

Summary

The 1st dekad of agrometeorological bulletin of May, 2017 is presented in this edition. The country recorded moderate to heavy rainfall amount across some parts of the country, the highest rainfall amount was recorded in Uyo (257.5mm). Rainfall distribution showed a wide distribution of 1-7 rain-days across the country. Most parts of the country experienced above normal to below normal soil moisture conditions except some cities in and around Jos, Kaduna, Ondo and Umuahia that had normal conditions. The mean maximum temperature increased slightly across the country and the highest maximum temperature recorded was at Nguru (41.3°C) while, the mean minimum temperature across the country was observed at Jos (18.1°C). The maximum temperature anomaly showed most parts of the country experienced normal to warmer than-normal temperature anomalies except some cities in and around Umuahia and Uyo that had normal temperature anomalies. The Inter Tropical Discontinuity (ITD) is expected to continue northward movement to attend its mean position of 14.5°N. Land preparation and planting of rain fed agriculture are expected to start and continue across some parts of northern states. For proper guidance NiMet's Seasonal Rainfall Prediction (SRP).

1.0 Rainfall Pattern

This section highlights the observed rainfall amount, rain-day, available soil moisture and their departures from 30-year average for the 1st dekad of May, 2017.

1.1 Rainfall Amount

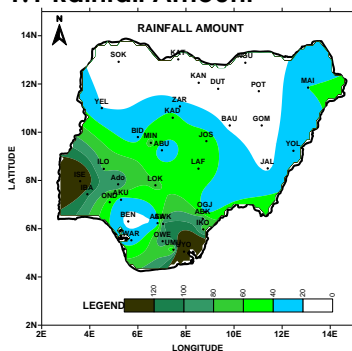


Figure 1: Rainfall Amount (mm)

The observed rainfall amount measured over the country for the 1st dekad of May, 2017 is shown in figure 1. There was an increase in rainfall amounts across the country. The northern states recorded light to moderate rainfall amounts at Maiduguri, Kaduna, Jos, Lafia, Minna and Ilorin with rainfall values of 40.3mm, 47.6mm, 52.1mm, 53.9mm, 71.0mm and 75mm respectively. Other places had below 25mm of rainfall. The southern states also recorded moderate to heavy rainfall amounts in some parts of the cities like Abakaliki, Awka, Aokiti, Owerre, Ibadan, Iseyin, and Uyo with rainfall values of 98.3mm, 101.2mm, 103.5mm, 105.5mm, 163.8mm and 257.5mm. Other places in the south recorded below 52.0mm of rainfall. Farmers across the North are advised to consult NiMet SRP before commencement of the new season.

1.2 Rainfall Departure.

The rainfall departure during the 1st dekad of May, 2017 is shown in figure 2. Rainfall departure was below normal to normal in some parts of the country

except some areas in and around Maiduguri, Minna, Kaduna Ilorin, Ibadan, Iseyin, Ado ekiti and Owerri that recorded above normal rainfall anomalies. Farmers should take note that rainfall recorded in the fringes of the North was not the onset for growing season. However, it was false onset. It could be used for preparation of land not for planting.

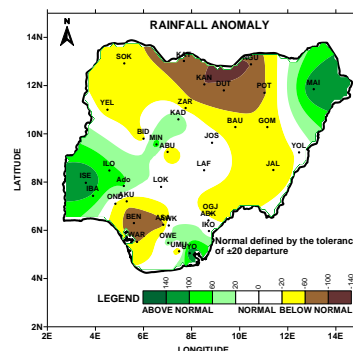


Figure 2: Rainfall Departure

1.3 Number of Rain Days

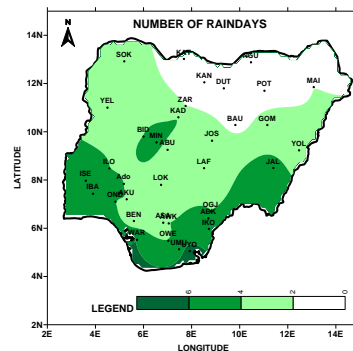


Figure 3: Rain- Day

The number of rain days is shown in figure 3. The distribution of rain-days revealed decrease in 1-7 rain-days across the country especially the southern parts. Elsewhere had zero rain days during the dekad.

1.4 Soil Moisture Index

The distribution of available soil moisture across the country is shown in figure 4. Most parts of the country experienced above normal to below normal soil moisture conditions except some cities in around Jos, Kaduna, Ondo and Ummuahia that had normal conditions during the dekad under review.

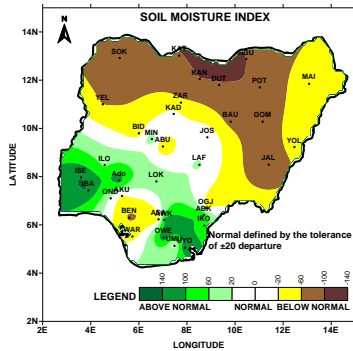


Figure 4: Soil Moisture Index (SMI).

2.0 Temperature Trend

This section highlights the maximum and minimum temperature trends across the country and their departures from 30-year average during the dekad.

2.1 Maximum Temperature Trend

Figure 5 shows the mean maximum temperature for 1st dekad of May, 2017. The mean maximum temperature decreased slightly across the country, particularly over the northern cities. The highest maximum temperature was recorded at Nguru (41.3°C).

