



KMD MONTHLY AGRO-METEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN



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MONTHLY BULLETIN JANUARY 2025.

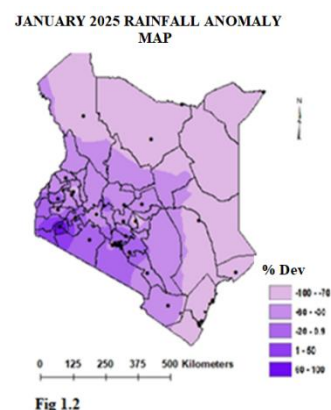
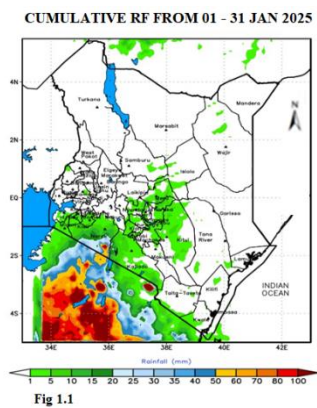
1.0 HIGHLIGHTS

- Predominantly sunny and dry conditions were experienced across most parts of the country.
- Rainfall occurred in the fourth week in the southern half of the country, excluding the Coastal region.
- The rainfall received was below the long-term mean, except for a few stations in Nairobi, the Central Highlands, and Western Kenya, which recorded above-average rainfall.
- Temperatures were warmer than usual across the entire country.
- Soil moisture levels were low in the first three weeks, negatively affecting crops and pasture. However, in the fourth week, soil moisture improved in the southern regions due to the rainfall.

2.0 WEATHER AND SOIL CONDITION ASSESMENT

2.1.0 Rainfall amounts

Kisii station recorded the highest amount of rainfall of followed by Dagoretti station in Nairobi. Western, central and Nairobi region received above normal rainfall while the rest of the country received below normal rainfall.



2.1.1 Mean Temperature

During the month of January temperatures were warmer than average. Higher temperatures were exhibited in the North Eastern and Coastal parts of the country. Malindi station recorded the highest mean temperature during the month of January while Nyahururu in Central region recorded the lowest mean temperature during the same period.

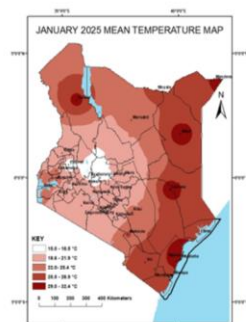


Fig 1.3: Mean Temperature Map

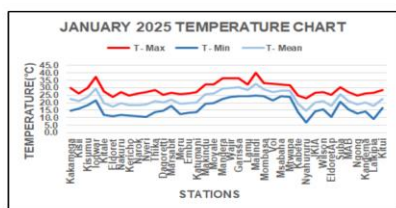
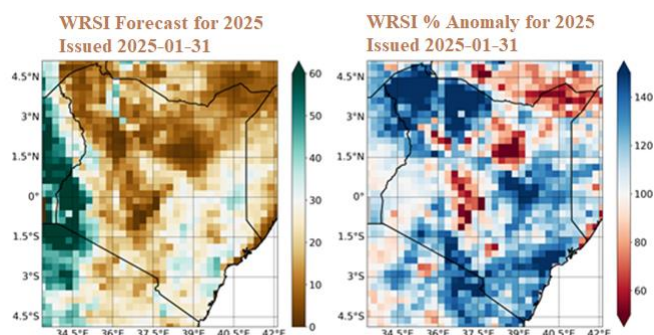


Fig 1.4: Temperature Chart

2.1.2 Soil Moisture

The Water Requirement Satisfaction Index (WRSI) during the month of January was below 50% in most parts of the country. Crops and pasture suffered significant water stress which led poor yields and crop failure. Figure 1.6 indicates the soil moisture anomaly in most parts of the country were drier than normal.



3.0 CROP REVIEW FOR JANUARY 2025

3.10 Western & Nyanza Region: Maize harvesting is ongoing in Western Kenya, while in Nyanza, the maize crop has reached maturity and is ready for harvesting. Beans have already been harvested in both regions.

3.11 Rift Valley Region: Farmers in Kitale are preparing land for the next planting

season. In Kericho, beans have been harvested, and maize is in the post-flowering stage. However, poor yields are expected due to insufficient rainfall.

3.12 Central Region: Maize is in the flowering to post-flowering stage, and beans are ready for harvesting. In Nyeri, maize is past the ninth leaf stage, and beans are still at the flowering stage.

3.13 Eastern Region: Maize is at the flowering stage, but due to excessive sunlight, crop failure is likely, leading to below-average yields.

3.14 Coastal Region: The maize crop has reached maturity, but erratic rainfall has resulted in below-average yields. Areas such as Kilifi, Kwale, and Tana River are facing significant crop failure due to dry conditions.

3.15 North Eastern Region: Pasture conditions are below average due to continued dryness and reduced soil moisture.

4.0 Expected Weather and crop conditions in the next one month (February 2025)

The majority of the country will experience hot and dry conditions throughout the month.

A few regions will receive occasional rainfall, including: Highlands West of the Rift Valley, Lake Victoria Basin, Southern Rift Valley,

Highlands East of the Rift Valley (including Nairobi County) and Southern Lowlands.

Above-average temperatures are expected across the country.

Soil moisture levels will be low in most areas due to prolonged dry and sunny conditions.

**WRF Model Monthly Rainfall
Forecast valid 01 - 28 Feb 2025**

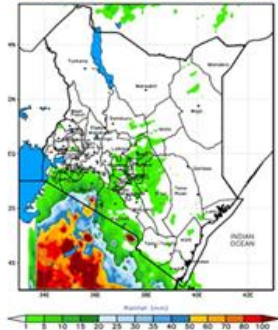


Fig 1.7

**WRSI Forecast 2025
Issued 2025-01-31**

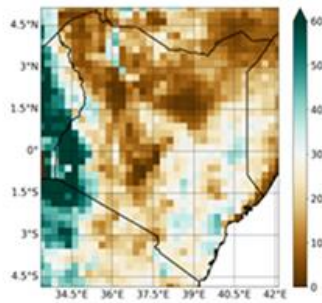


Fig 1.8

4.2 Agro- Advisory

- ❖ The dry weather conditions expected during this month are conducive for the harvesting and drying of grains.
- ❖ Farmers should ensure proper handling of the cereals to avoid food contamination and post-harvest losses.
- ❖ Low soil moisture availability factor in range-lands and game parks is likely to increase dry matter which may lead to wild fires. Forest/game rangers be on the look-out for any fire outbreak.
- ❖ Pastoralists are advised to adopt conservative stocking rate through off-take to avoid animal losses.

For inquiries or any clarification, please use the email below

A handwritten signature in blue ink, likely belonging to Mary Githinji.

Mary Githinji

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