



Agrometeorological Bulletin N° 9/2024, Dekad 3, March (21st-31st) 2024

Issued on 3rd April 2024

Summary

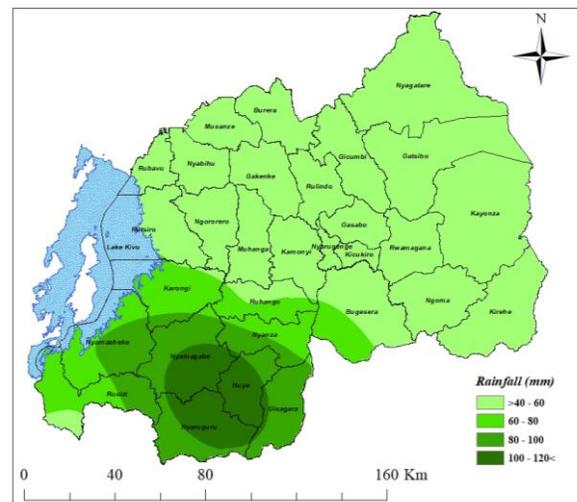
The analysis for the third dekad (from 21st-31st) of March 2024) indicated that rainfall surplus compared to the Long Term Mean (LTM) was observed over many parts of Kigali City, Southern and Western Provinces, and in few parts of Northern and Eastern Provinces. Rain days ranged between four (4) and eight (8) days. The observed mean temperature was in normal range of the Long Term Mean (LTM) 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).

2.0 Rainfall Amount

The cumulative rainfall of the 3rd dekad of March 2024 is represented in Map. It was noted that during this dekad, Gikongoro station located in Nyamagabe District recorded the highest rainfall amount of 158.6 mm in five days, followed by Kamembe Aero in Rusizi District which recorded 95 mm in eight days while Nyagatare station recorded the lowest rainfall amount of 24.2 mm in two days.



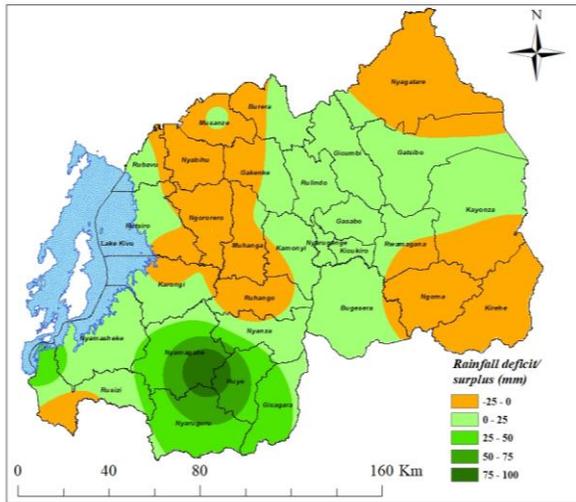
Map 1: Rainfall amount during 3rd dekad of March 2024

1.2 Rainfall Anomaly (Deficit and Surplus)

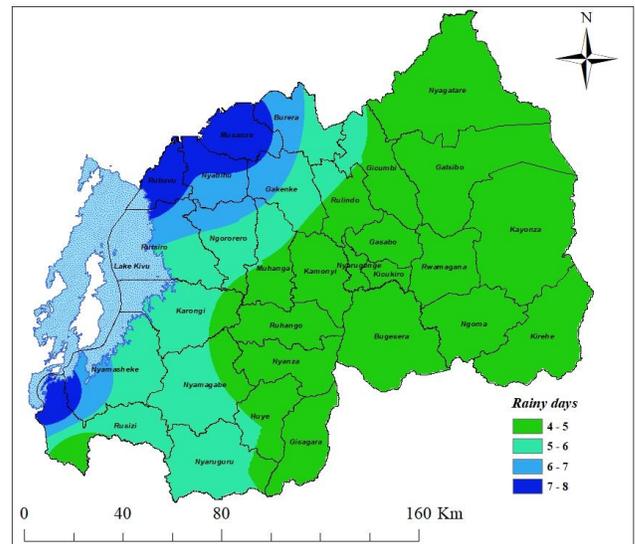
The rainfall anomaly over the country is displayed in map 2. In this dekad, rainfall surplus compared to the Long Term Mean was observed over most parts of Kigali City, Southern and Western Provinces and in few parts of Northern and Eastern Provinces.

1.4 Number of Rain Days

The Map 3 shows the distribution of the number of rain days across the country. A rainy day is defined as a day with at least 0.85 mm of rainfall. The analysis demonstrated that rainy days ranged between four (4) and eight (8) days. It was noted that northwestern and southwestern parts of the country had many rainy days compared to Eastern, Kigali City and some parts of Northern and Southern Provinces.



Map 2: Rainfall anomaly during 3rd Dekad of March 2024



Map 3: Rainy days during 3rd Dekad of March 2024

1.3. Comparison of observed rainfall with LTM for the 1st dekad of March 2024

The comparison of recorded rainfall amount in the 3rd dekad of March 2024 and the Long-Term mean (LTM) for across the country is shown in Figure 1. The analysis showed that rainfall over 14 principal weather stations, eight (8) stations recorded rainfall surplus while 6 stations recorded rainfall deficit.

