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Highlights:

- **The cumulative rainfall** for May 2017 was below Long Term Mean (LTM) over most parts of the country; however the central and south-eastern parts records showed above LTM.
- **Satellite derived soil moisture index shows a general decrease** f or the whole month of May 2017
- **The rainfall during June 2017** is expected to remain generally dry but much of northern and western provinces may experience cloudy to very little rain conditions.

I. Introduction

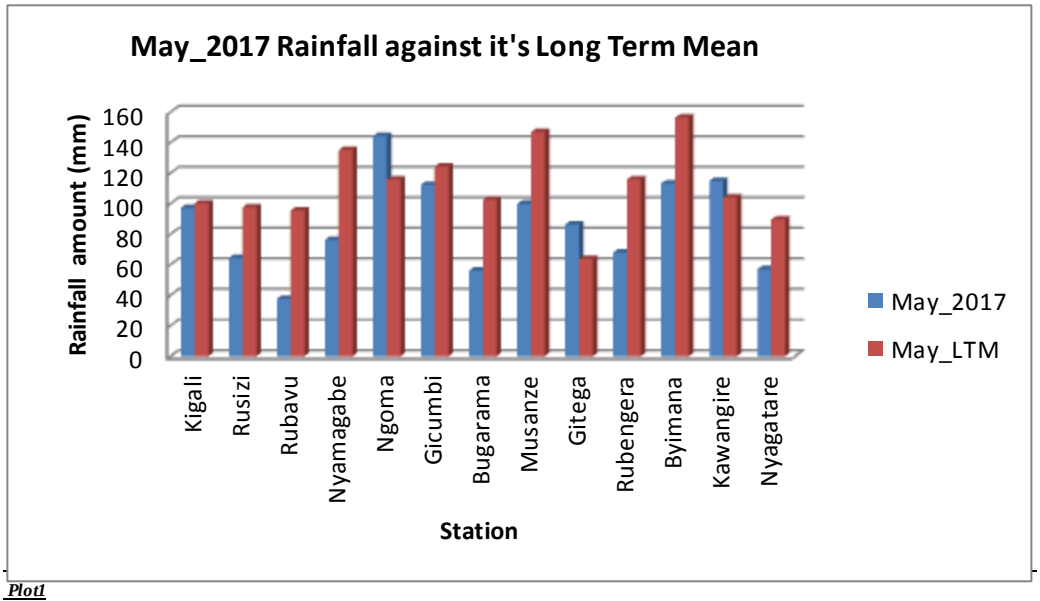
Parts of the country especially the central (Gitega station) and south-east (Ngoma station) during May 2017 recorded rainfall which was slightly above the Long Term Mean (LTM); while elsewhere in the country recorded below LTM.

a) The table and histogram below indicates the rainfall recorded during May 2017 against its LTM:

Cumulative rainfall (in mm) recorded at different stations

Station	May_2017	May_LTM
Kigali	97.2	100.1
Rusizi (Kamembe)	64.4	97.5
Rubavu (Gisenyi)	37.5	95.5
Nyamagabe (Gikongoro)	76.2	135.1
Ngoma (Kibungo)	144.2	115.7
Gicumbi (Byumba)	112.2	124.4
Bugarama	56.1	102.4
Musanze (Ruhengeri)	99.9	146.8
Gitega	86.2	63.7
Rubengera	67.9	115.9
Byimana	113.3	156.3
Kawangire	114.8	103.9
Nyagatare	57	89.5

