

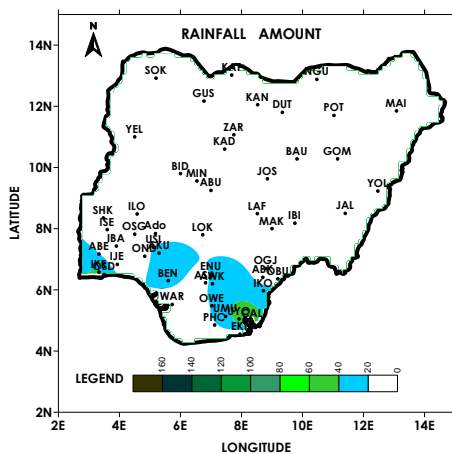
### Summary

The second dekad of April, 2018 is presented in this edition. Below 50mm of rainfall was recorded across cities over the south, while the north was predominantly dry with only a few states such as Katsina, Yelwa and Zaria recording 2mm, 3.3mm, 4.8mm and 4.8mm of rainfall respectively. Over the central states, Yola, Abuja and Bida recorded 4.8mm, 6.7mm and 3.1mm of rainfall respectively. Below normal soil moisture conditions were observed over most places in the country. Mean maximum temperature ranged between 29.4°C and 40.1°C across cities in Nigeria. The temperature departure from the 30-year average showed that there was a mixture of normal, colder than normal and above normal temperatures in certain areas of the country. More moisture is expected into the country and as such, the Inter Tropical Discontinuity (ITD) is expected to move northwards to attain a mean position of 14.0°N. Farmers are hereby advised to contact NiMet for more information and guidance on 2018 Seasonal Rainfall Prediction.

### 1.0 Rainfall Pattern

The highlights of rainfall amount for the observed rainfall amount, rain-day, available soil moisture and their departures from 30-year average for the 2<sup>nd</sup> dekad of April, 2018 is presented in this session.

### 1.1 Rainfall Amount

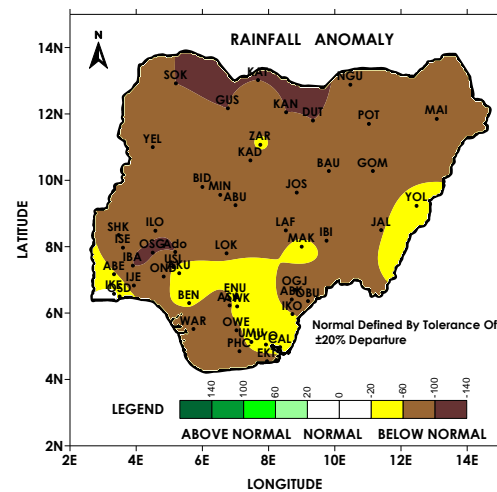


**Figure 1: Rainfall Amount (mm)**

Figure 1 shows the observed rainfall amount for the second dekad of April, 2018 over the country. Rainfall of between 40 and 50mm were observed over the Uyo, Ikeja and Calabar axis during the dekad under review. Abakaliki, Benin and Ijebu-Ode recorded between 20mm and 25mm of rainfall, leaving other cities in the south with observed rainfall less than 20mm. The northern cities during the dekad were dry all round with only Katsina, Yelwa and Zaria recording 2mm, 3.3mm, 4.8mm and 4.8mm of rainfall respectively. Over the central states, Yola, Abuja and Bida recorded 4.8mm, 6.7mm and 3.1mm of rainfall.

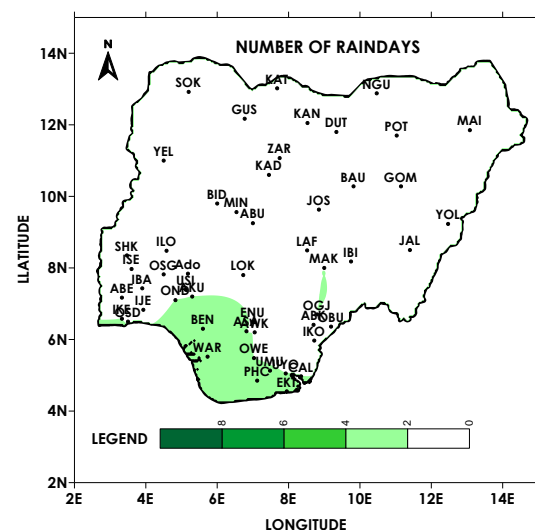
### 1.2 Rainfall Departure.

