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SUMMARY

Rains have started falling in the southern part of the country during the 3rd dekad of January, while the northern part continued to remain dry with low temperatures between (28⁰C and 34⁰C). The country also remained under deficit soil moisture conditions except in the coastal areas. A number of stations in the southern part of the country have reported rains, However, significant rainfall amounts were recorded in Eket (87.5mm), Benin (64mm) and Ikeja(63.1mm). Preparation for the rainy season is expected to start in the South while harvesting of vegetables from the dry season farming is expected to commence in the northern part of the country , therefore farmers are advised to adhere to 2014 NIMET's seasonal rainfall prediction for more information when it is released.

1.0 RAINFALL PARTERN

1.1 Rainfall Deficit or Surplus

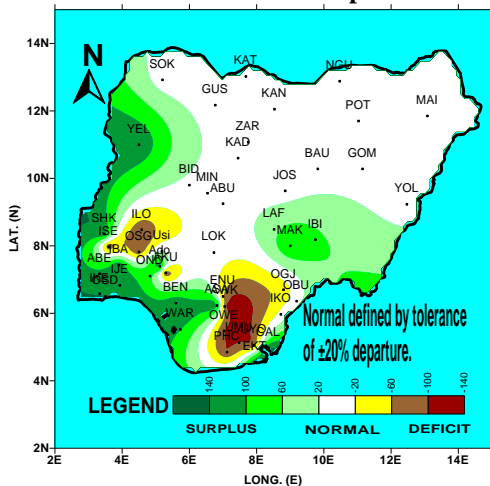


Fig.1: 3RD DEKAD RAINFALL ANOMALIES

Rainfall anomaly over the country as shown in *Fig.1* above indicates that the northern and central parts of the country continued to remain normal, except parts of Yelwa, Makurdi and Lafia which showed surplus rainfall anomalies. The southern parts also had surplus anomalies especially in the south west while the eastern part had deficit rainfall anomalies.

1.2 Rainfall Amounts

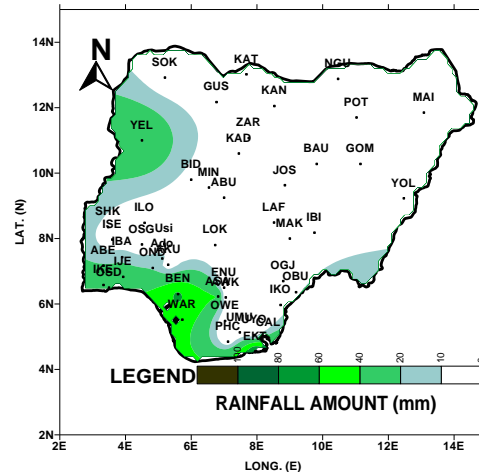


Fig.2 above shows the observed actual rainfall amount measured over the country for the dekad. It indicates that most parts of the coastal stations and some stations in the central states recorded rains. The highest rainfall was recorded Eket, Benin and Ikeja with 87.5mm, 64mm and 63.1mm in 3 days respectively .

1.3 COMPARISON OF NORMAL WITH ACTUAL RAINFALL FOR THE DEKAD

Fig. 3 below shows the comparison of the actual rainfall amount with normal rainfall values during the dekad in the southern part of the country. It reveals that some stations like Eket, Calabar, Asaba, Benin, Ado-Ekiti, Ikeja, Oshodi, Abeokuta and Shaki had rainfall above normal, while others that recorded rainfall had below normal.

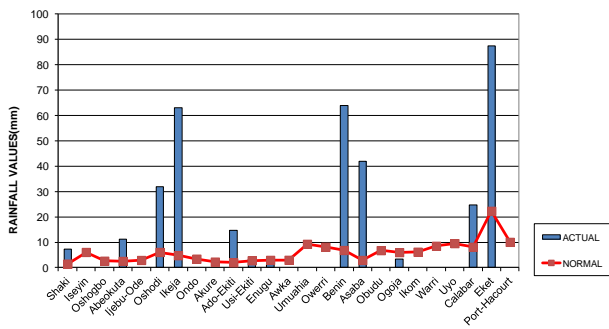


FIG. 3: COMPARISON OF NORMAL WITH OBSERVED RAINFALLOF DEKAD 3 JANUARY 2014: FOR SOUTHERN STATES OF NIGERIA.

