

Summary

The first dekad of agrometeorological bulletin for April, 2018 is presented in this edition. Significant rainfall amount was observed across the country. However, Warri recorded the highest total of **160.1mm**. The northern stations experienced normal to below normal rainfall anomalies while the southern states had normal to above normal over most parts of stations. The mean maximum temperature decreased slightly across the country and the highest maximum temperature was recorded at Yola (**40.5°C**). The temperature departure from the 30-year average showed some parts of the north-east, north-west and north-central experienced warmer than-normal temperature anomalies, other areas had normal to colder than-normal temperature anomalies. The Inter Tropical Discontinuity (ITD) is expected to move northwards to attain a mean position of 10.5°N. Farmers are advised to contact NiMet for more information and guidance on 2018 Seasonal Rainfall Prediction.

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 April, 2018.

1.1 Rainfall Amount

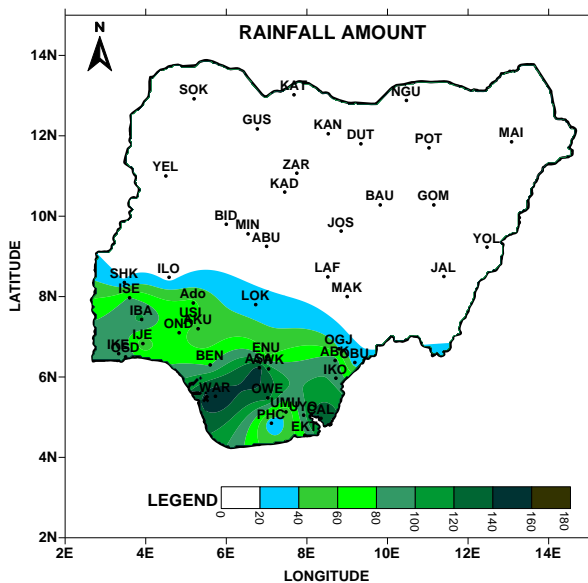


Figure 1: Rainfall Amount (mm)

The observed rainfall amount for the first of dekad of April, 2018 across the country is shown above. Significant rainfall total was observed in Warri (**160.1mm**), followed by Asaba (**145.9mm**), Calabar (**140.5mm**), Owerri (**128.5mm**), Awka (**112.3mm**), Ibadan (**105.6mm**), Oshodi (98.1mm), Uyo (94.0mm) and Abakaliki (**92.7mm**). The highest rainfall total were observed over Warri with about **160.1mm** of rainfall, other places recorded 80mm during the dekad.

1.2 Rainfall Departure.

Figure 2 shows the rainfall departure for first dekad of April, 2018. The northern stations continued to experienced normal to below normal rainfall anomalies. The southern states on the other hand had normal to above normal over most parts of stations

except Ondo, Ikom and Port-Harcourt that had below normal rainfall departure from the long term 30-year average.

