



**REPUBLIC OF RWANDA
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
RWANDA METEOROLOGY AGENCY**



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**Agrometeorological Bulletin No.9, Dekad3, March (21-31) 2020
Issued on 2nd April 2020**

Summary

In the third Dekad (21-31) of March 2020, most parts of the country received light to moderate rainfall which was in normal range with the Long Term Mean (LTM) in many parts of the country. In this dekad, highest rainfall amount was recorded at Nyamagabe station (99.3mm) while lowest rainfall was received at Rubavu station (29mm). Generally Western, Southern and some part of the Northern were wet compared to the other parts of the country. The temperature was in normal range. The maximum temperature ranged between 21.6°C in Gicumbi and 30.1°C in Bugarama. Minimum temperature ranged between 11.0°C at Busogo and 19.0 °C at Bugarama station.

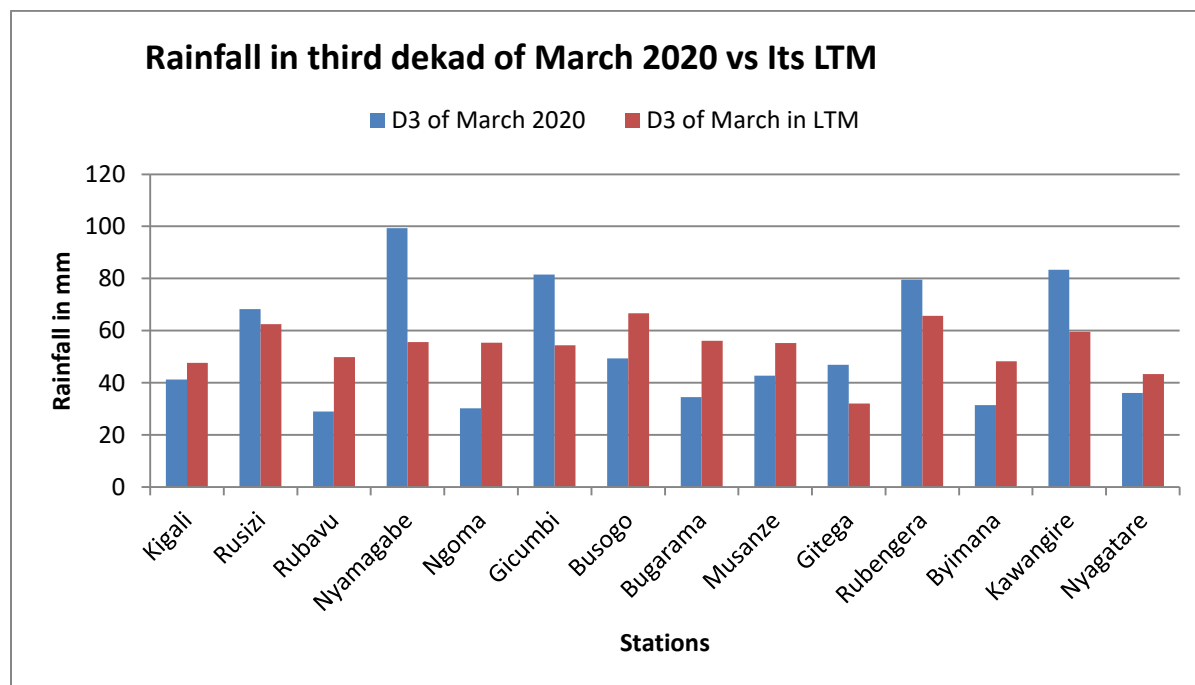


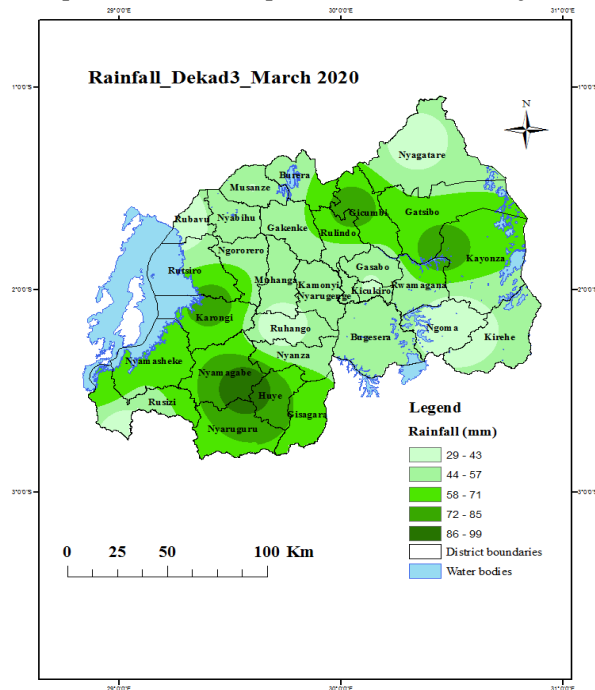
Figure 1: Rainfall performance as Compared to the LTM

1.0 Rainfall Pattern

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