1.4 Number of Rain Days

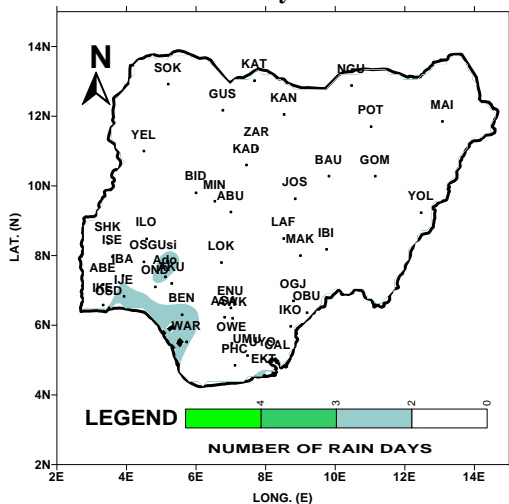


Fig.4: NUMBER OF RAIN DAYS

Fig. 4 shows the distribution of rainfall across the country and the map indicates that the stations in the South that recorded rains none had more than three rain-days, that is 1 to 3 rain-days.

2.0 SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION

The soil moisture indices across the country are shown in Fig. 5 below. The country was under deficit soil moisture condition except part of the South (along the coast) that showed neutral to surplus soil moisture condition.

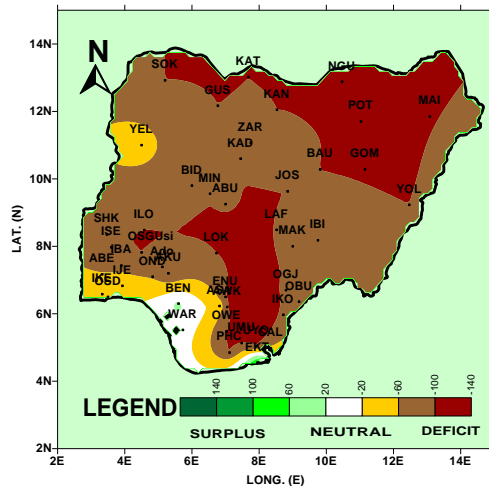


Fig. 5: 3RD DEKAD OF JANUARY SOIL MOISTURE INDEX (SMI)

3.0 MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE TREND

3.1 Maximum Temperature Anomaly

Fig 6 below shows the maximum temperature anomaly across the country and indicates that some parts of the northern states were colder than normal maximum temperatures anomalies except Sokoto axis which had normal maximum temperature anomalies. The central and southern states had warmer than normal temperature anomalies. Areas in and around Eket showed colder than normal temperature anomalies.

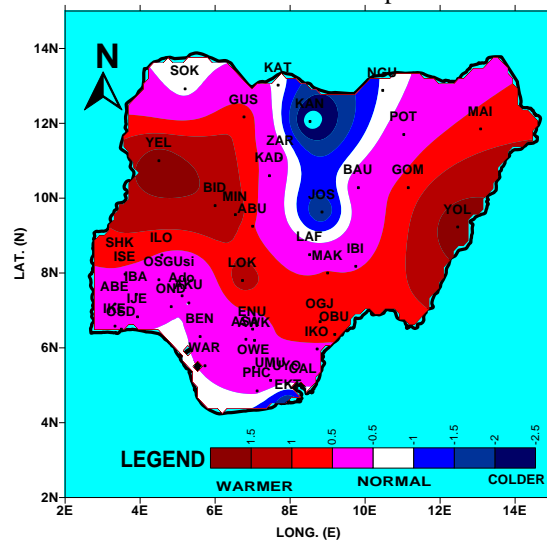


Fig.6: Maximum Temperature Anomaly.

3.2 Maximum Temperature Values

The actual mean maximum temperature distribution across the country as shown in Fig 7 below indicates that some parts of the extreme North recorded 34°C and below, except Yelwa, Gusau and Yola areas that had above 36°C .The central and southern states recorded maximum temperatures ranging from 30 to 36°C. Kano recorded the lowest value of 28.7°C.

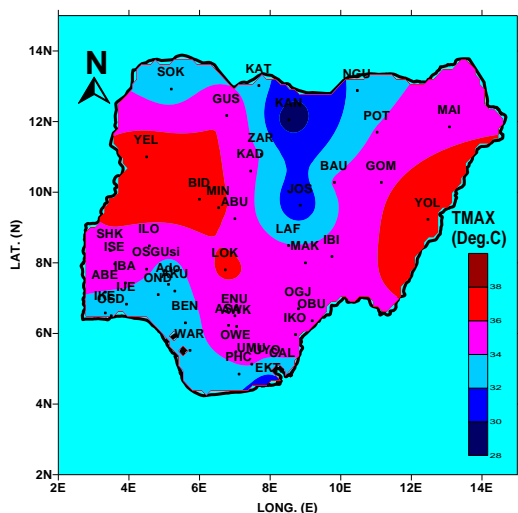


Fig. 7: Mean maximum Temperature

WEATHER/AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK FOR DEKAD 1 (1 TO 10), OF FEBRUARY 2014

4.1 Weather Outlook

ITD's position is expected to oscillate between latitude 7deg. N & 9degN. The northern and central parts of the

country are expected to have hazy weather conditions. The inland areas are expected to be sunny and hazy, while the coastal areas are will have mist and fog in the morning and cloudy and slightly hazy in the afternoon with localized rains.