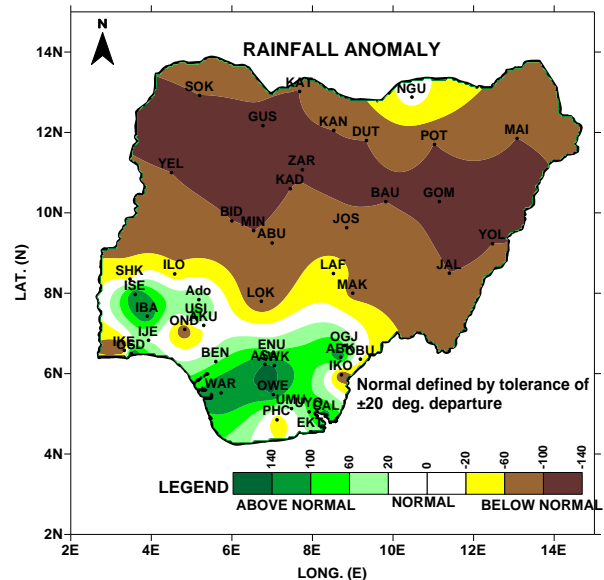


Figure 2: Rainfall Departure

1.3 Comparison of Normal with Actual Rainfall for the 1st dekad of April.

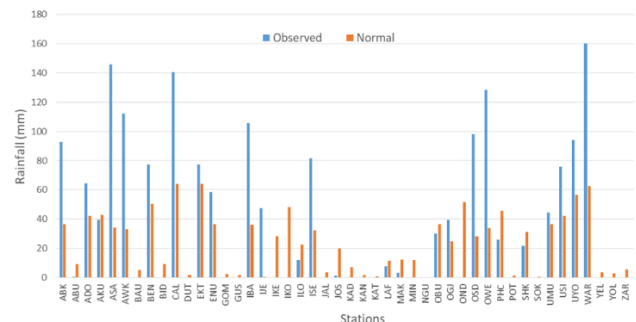


Figure 3: Comparison of Normal with Actual Rainfall

Figure 3 above shows the comparison of the actual rainfall amounts measured and normal/long term averages during the dekad over the country. Most of the southern stations had normal to above normal rainfall departure from normal while the Northern Stations recorded normal to below normal rainfall.

1.4 Number of Rain Days

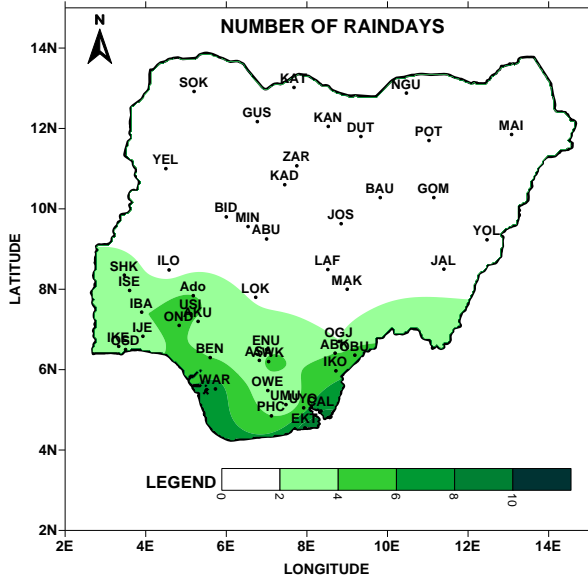


Figure 4: Rain- Day

The distribution of number of rain-days for 1st dekad of April shows an increase in number of rain-days (from 1-6 to 1-9 rain-days, when compared with the previous dekad). Other places had zero rain days.

1.4 Soil Moisture Index.

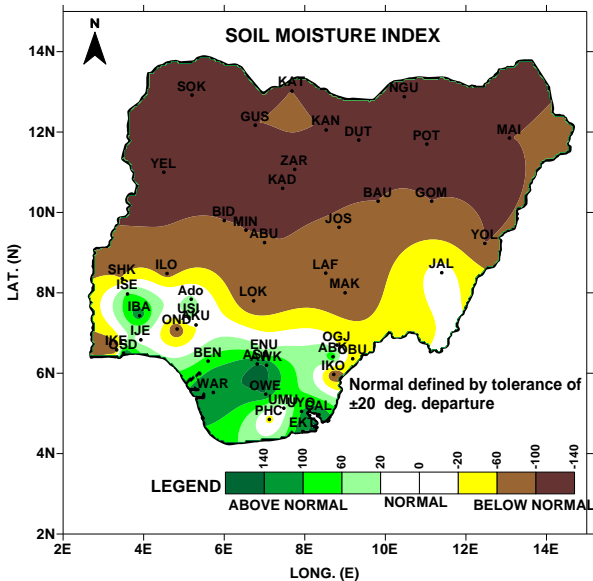


Figure 5: Soil Moisture Index (SMI).

The distribution of available soil moisture across the country is shown in figure 5. Most of the northern stations experienced below normal soil moisture conditions while, the southern stations had normal to above normal over most parts of stations with the exception of Ondo, Ikom and Port-Harcourt that had below soil moisture conditions.

2.0 Temperature Trend

The maximum temperature trends across the country and their departures from 30-year average during the dekad are highlighted in this section.

