of the country. The accumulation of rainfall in ten days ranged from 33.5mm at Rubengera station which was the highest and the lowest was less than 1mm was observed over most parts of Kigali City and Kayanza district.



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

1.2 Rainfall climatology for the 3rd dekad of August

The rainfall climatology for the 3rd dekad of August is shown in map 2, which indicates that rainfall ranged from 14.3 mm to 35.9mm across the country. Comparing the 3rd dekad of August 2020 and the Long Term Mean (LTM) for the same period; it was observed that in all parts of the country, the third dekad recorded slightly less rainfall compared to the Long Term Mean.

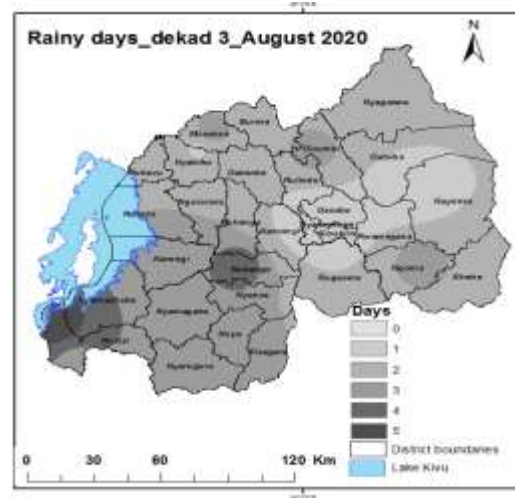


Map 2: Rainfall amount during 3rd Dekad of August (LTM)

1.3. Number of Rain Days

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

A total of 5 days were observed at Kamembe Airport station and 4 days were observed Byimana weather station. It can be seen that most parts of the country had 3 days and 1 day. No rainy day was observed at Kigali city and Kawangire stations.



Map 3: Rainy days for dekad3 of August 2020

1.4 Soil moisture index

This section shows the available soil moisture across the country. Soil moisture increased over most parts of the country due to weather conditions experienced during the third dekad of August 2020. The soil moisture will increase slightly during the first dekad of September 2020 due to the expected wet weather conditions.

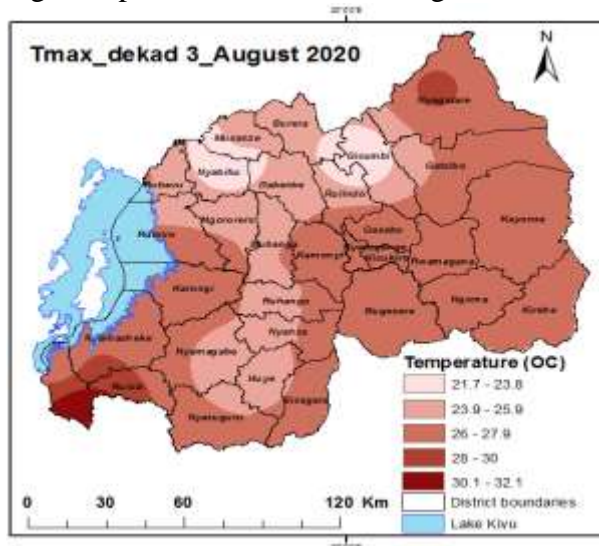
2.0 Temperature observation

The average maximum and Minimum temperature across the country during the third dekad of August 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, Kigali City and Eastern Provinces were warmer compared to Northern and Southern Provinces even though the maximum temperature increased a bit compared to the climatology.

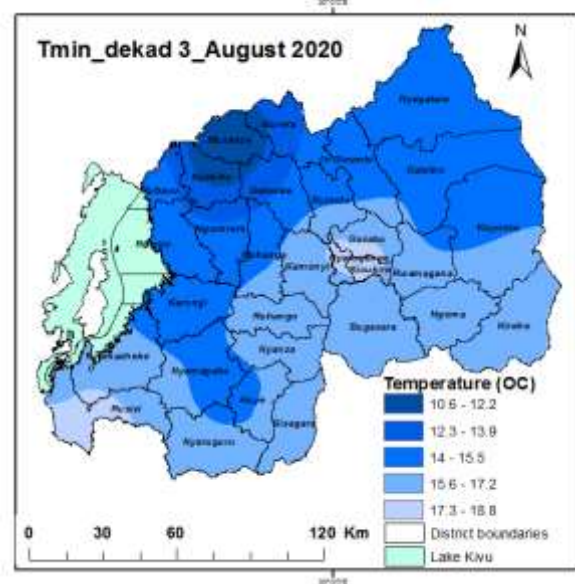
However, in most parts of the country the mean maximum temperature ranged between 21.7^oC and 28.3^oC with exceptional case of slightly high temperature of 32.1^oC at Bugarama station.



Map 4: Mean Maximum Temperature for dekad3 August 2020

2.2 Minimum Temperature

The average minimum temperature across the country is shown in Map 5. The Northern parts experienced colder temperature compared to other parts of the country. The minimum temperature ranged between 10.6^oC at Musanze Airport and 18.8^oC in Kigali city.



Map 5: Mean Minimum Temperature for dekad3 of August 2020

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

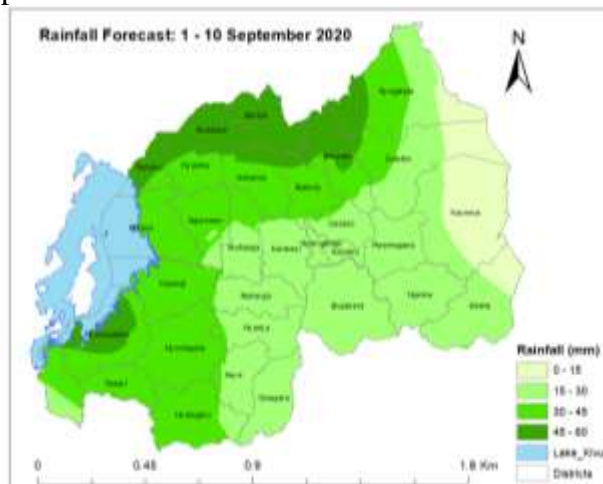
3.1 Weather Outlook for the first dekad of September 2020.

Rainfall expected from 1st to 10th September 2020 will be ranging between 0 and 60mm countrywide.

Rain ranging between 45 and 60mm is expected in volcanic areas of Rubavu, Nyabihu, Musanze and Burera districts, in northern parts of Rulindo, Gakenke and Gicumbi districts, western parts of Nyagatare district, central and

western of Nyamasheke district. The remaining parts of Western Province, Nyamagabe and Nyaruguru districts, the rest of Gakenke, Rulindo Gicumbi and central parts of Nyagatare districts are expected to receive rainfall ranging between 30 and 45mm. The remaining parts of the Southern Province, Kigali city and big part of Eastern province are expected to receive rainfall ranging between 15 and 30mm while eastern parts of Eastern province is expected to have rainfall ranging between 0 and 15mm.

The expected rain will result from mesoscale systems associated with drifting of Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) toward our region and will mark the start of rains in the parts where expected rainfall is between 45 and 60mm. The rainfall is expected in the first day of September 2020 in some localized parts of the country and from 7th towards the end of the forecasting period.



Map 6: Rainfall Forecast for first dekad of September 2020

3.2 Agricultural Activity/Advisories

As we are approaching the agriculture season A, which will start from September to December 2020, 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.