1.1 Rainfall Amount

The total rainfall amount for the third dekad of March, 2020 is presented in map 1. On a daily basis observation, light to moderate rains were recorded in most parts of Rwanda. The accumulation of rainfall in ten days ranged from 99.3mm at Nyamagabe station which was the highest and the lowest was 29mm received at Rubavu station. The Western, Southern and Northern were wet compared to other parts of the country.

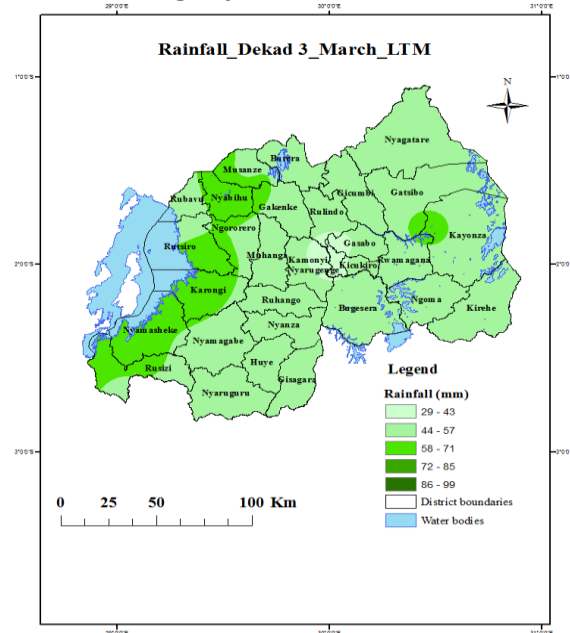


Map 1: Rainfall amount during 3rd Dekad of March 2020

1.2 Rainfall climatology in the 3rd dekad

The rainfall climatology for the 3rd dekad of March is shown in map 2, which indicates that rainfall usually range from 32mmmm to 66.7mm across the country.

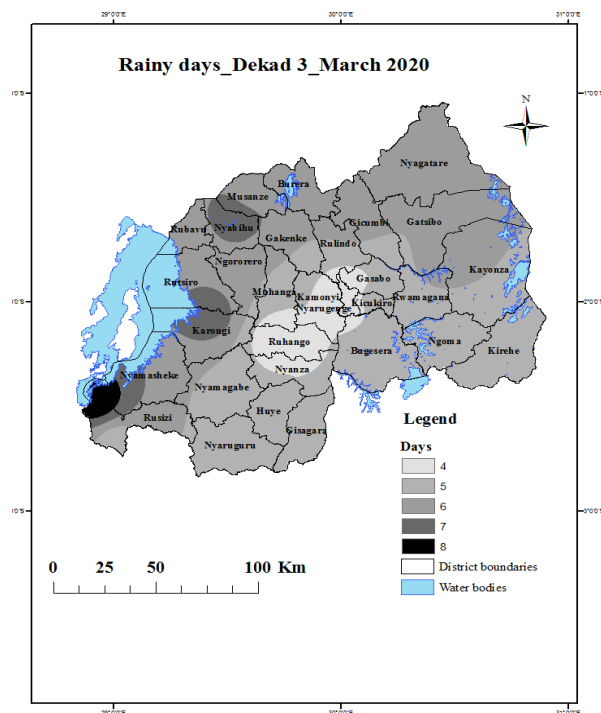
Comparing to the current dekad and the Long Term Mean (LTM) for the same period, the observed rainfall was in normal range of March D3 rainfall with a small area of south west and north east recorded slightly above normal rainfall and a small area of Kirehe, Ngoma, Ruhango and Nyagatare Districts recorded slightly bellow normal rainfall.