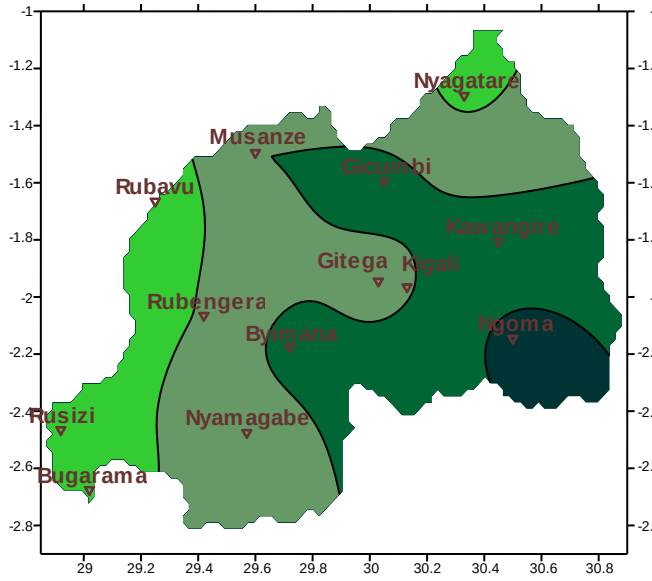
Table1



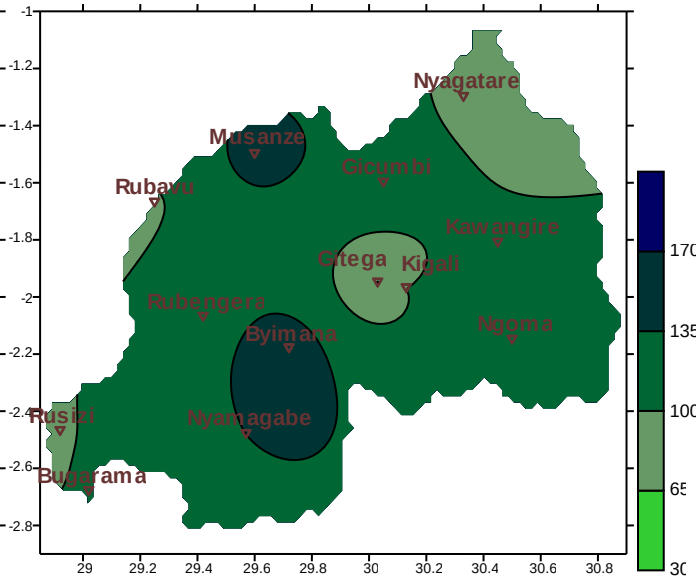
Plot1

b) **Rainfall analysis:** The maps "**Map 1 and 2**" below show the cumulative rainfall recorded during May 2017 and its long term mean (LTM) of cumulative rainfall.
The maps "**map 3 and 4**" show the cumulative rainfall recorded during April 2017 and its LTM of cumulative rainfall.

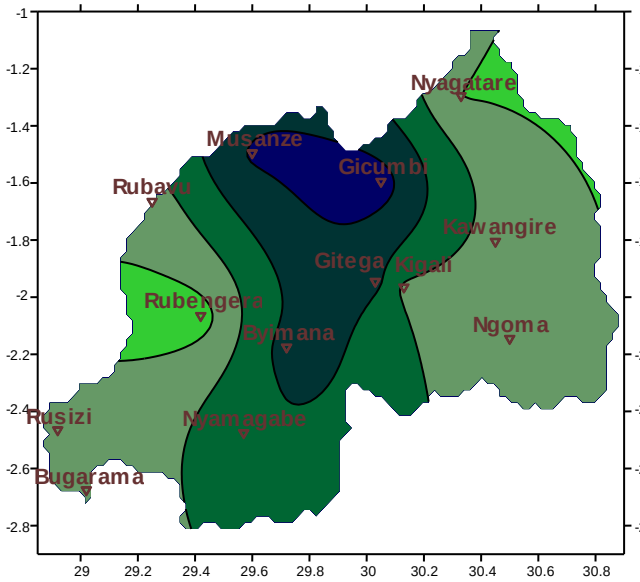
Map1: Total Rainfall (mm): May_2017



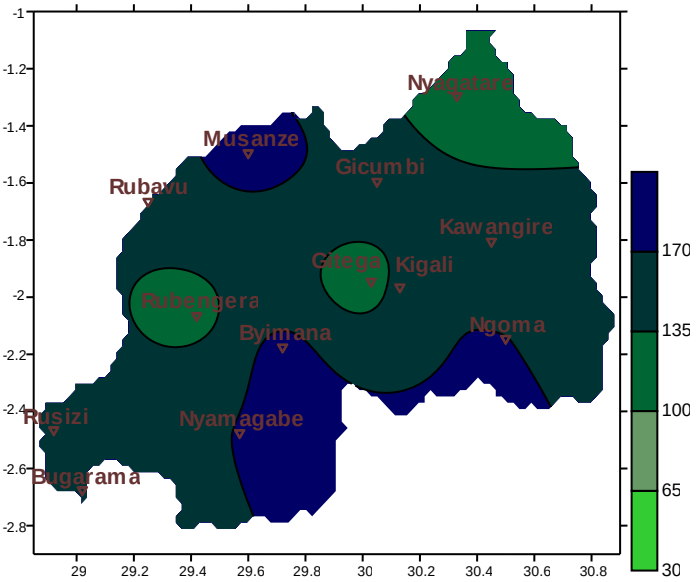
Map2: Long Term Average Rainfall (mm): May_ LTM



