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REPORTING PERIOD: 01 – 10 October 2024



ISSUE NO.: 01

SEASON: 202

2024/25

RELEASED:14/10/2024

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HIGHLIGHTS Not much rainfall observed... Fair vegetation condition... Fair vegetation condition... No reported land preparation activities... Improvement in rainfall is anticipated... Cool to warm temperatures forecasted... Improvement in soil moisture expected...

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RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURES

RAINFALL

Dry conditions prevailed in the 1st dekad of October 2024 (Figure 1) and (Map 1).



Figure 1: Rainfall distribution 1st dekad October 2024



Map 1: Spatial rainfall distribution 1st dekad October 2024

Map 2: Rainfall Longterm distribution 1st dekad October

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Not much rainfall was observed in all the Agro-ecological zones, as the reporting period was mostly dry (**Table 1**).

Table 1: Rainfall (mm) 1st dekad October 2024

	HV	MV	LV	LP
2023/24	2.6	0.6	0.2	0.2
Average	26.3	19.8	12.9	17.5
2024/25	0.2	0.0	0.7	1.1
Anomaly	-26.1	-19.8	-12.2	-16.4

MAIZE AND OTHER CROPS

CURRENT FARMING ACTIVITY

Some farmers have commenced land preparation.

MAIZE CROP STAGE AND CONDITION

Maize has not been planted as yet.

OTHER CROPS

No other crops have been reported to have been planted.

TEMPERATURES

Warm to hot temperatures were observed during the reporting period (**Figure 2**).



Figure 2: Maximum and Minimum temperatures 1st dekad of October 2024



Image 1: Agriculture Stress Index 1st dekad October 2024 Source: FAO-GIEWS

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LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES

Livestock is in fair condition and rangelands are reported to be in fair condition.

WATER SITUATION

Some dam levels are very low as a result of dry and hot conditions that have been prevailing in the past ten days.

Table 2: Dam storage capacity as at 10th October 2024

Name of Dam	River	Full Supply Storage Million Cubic meters	Percentage Storage (%) 10 th Oct, 2024
Mnjoli	Black Mbuluzi	177	80.20
Lubovane	Great Usuthu	155	84.47
Maguga	Komati	332	79.25
Hawane	Black Mbuluzi	2.75	55.00
Luphohlo	Lusushwana	23.6	28.75

MEDIUM-TERM OUTLOOK

RAINFALL

Increase in rainfall is expected in the outlook period.

TEMPERATURE

Cool to warm temperatures are anticipated in the outlook period.

SOIL MOISTURE

An improvement in soil moisture is expected in the outlook period.

WIND SPEED

Wind will generally be light to moderate in the outlook period

NB: Outlook period is ten days from date of issue

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Image 2: Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) Anomaly (1st Dekad October 2024) Source: FAO-GIEWS



Image 3: Vegetation Health Index (VHI) (1st Dekad October 2024)

Source: FAO-GIEWS

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