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

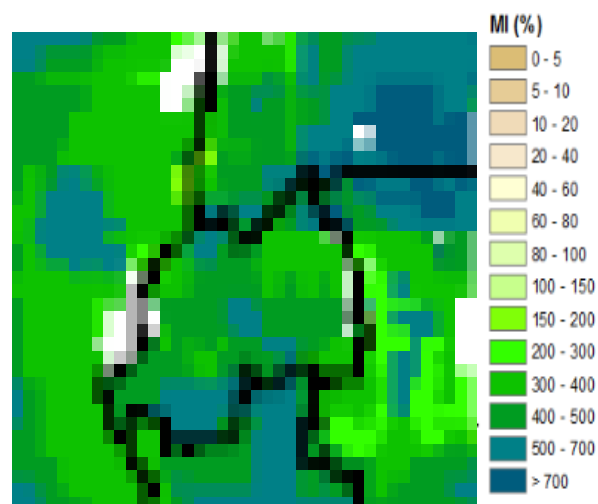
1.3. Number of Rain Days

Map 3 below 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 4 to 8 days were observed across the country. It can be seen that most parts of the country had 5 to 6 rainy days. A minimum of 4 days was observed at Gitega station. The maximum of 7 and 8 days were observed at Rusizi, Busogo and Rubengera station.



Map 3: Rainy days

1.4 Soil moisture index



Map 4: Soil Moisture Index

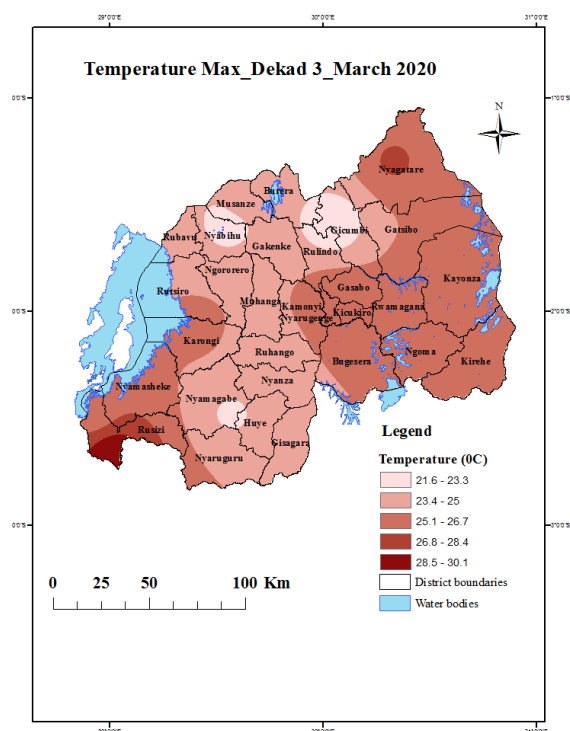
The distribution of available soil moisture across the country is shown in Map 4. Soil moisture shows a slight decrease in most parts of the country due to mix of wet and dry weather conditions experienced during third dekad of March. The expectation is that soil moisture will increase during the next dekad due to the expected increase wet condition.

2.0 Temperature observation

The average maximum and Minimum temperature across the country during the 2nd dekad is highlighted below in this section.