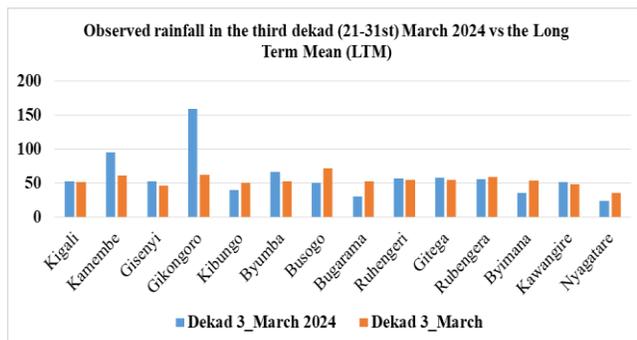


Figure 1: Comparison of observed rainfall in the 3rd dekad of March 2024 with long term mean

2.0 Temperature observation

The average Maximum and Minimum temperature across the country is highlighted in the section below.

2.1 Mean Maximum Temperature

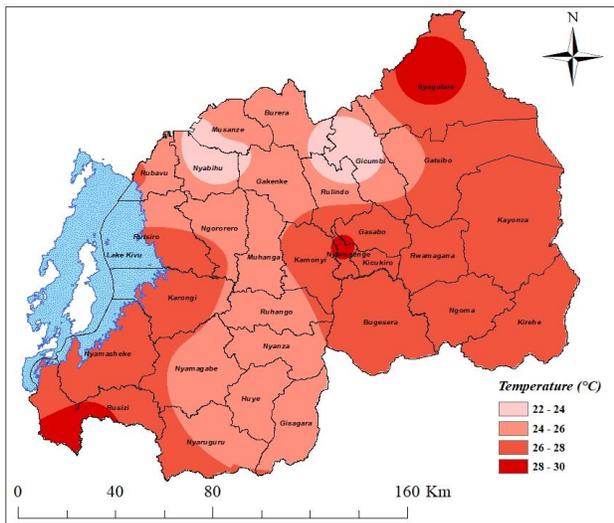
1.5 Soil moisture condition

Soil moisture increased a bit compared to the 1st and 2nd dekads due to observed rainfall surplus over many parts of the country in the 3rd dekad of March 2024. Soil moisture is expected to continue increasing across the country in the 1st dekad of April 2024, as a result of expected above rainfall compared to the range of the Long Term Mean over many parts of the country.

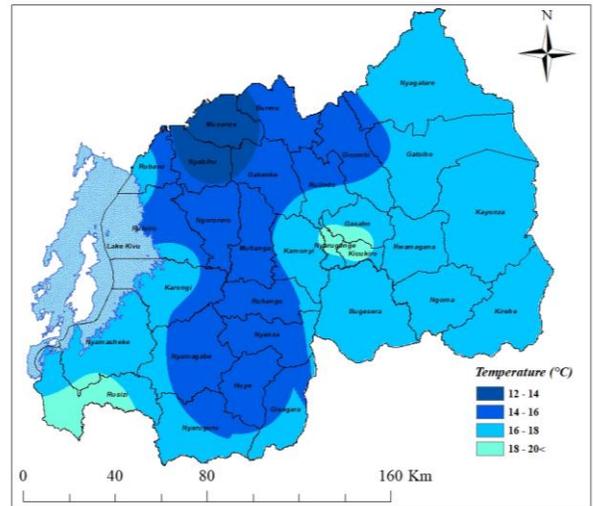
2.2 Minimum Temperature

The average minimum temperature across the country is shown in Map 5. The minimum temperature was slightly above the range of the Long term mean over many parts of the country during the third dekad on March 2024. The lowest minimum temperature of 11.9°C was recorded at Busogo station in Musanze District while the highest minimum temperature of 21.0°C was recorded over Bugarama weather station.

Map 4: represents the mean maximum temperature distribution across the country during the 3rd dekad of March 2024. The maximum temperature was in the range of the Long-Term Mean (LTM) over many parts of the country. From 14 principal stations, the lowest maximum temperature of 22.3°C was recorded over Byumba station located in Gicumbi District while the highest maximum temperature of 29.3°C was recorded over Bugarama station located in Rusizi District.



Map 4: Mean Maximum Temperature for the third dekad of March 2024



Map 5: The mean Minimum Temperature for the third dekad of March 2024

3.0 Weather Outlook and Agricultural advisories for the 1st dekad of April (1st to 10th), 2024.

3.1. Weather Outlook for the 1st dekad of April 2024.

Please click [here](#) for more information on weather forecast for the 1st dekad of April 2024.

3.2 Agricultural Activity/Advisories

Farmers are encouraged to continue their activities based on the provided ten-day weather forecast for the 1st dekad of April 2024 which is indicating above normal rainfall over many parts of the country. In addition, they are encouraged to contact agronomists for more information on agricultural practices related to farm preparation activities of agriculture Season B. Furthermore, farmers are also advised to contact veterinary in their specific areas to seek information on likely outbreak diseases that may affect their livestock due to predicted rainfall deficit over many parts of the country.

For more meteorological information, you can

visit **Meteo Rwanda's website:**
www.meteorwanda.gov.rw or call the tollfree
number 6080.