2.1 Maximum Temperature Trend

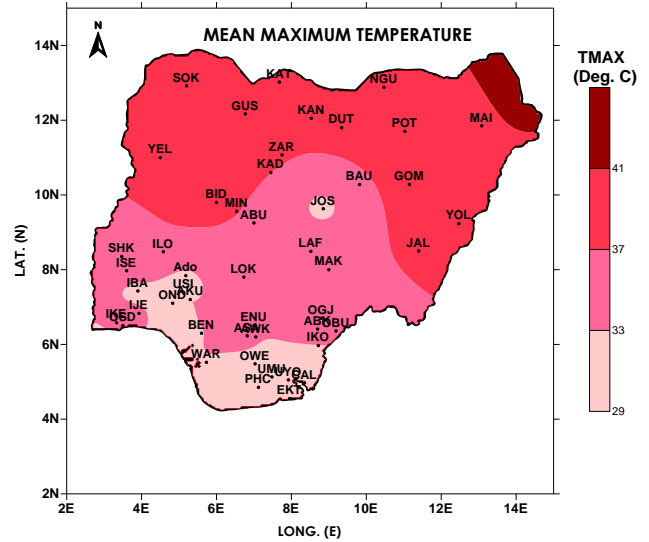


Figure 6: Mean Maximum Temperature

Figure 6 shows the day-time temperature for the 1st dekad of April. The mean maximum temperature ranged between 29.1°C (over Eket) to 40.5°C (over Yola).

2.2 Minimum Temperature

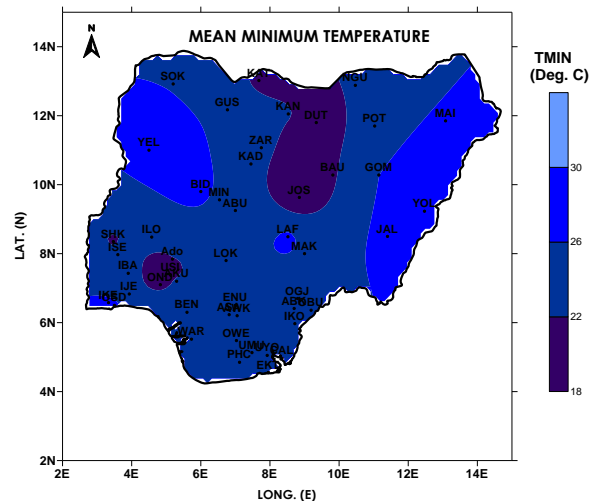


Figure 7: Mean Minimum Temperature

The night time mean minimum temperatures across the country is shown in figure 7. The temperature

ranged from 17.4°C to 29.7°C. The lowest value was recorded at Usi-Ekiti (17.4°C).

2.3 Maximum Temperature Departure

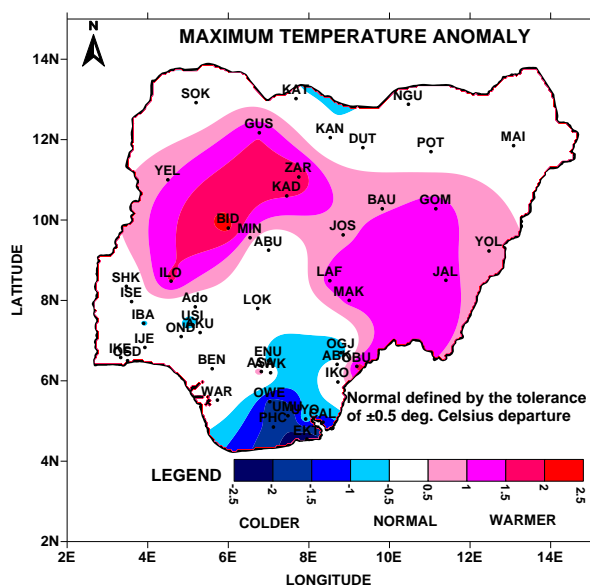


Figure 8: Maximum Temperature Anomaly.

The maximum temperature anomaly across the country is shown in figure 8. Some parts of the north-east, north-west and north-central experienced warmer than-normal temperature anomalies, other areas had normal to colder than-normal temperature anomalies.