The rainfall departure for second dekad of April, 2018 is shown in figure 2. Rainfall was observed to be below normal when compared with the 30-year average during the dekad under review.



**Figure 2: Rainfall Departure**

### 1.3 Number of Rain Days



**Figure 3: Rain- Day**

The distribution of number of rain-days for second dekad of April 2018 as presented in figure 3 above

shows that number of rain days across the country ranged between 1 and 4 days

### 1.4 Soil Moisture Index.

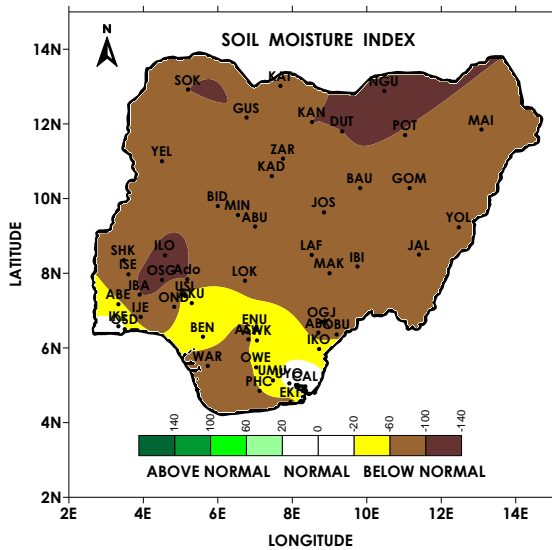


Figure 4: Soil Moisture Index (SMI).

The distribution of available soil moisture across the country is shown in figure 4. The country experienced below normal soil moisture conditions except around Calabar where normal soil moisture conditions were observed.

### 2.0 Temperature Trend

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

#### 2.1 Maximum Temperature Trend

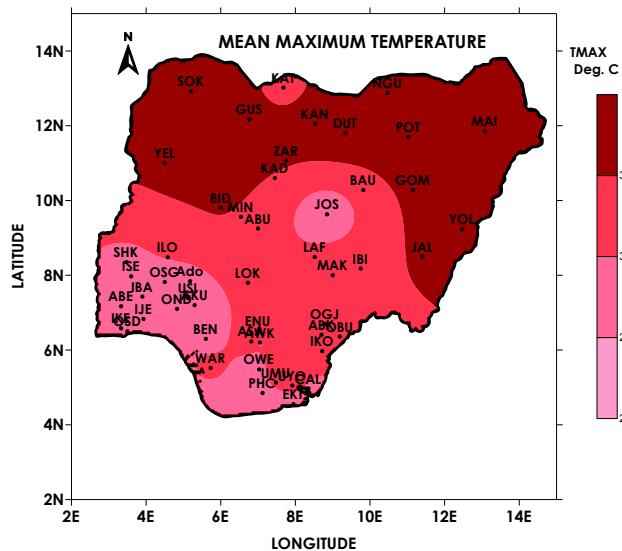


Figure 5: Mean Maximum Temperature

The day-time temperature for the 2<sup>nd</sup> dekade of April, 2018 is shown in figure 5. The mean maximum temperature ranged between 29.4°C (over Jos and Eket) to 40.1°C (over Dutse, Kano and Yola).

### 2.2 Maximum Temperature Departure

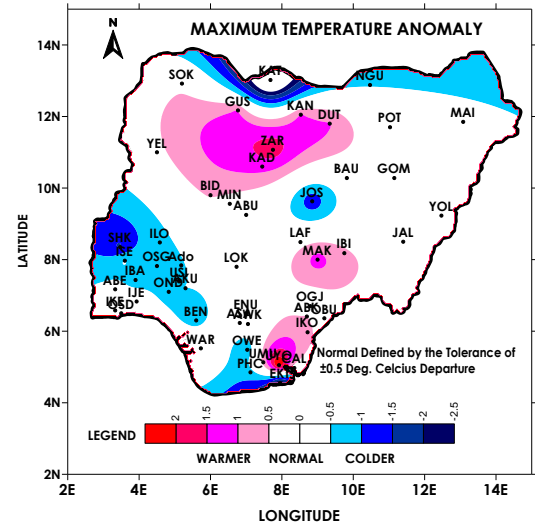


Figure 6: Maximum Temperature Anomaly.

The maximum temperature anomaly across the country is as shown above. Most parts of the country experienced normal to colder than-normal except areas around Gusau, Zaria, Kaduna, Bida, Minna, Makurdi, Calabar and Uyo where above-normal temperatures were recorded.