Map3: Total Rainfall (mm): Apr_2017



Map4: Long Term Average Rainfall (mm): Apr_LTM



II. Detailed observed rainfall during the May 2017

Cumulative rainfall for May_ 2017 was slightly enhanced in the central towards southeastern; while elsewhere within the country the records show that rainfall observed were within the LTM range (see **Map1&2**; for the month of April_2017 the cumulative rainfall was wet over most parts of the country especially eastern and western parts of the country (see **Map3&4**). Most of the stations across the country observed a suppressed rainfall during April_2017 which was below the LTM for the same period. Localized stations in the central and Northern Province had slight enhanced rainfall.

a) Eastern Province

The records show rainfall amount that was below the LTM except at Ngoma station where the records were the highest within the country with 144.2mm of rainfall (see **Table1** and **Map1&2**)

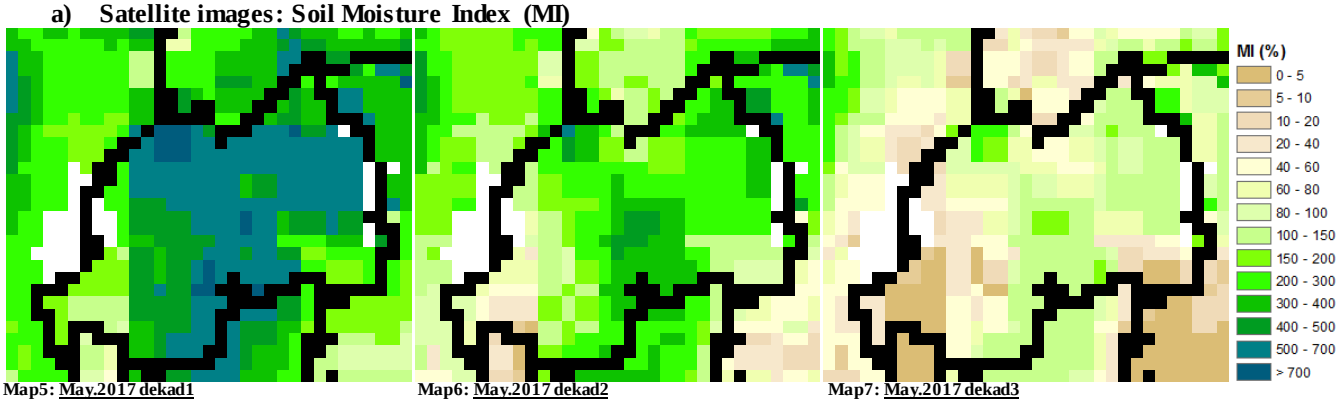
Generally; for the rest of other provinces; all representing stations across the country showed a decreased rainfall which was below the LTM range (see **Table1** and **Map1&2)**

b) Kigali City

All representing stations show a similar pattern which is the normal range of climatology (see **Table1** and **Map1&2)**

III. Agricultural impact.

a) Satellite images: Soil Moisture Index (MI)



Map5: May.2017 dekad1 **Map6: May.2017 dekad2** **Map7: May.2017 dekad3**

During May 2017 the satellite derived moisture index was reduced as a result of reduced widespread of rainfall across the country (see **Map 5, 6&7;** the gradual decrease is a result of switching from rainy season to dry season)

The distribution of rains during June 2017 is expected to be widely decreased since it is a dry season however the northern and western parts of the country will experience cloudy with very little rain which is associated with local effects. Farmers are advised to put in place supplementary measures which will support their farming practices.

Rainfall forecast for June_2017

During June 2017; we expect rain to be less in the north and west but will remain generally sunny and less cloudy elsewhere within the country: **Generally most parts of the country will experience cloudy to dry conditions**.

N.B: This forecast should be used in conjunction with the daily (24-hour), Three (3), Five (5) and Seven (7) days forecasts issued by the Rwanda Meteorology Agency (Meteo Rwanda)