The expected mean maximum temperature in the North will range from 34^oC to 41^oC, while the mean minimum temperature will be between 15^oC and 23^oC. In the inland and coastal areas, the mean maximum temperature is expected to be between 32^oC and 35^oC, while the mean minimum temperature will range from 22^oC to 25^oC.

4.2 Agricultural Activity/Outlook

Preparation for rainy season farming is expected to start in the southern part of the country in the 1st dekad of February. Harvesting of vegetables is expected to commence in the North. Farmers are advised to adhere to the 2014 NIMET seasonal rainfall prediction for more information immediately it is released.

TABLE OF AGROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR THE DEKAD

STATION	RAINFALL	RAINDAY	PET	TMAX	TMIN	GDD	RAD
ABEOK	11.3	3	53.6	35.1	25.6	245.9	19.3
ABUJA	1.1	1	63.6	35.2	20.2	216.6	24
AKURE	0	0	52	33.2	23.6	224.2	19.3
ASABA	41.9	1	58.4	35.1	23.4	233.8	21.4
AWKA	0	0	56.9	35.1	24.2	237.9	20.7
BAUCHI	0	0	66.3	34.3	16.7	192.2	26
BENIN	64	3	50.4	33.4	24.7	231.4	18.5
BIDA							
CALABAR	24.8	1	52.8	33.3	23.6	225.2	19.6
EKET	87.5	3	43	30.1	23.2	205.2	16.5
ENUGU	1.2	1	58.6	34.4	22.3	224.3	21.8
GOMBE	0	0	64.6	34.6	18.6	204.3	24.8
GUSAU	0	0	67.8	36.0	18.5	211.8	25.7
IBADAN	17.5	2	53.3	34.2	24.4	234.1	19.5
IJEBU							
IKEJA	63.1	3	48.6	33.1	25.0	231.6	17.8
IKOM							
ILORIN	0	0	57.8	35.0	23.5	234.3	21.1
ISEYIN	0	0	57.5	34.6	23.1	229.1	21.2
JOS	0	0	60.3	30.3	13.8	154.5	25.2
KADUNA	0	0	65	34.5	17.9	200.6	25.1
KANO	0	0	61.9	28.7	8.3	115.4	27.8
KATSINA	0	0	63.4	32.9	15.9	180.3	25.3
LAFIA	16	1	62.6	36.4	22.9	237.8	22.8
LOKOJA	0	0	65.3	36.6	22.1	235	23.9
MAIDU							
MAKURDI	4	1	59.7	35.2	22.4	228.9	22
MINNA	0	0	63.9	36.7	22.7	238.9	23.2
NGURU							
OGOJA	3.3	1	59.2	35.6	23.7	238.4	21.5
ONDO							
OSHODI	31.9	2	47.6	33.3	25.6	235.8	17.4
OSOGBO	0	0	56.2	34.3	23.1	227.7	20.8
OWERRI	0	0	58.4	34.4	22.4	224.5	21.7
PHC	0	0	56.4	33.5	22.1	217.9	21.2
POT	0	0	67.3	34.2	15.3	184.3	26.8
SHAKI	7.3	1	61.8	35.6	22.1	229.7	22.8
SOKOTO	0	0	59.6	32.6	18.0	190	23.5
UMUAHIA	0	0	55.8	34.2	23.5	229.2	20.6
UYO	0	0	52.3	33.2	23.6	224.2	19.4
WARRI							
YELWA	40	2	71.7	37.6	18.7	221.8	26.8
YOLA	0	0	71.6	37.6	19.4	225.3	26.6
ZARIA	8.4	1	63.7	33.9	17.6	195.1	24.9
OBUDU							
IBI							
ADO-EKITI	14.6	3	55.5	33.4	22.3	218.1	20.8
USI-EKITI	3.3	3	64.2	33.3	16.8	187.4	25.4
CALARMA							

Note: Rainfall (mm)
PET(mm/day)
TMAX (°C)

TMIN (°C)
GDD (day)
RAD (MJ/m²/day)

Dear All,

Comments and suggestions on how to improve this publication are welcome. Agrometeorologists, Agriculturists, Extension Workers, Research Officers, Users and the General Public should kindly send feedback to:

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