### 3.0 Weather/Agricultural Outlook for second dekade (11-20) of April, 2018.

#### 3.1 Weather Outlook

We expect an upward surge in the mean position of the Inter-Tropical Discontinuity (ITD) to attain a mean position of 14.0°N.

Cloudy to partly cloudy skies are anticipated over the central states with localised thunderstorms. The southern cities are expected to be mostly cloudy with prospects of thunderstorms and or localised rains during the day. Occasional thundery activities which may be accompanied by thunderstorms are expected over the north however, the weather is expected to be predominantly partly cloudy to sunny.

#### 3.2 Advisories

The Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet) has released its Seasonal Rainfall Prediction (i.e. Forecast for planting date, cessation, length of growing season and total rainfall amount) for 2018. The 2018 prediction shows normal onset and cessation of rainfall in many parts of country. Farmers are hereby

advised to contact NiMet stations close to them for more information and guidance.

Following the expected surge of the ITD, more weather activities are expected in the 3<sup>rd</sup> dekad of April 2018, this should favour farming activities over the central cities and as such, farmers can begin ploughing and or ridging in commencement of the 2018 planting season over the central states. As relative humidity increases due to moisture build-up, the extreme north are likely going to be hot and uncomfortable, therefore farmers are advised to

factor in this in their day to day farm activities particularly with respect to animal husbandry.

### 3.3 Agricultural Activity

Rain fed agriculture has commenced fully across the southern parts of the country. Farmers around the central states have begun land preparation. 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.

**TABLE OF AGROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR THE DEKAD**

STATION	RAINFALL	RAIN DAY	PET	TMAX	TMIN	DD	RADIATION
ASABA	11.7	2	45.8	33.5	24.8	211.5	18.4
ABAKILIKI	13.2	1	47.7	34.4	25.2	217.9	19.0
AKURE	36.6	2	45.2	32.0	23.2	196.1	18.7
AWKA	29.4	2	45.5	32.9	24.2	205.5	18.5
BIDA	3.1	1	54.7	37.6	26.2	239.1	21.1
CALABAR	46.4	2	43.0	32.1	24.2	201.5	17.6
DUTSE	0	0	63.2	40.1	25.0	245.6	24.1
BENIN	26.9	4	42.4	32.4	24.8	205.8	17.3
IKEJA	42.8	2	43.5	32.7	24.7	207.0	17.7
GUSAU	0	0	59.6	39.6	26.3	249.8	22.6
IJEBU -ODE	10.5	1	47.8	33.0	23.2	201.1	19.6
ONDO	0	0	47.3	32.0	22.1	190.4	19.8
DUTSE	0	0	63.2	40.1	25.0	245.6	24.1
KATSINA	2	1	62.0	34.8	25.0	244.2	23.7
ISEYIN	2.5	1	45.5	32.6	23.6	200.8	18.7
JOS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KANO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

OWERRI	21.1	2	48.9	32.5	22.0	192.7	20.4
OGOJA	14.8	2	50.9	34.6	24.0	213.2	20.5
MAKURDI	11.4	2	56.0	36.7	24.4	225.6	22.1
EKET	6.9	3	29.2	29.4	25.7	195.5	12.1
IBADAN	0	0	44.3	32.5	24.2	203.6	18.1
WARRI	5.7	3	45.4	33.5	25.0	212.1	18.3
SHAKI	8.6	1	47.2	31.8	21.8	187.7	19.9
SOKOTO	0	0	62.8	41.0	26.5	257.8	23.5
UYO	49.9	2	52.6	35.4	24.2	218.0	20.9
YELWA	3.3	1	55.5	39.0	27.6	252.9	20.9
YOLA	4.8	1	57.9	40.1	28.2	261.6	21.5
ZARIA	0.7	4.8	1	59.3	37.6	234	23.4

Note:  
 Rainfall (mm)  
 PET= Potential Evapotranspiration (mm/decade)  
 TMAX = Maximum Temperature (°C)  
 TMIN = Minimum Temperature (°C)  
 GDD= Growing Degree Day (day)  
 RAD = Radiation (MJ/m<sup>2</sup>/day)

**Kindly send feedback to:**  
**The Director-General/CEO,**  
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**National Weather Forecasting and Climate**  
**Research Centre, NnamdiAzikiwe International**  
**Airport, PMB 615 Garki, Abuja.**  
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