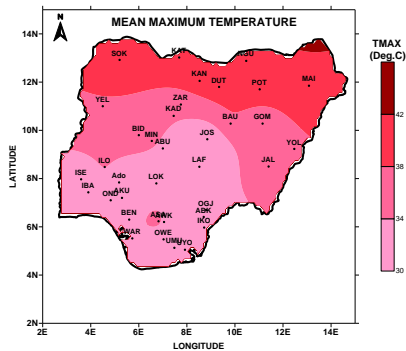


Figure 5: Mean Maximum Temperature

2.2 Maximum Temperature Departure

The maximum temperature anomaly across the country is shown in figure 6. Most parts of the country experienced Normal to warmer than-normal temperature anomalies except some cities in and

around Ummuahia and Uyo that had normal temperature anomalies

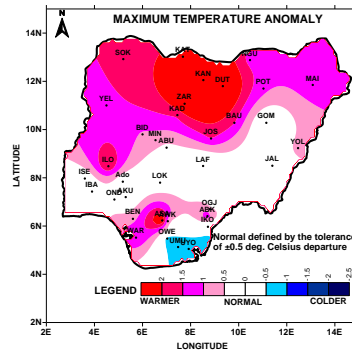


Figure 6: Maximum Temperature Anomaly.

2.3. Minimum Temperature

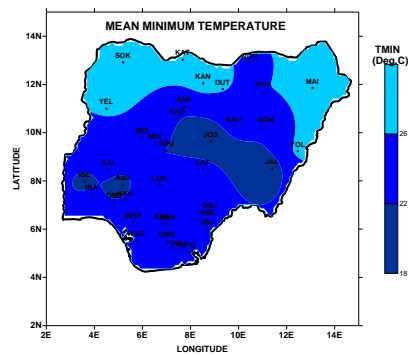


Figure 7: Mean Minimum Temperature

The mean minimum temperature across the country is shown in figure 7. The lowest value was recorded at Jos (18.1°C).

2.4 Minimum Temperature Departure

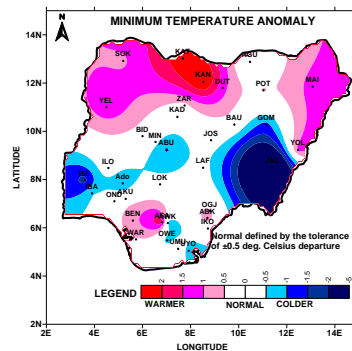


Figure 8: Mean Minimum Temperature Departure

Figure 8 shows the minimum temperature departure for 1st dekad of May, 2017 and it revealed that most parts of the country experienced normal to warmer than-normal except areas in and around Jalingo, Gombe, Abuja, Ado Ekiti, Iseyin, Ibadan, Owerri and Uyo that experienced colder than-normal night temperature anomalies.

3.0 Vegetation Conditions

No available data for the dekad under review.

4.0 Weather/Agricultural Outlook for 2nd dekad (11-20) of May, 2017.

4.1 Weather Outlook

The Inter-Tropical Discontinuity (ITD) is expected to continue its north ward movement to attain a mean position of 14.0°N.

The sunny and cloudy conditions are expected over the northern part of the country with chances of localised rain showers towards afternoon to evening hours. Partly cloudy to cloudy conditions are anticipated across the central states with some prospects of thundery/localised rains while some places in the inland and coastal cities of the South may have prospects of localised rainfall activities.

4.2 Agricultural Activity

Land preparation and planting of rain fed agriculture are expected to start and continue across some parts of northern states. Farmers are advised to consult NiMet's SRP.

TABLE OF AGROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR THE DEKAD

STATION	RAINFALL	RAINDAY	PET	TMAX	TMIN	D D	RADIATION
ABUJA	22.1	3	49.9	33.6	21.9	197.6	20.6
ABAKALIKI	98.3	5	45.6	33.5	24.1	207.7	18.5
BENIN	153	3	43.0	32.9	24.5	206.9	17.5
CALABAR	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
ENUGU	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
IKOM	68.6	4	42.9	32.0	23.4	197.2	17.7
ISEYIN	163.8	6	44.9	31.3	21.4	183.5	19.0
JOS	52.1	4	46.3	29.9	18.1	159.6	20.5
KADUNA	47.6	4	51.4	34.7	22.3	204.8	21.0
KANO	0	0	56.5	40.2	27.7	259.9	21.0
KATSINA	0.9	1	57.2	40.5	27.7	261.4	21.2
MINNA	71.4	5	49.0	34.4	23.5	209.5	19.8
ADO-EKITI	101.2	4	45.0	31.1	21.1	181.0	19.2
WARRI	30.3	6	46.0	33.7	24.3	209.8	18.6
SOKOTO	4.7	3	56.6	40.7	28.3	264.9	20.9
YELWA	19.9	2	51.2	37.4	26.5	239.5	19.7
YOLA	28.3	2	49.6	37.0	26.9	239.9	19.0

Note:
 Rainfall (mm)
 PET= Potential Evapotranspiration (mm/decade)
 TMAX = Maximum Temperature (°C)
 TMIN = Minimum Temperature (°C)
 GDD= Growing Degree Day (day)
 RAD = Radiation (MJ/m²/day)

Kindly send feedback to:
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