Agrometeorological Bulletin Nº 1/2025, Dekad 1-January (01st -10th) 2025

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Summary

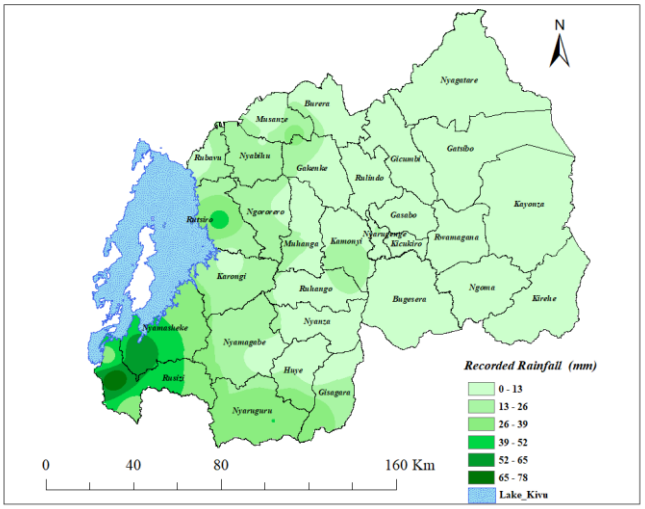
The analysis showed that during the first dekad (from 01st -10th) of January 2025 , many parts of country experienced rainfall deficit compared to the Long Term Mean (LTM) of this dekad, while small parts of Western Province as well as Nyaruguru and Musanze Districts experienced rainfall surplus. Rainy days were ranged between one and eight days across the country. The observed mean temperature was slightly above the range of the Long Term Mean in many parts of the country.

1.0 Rainfall Pattern

This part contains the recorded rainfall amount, rainfall anomalies and comparison to the observed rainfall against the Long-Term Mean (LTM).

1.1. Rainfall Amount

The cumulative rainfall of the 1st dekad of January 2025 is represented in Map 1. It was noted that during this dekad; Rusizi and Nyamasheke Districts received much rainfall compared to the remaining parts of the country. The highest rainfall amount of 77.8 mm was recorded over Mibirizi station located in Rusizi District in 7 rainy days and followed by Ntendezi station located in Nyamasheke District, which observed 59.7 mm in 8 rainy days. The following stations: Nyagatare, Kagitumba, Mpanga and Rushashi recorded no rainfall during this first of January 2025.



Map 1: Rainfall amount during 1st dekad of January 2025

1.3. Comparison of observed rainfall with

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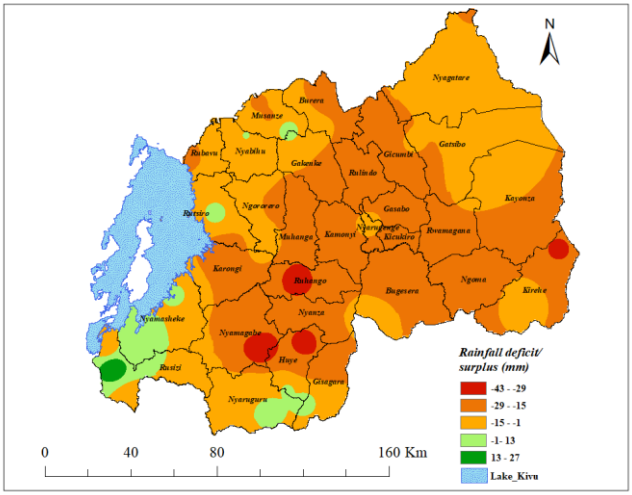
1.2 Rainfall Anomaly (Deficit and Surplus)

The rainfall anomaly over the country is displayed in map 2. Compared to the Long Term Mean (LTM), first dekad of January 2025 was characterized by rainfall deficit over many parts of the country. However small parts of Western Province as well as Nyaruguru and Musanze Districts observed rainfall surplus.



Map 2: Rainfall anomaly during the 1st dekad of January 2025

LTM for the 1st dekad of January 2025

The comparison of recorded rainfall amount in the 1st dekad of January 2025 and the Long-term mean (LTM) across the country is shown in both Figure 1 (a) and (b); most parts of country observed low rainfall amount compared to the LTM. This is demonstrated by the analysis, which revealed that thirty-five (35) stations out of 44 stations reported rainfall deficit while nine (9) stations recorded rainfall surplus.

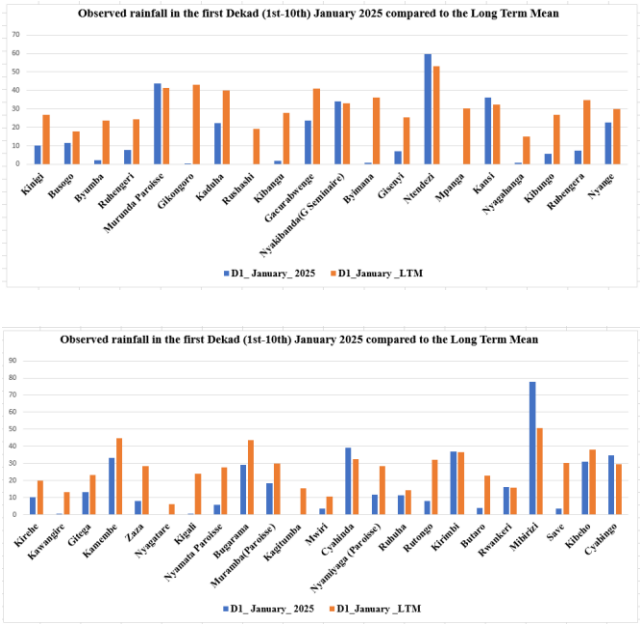


Figure 1 (a&b): Comparison of observed rainfall in the 1st dekad of January 2025 with long term mean