TABLE OF AGROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR THE DEKAD

STATION	RAINFALL	RAIN DAY	PET	TMAX	TMIN	DD	RADIATION
IBADAN	105.6	4	46.5	32.7	23.7	202.4	19.1
ABAKALIKI	92.7	4	47.6	33.8	24.6	211.9	19.2
ABUJA	0.6	1	51.3	34.9	24.4	216.6	20.5
AdO EKITI	64.3	4	49.4	32.4	21.8	191.1	20.7
AKURE	39.3	3	47.3	33.0	23.7	203.3	19.4
ASABA	145.9	2	48.0	34.1	25.0	215.7	19.2
AWKA	112.3	5	47.2	33.3	24.2	207.4	19.2
BENIN	77.5	4	44.0	32.9	25.1	210.2	17.8
BIDA	0	0	58.1	39.2	27.2	251.9	21.9
CALABAR	140.5	8	40.8	30.6	23.4	190.0	17.1
DUTSE	0	0	68.4	39.2	20.4	217.8	27.3
EKET	77.3	9	32.7	29.1	24.4	187.1	13.8
ENUGU	58.5	3	46.0	33.2	24.4	207.7	18.7
GOMBE	0	0	59.7	39.0	26.0	244.7	22.8
GUSAU	0	0	64.3	40.1	24.8	244.6	24.6
IBADAN	105.6	4	46.5	32.7	23.7	202.4	19.1
IJEBU	47.5	3	48.7	33.2	23.5	203.5	19.9
ILORIN	11.7	1	55.5	35.8	23.6	216.8	22.2
ISEYIN	81.5	2	49.3	33.4	23.4	204.4	20.1
JOS	1.1	1	52.8	31.7	18.6	171.5	22.9
KANO	0	0	64.6	38.7	22.3	225.0	25.5
KATSINA	0	0	65.9	38.8	21.3	220.3	26.2
LAFIA	7.6	1	51.2	36.7	26.8	237.5	19.7
MAKURDI	3.2	1	54.5	36.6	25.4	230.0	21.3
MINNA	0	0	57.4	37.4	24.9	231.6	22.4
OBUDU	30	5	49.0	33.6	23.8	206.8	19.9
OGOJA	39.6	2	48.8	33.6	23.9	207.5	19.8
OSHODI	98.1	2	39.8	33.2	26.8	219.6	15.8
OWERE	128.5	3	46.7	31.8	22.3	190.6	19.5
PORT-HARCOURT	25.7	4	40.7	31.1	23.9	195.2	16.9

3.0 Weather/Agricultural Outlook for 2nd dekad (11-20) of April, 2018.

3.1 Weather Outlook

The Inter-Tropical Discontinuity (ITD) is expected to move northwards to attain a mean position of 10.5°N. Sunny and cloudy conditions are anticipated over the central states with localised thunderstorms. Cloudy to Partly cloudy skies are anticipated across the southern states with prospects of thunderstorms and/or localised rains during the day.

3.2 Advisories

The Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet) released its Seasonal Rainfall Prediction (i.e. prediction for onset, cessation, length of growing season and total rainfall amount) for 2018. The prediction revealed normal onset and cessation of growing season in many parts of country. Farmers are hereby advised to contact NiMet stations close to them for more information and guidance. Farmers across the country more especially the sudano-sahelian zone (Borno, Yobe, Jigawa, Katsina, Zamfara, Kebbi and Sokoto) are advised to continue planting ecologically friendly trees for soil fertility, conservation and carbon sequestration.

3.3 Agricultural Activity

Rain fed agriculture is ongoing across the southern parts of the country. Harvesting of yam, cassava, and vegetables are ongoing across the country. Land preparation across the northern states is in top gear in anticipation of the raining season.

POTISKUM	0	0	64.9	39.7	23.8	237.8	25.1
SHAKI	21.7	3	51.8	33.0	21.5	192.7	21.6
SOKOTO	0	0	63.1	40.3	25.8	250.5	23.8
UMUAHIA	44.4	2	42.5	31.8	24.0	199.0	17.5
USI-EKITI	76	6	54.9	31.8	17.4	165.8	24.1
UYO	94	5	47.0	32.1	22.7	193.6	19.5
WARRI	160.1	7	43.1	32.9	25.5	212.1	17.4
YELWA	0	0	58.0	39.6	27.6	255.8	21.7

YOLA	0	0	56.9	40.5	29.7	271.2	20.8
ZARIA	0	0	61.1	37.7	23.0	223.3	24.2

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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Airport, PMB 615 Garki, Abuja.

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