2.1 Maximum Temperature

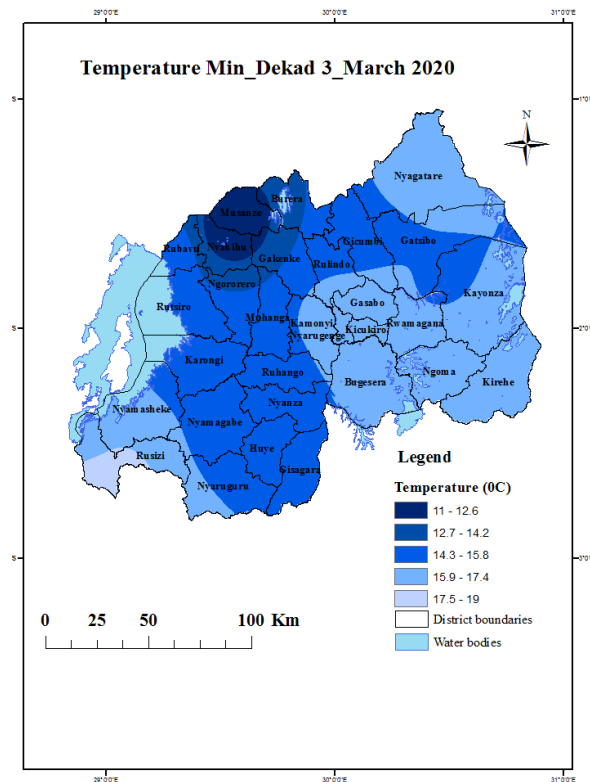
Map 5 below shows the actual mean maximum temperature distribution across the country which indicates that the Southwest, Kigali City and Eastern provinces were warmer compared to Northern province and Southern province. However, in most parts of the country the maximum temperature was normal and ranged between 21.6 and 26.6°C with exception of Nyagatare and Bugarama that recorded 27.0°C and 30.1°C respectively.



Map 5: Mean Maximum Temperature

2.2 Minimum Temperature

The average minimum temperature across the country is shown in Map 6 below. The Northern experienced colder temperature compared to other parts of the country, even though the minimum temperature increased a bit compared to the previous dekad. The minimum temperature ranged between 11.0 °C (Busogo) and 19.0°C (Bugarama).



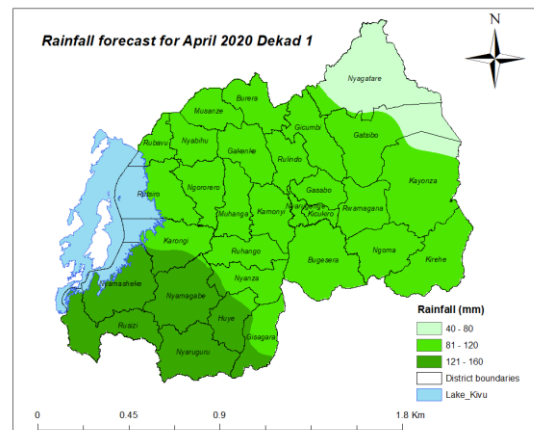
Map 6: Mean Minimum Temperature

3.0 Weather Outlook and Agricultural for the 1st dekad (01-10) April, 2020.

3.1 Weather Outlook for the 1st dekad of April 2020.

Comparing to the 3rd dekad of March 2020, there will be a slight increase of rainfall amount in the 1st dekad of April; light to moderate rainfall is expected in most parts of the country.

Expected rainfall amount will be between 50 to 160 millimeter during the forecasting period. South Western region is expected to receive high amount of rainfall in ten days ranging between 120 and 160 mm while Nyagatare District and eastern part of Gatsibo Districts are expected to experience lower amount of rainfall ranging between 40 and 80 mm. The remaining parts are expected to experience rainfall between 80 and 120 mm.



Map 7: Rainfall Forecast for first dekad of April

3.2 Agricultural Activity/Advisories

In present weather condition constant monitoring of timely sown seed should be done and apply fertilizers if necessary. Farmers are also advised to plant seeds advised by Agriculture officers within their location. For more meteorological information you can visit Meteo Rwanda website: www.meteorwanda.gov.rw.