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REPORTING PERIOD: 11 – 20 NOVEMBER 2024



ISSUE NO.: 05

SEASON: 2024/25

Relea

RELEASED: 24/11/2024

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HIGHLIGHTS > Below Normal rainfall observed... > Fair vegetation condition... > Few land preparation and planting activities... > Decrease in rainfall is anticipated... > Warm to hot temperatures forecasted.... > Decrease in soil moisture expected...

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RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURES

RAINFALL

Below Normal rainfall was observed in the 2nd dekad of November 2024 countrywide (Figure 1) and (Map 1).



Figure 1: Rainfall distribution 2nd dekad November 2024



Map 1: Spatial rainfall distribution 2nd dekad November 2024 Map 2: Longterm Rainfall Distribution 2nd dekad November

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Not much rainfall was received in all the Agroecological zones. (**Table 1**).

Table 1: Rainfall (mm) 2nd dekad November 2024

	HV	MV	LV	LP
2023/24	32.9	19.1	11.8	12.7
Average	57.6	47.9	38.8	49.5
2024/25	10.8	6.1	9.4	12.9
Anomaly	-46.7	-41.9	-29.4	-36.6

TEMPERATURES

High temperatures were observed during the reporting period, with a 3 days heat wave of temperatures exceeding 30°C in the Highveld and 40°C in the Lowveld (**Figure 2**).



Figure 2: Maximum and Minimum temperatures 2nd dekad of November 2024

MAIZE AND OTHER CROPS

CURRENT FARMING ACTIVITY

Most farmers have commenced land preparation and planting. Some areas in the western part of the country are depicting crop water stress (**Image 1**).

OTHER CROPS

No other crops have been reported to have been planted.

MAIZE CROP STAGE AND CONDITION

Early planted maize is mostly at early vegetative stage. The crop condition is reported to be deteriorating as a result of moisture shortages and high temperatures.



Image 1: Agriculture Stress Index 2nd dekad November 2024 Source: FAO-GIEWS

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LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES

Livestock is in fair to poor condition as there is not much improvement in rangeland condition.

WATER SITUATION

The dams in the country are showing a slightly decrease as compared to last week, only Mnjoli dam is showing a slight improvement in water storage. Lubovane, Mnjoli and Maguga dam are atleast above 70% of their storage capacities, at 79%, 74% and 72 % respectively. While Hawane dam is at 45% and Luphohlo dam at 33%.

If rains improve, the dams storage capacities are anticipated to increase. The nation is urged to continue conserving water.

<u>Table 2:</u> Dam storage capacity as at 11th November 2024

Name of Dam	River	Full Supply Storage Million Cubic meters	Percentage Storage (%) 11 th Nov, 2024
Mnjoli	Black Mbuluzi 177		74.54
Lubovane	Great Usuthu	155	79.06
Maguga	Komati 332		72.90
Hawane	Black Mbuluzi	2.75	45.00
Luphohlo	Lusushwana	23.6	33.20

MEDIUM-TERM OUTLOOK

RAINFALL

Decrease in rainfall is expected in the outlook period.

TEMPERATURE

Warm to hot temperatures are anticipated in the outlook period.

SOIL MOISTURE

A decrease 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 (2nd Dekad November 2024) Source: FAO-GIEWS



Image 3: Vegetation Health Index (VHI) (2nd Dekad November 2024) Source: FAO-GIEWS

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