2.0 Temperature observation

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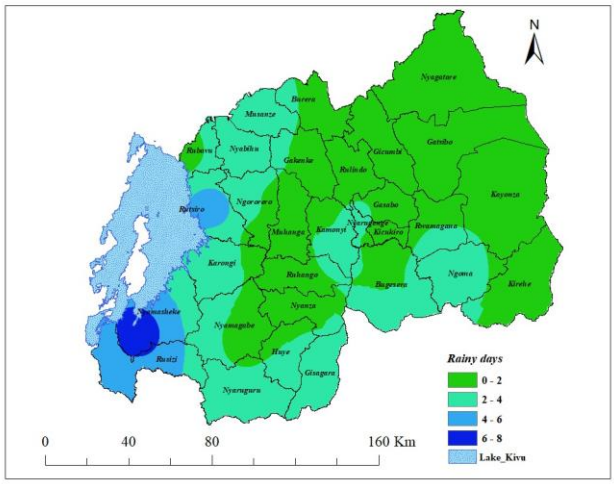
1.4 Number of Rain Days

The Map 3 shows the distribution of the number of rainy days across the country. A rainy day is defined as a day with at least 0.85 mm of rainfall. The analysis demonstrated that the rainy days ranged between one and eight days. Many rainy days were observed over Nyamasheke, Rutsiro and Rusizi Districts while 10 weather stations recorded no rainfall during this first dekad of January 2025.



Map 3: Rainy days during 1st dekad of January 2025

1.5 Soil moisture condition

Soil moisture content was decreased in many parts of the country during the first dekad of January 2025 and it is likely to continue decreasing in the 2nd dekad of January 2025 due to the reduction in expected rainfall as compared to the previous dekad of January.

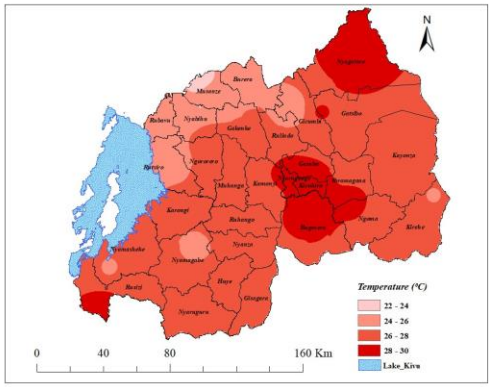
2.2 Minimum Temperature

The average minimum temperature across the country is highlighted in the section below.

2.1 Mean Maximum Temperature

Map 4: represents the mean maximum temperature distribution across the country during the 1st dekad of January 2025 . The maximum temperature was in the range of Long-Term Mean (LTM) over many parts of the country. The lowest maximum temperature of 21.7°C was recorded over Kinigi station (Musanze District) while the highest maximum temperature of 29.7°C was recorded over Bugarama station (Rusizi District).

Kigali City, some part of Eastern Province and Rusizi District (particulary in Bugarama plain) were warmer compared to the remaining parts.



Map 4: Mean Maximum Temperature for the 1st dekad of January 2025

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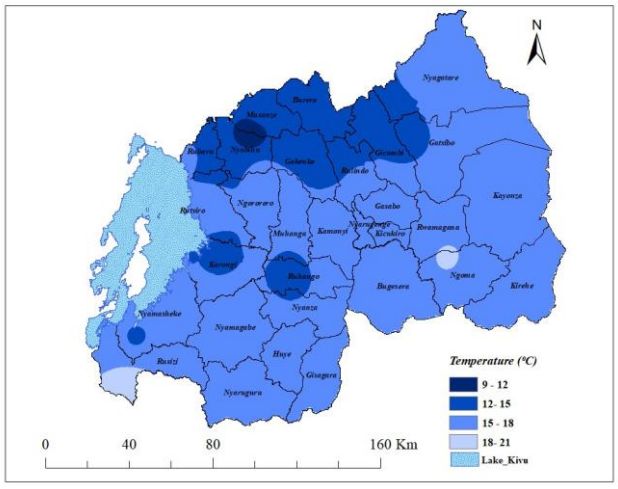
country is shown in Map 5. The minimum temperature was slightly above the range of the Long term mean over most parts of the country during the 1st dekad of January 2025 . The lowest minimum temperature of 9.8°C was recorded at Busogo station in Musanze District while the highest minimum temperature of 21.0 °C was recorded over Bugarama weather station in Rusizi station.

Musanze and Nyabihu Districts were highlighted as the coldest regions than the remaining parts.



Map 5: The mean Minimum Temperature for the 1st dekad of January 2025

3.0 Weather Outlook and Agricultural advisories for the second dekad of January (11th to 20th), 2025.

3.1. Weather Outlook for the 11th to 20th January 2025.

Please click here for more information on weather forecast for the 2nd dekad of January 2025.

3.2 Agricultural Activity/Advisories

Based on predicted rainfall during the 2nd dekad of January 2025; which will be in the range of the LTM; farmers are recommended to continue using the information of weather forecast of 2nd dekad of January 2025 and they are encouraged to contact the agronomists in their respective localities for more information on agricultural practices, particularly by protecting crops and haverst. The farmers are also advise to contact veterinarians in their respective localities for assistance in monitoring diseases that may affect their animals due to weather changes in terms of rainfall reduction of, which is expected in the second dekad of January 2025.

For more meteorological information, you can visit **Meteo Rwanda's website**: www.meteorwanda.gov.rw or call the tollfree n number 6080.

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