

Summary

The 2nd dekad of agrometeorological bulletin of April, 2017 is presented in this edition. The country recorded heavy to moderate rainfall amount across some southern states and low across the North central. Rainfall distribution was the same (1-6 rain-days) when compared with preceding dekad. The entire country experienced below normal to above normal soil moisture conditions. The mean maximum temperature increased slightly across the country and the highest maximum temperature was recorded at Sokoto (41.0°C) while, the mean minimum temperature across the country was observed at Jos(18.3°C). The temperature anomaly showed most parts of the country experienced normal to warmer than-normal temperature anomalies except areas in and around north-east, north-west and north-central states that had colder than-normal temperature anomalies. The Inter Tropical Discontinuity (ITD) is expected to continue northward movement to attend its mean position of 12.5°N. Planting and land preparation for rain fed agriculture is expected to start/continue across the central states.

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, 2017.

1.1 Rainfall Amount

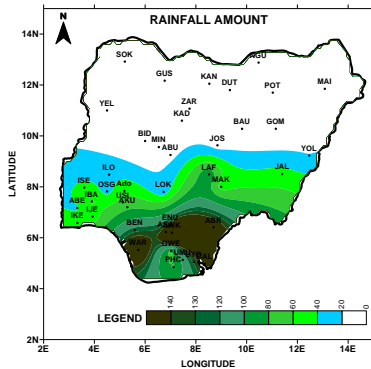


Fig 1: Rainfall Amount (mm)

Figure 1 shows the observed rainfall amount measured over the country for the 2nd dekad of April, 2017. There was a sharp increase in rainfall amounts across the country with moderate to heavy rainfall amounts recorded in many parts of the southern cities, except some cities in the central state and northern cities. Areas in and around Umuahia, Benin, Uyo, Enugu, Calabar, Asaba and Warri recorded rainfall values of 106.7mm, 125.4mm, 132.1mm, 141.4mm, 149.4mm, 158.6mm, and 174.5mm respectively. Other places in the south recorded below 90.0mm 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 2nd dekad of April, 2017 is shown in figure 2. Rainfall departure was below normal to above normal in most parts of the

country except some parts of areas in and around Ilorin, Oshogbo, Ijebu-Ode and Ikeja which recorded normal conditions.

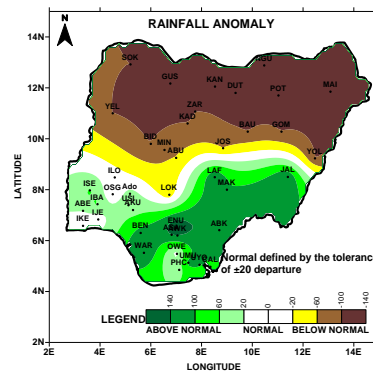


Fig 2: Rainfall Departure

1.3 Number of Rain Days

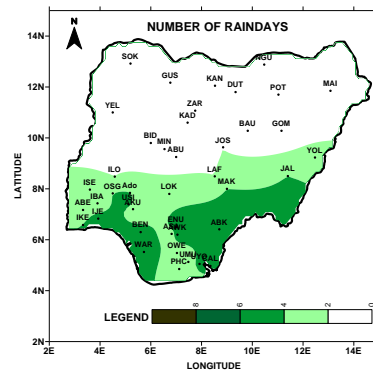


Fig.3: Rain- Day

Figure 3 shows the number of rain days. The distribution of rain-days revealed a decrease in 1-6 rain-days over the country. 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. The entire country experienced below normal to above normal soil conditions except areas in around Makurdi, Iseyin, Ijebu-Ode and Ikeja experience normal conditions respectively.

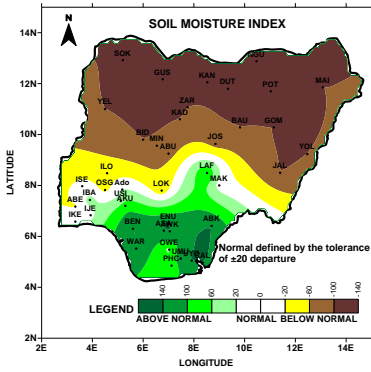


Fig 4: Soil Moisture Index (SMI).

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 mean maximum temperature for the dekad. The mean maximum temperature increased slightly across the country, particularly over the northern cities. The highest maximum temperature was recorded at Sokoto (41.0°C).

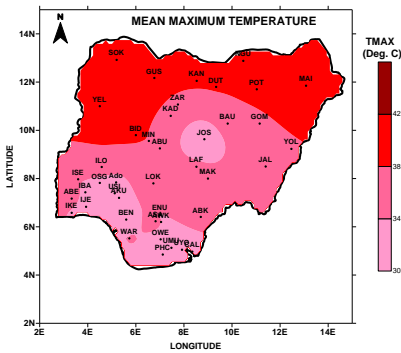


Fig.5: Mean Maximum Temperature

2.2 Maximum Temperature Departure

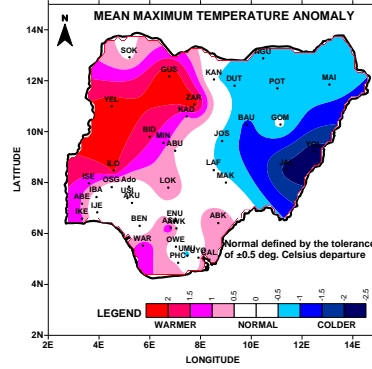


Fig. 6: Maximum Temperature Anomaly.

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 areas in and around north-east, north-west and north-central states that had colder than-normal temperature anomalies.

2.3. Minimum Temperature

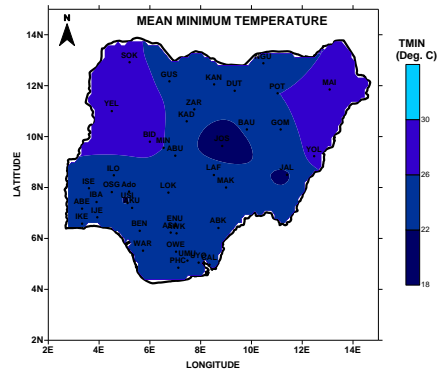


Fig.7: Mean Minimum Temperature

The mean minimum temperature across the country is shown in figure 7. The lowest value was recorded at Jos (18.3°C).

2.4 Minimum Temperature Departure

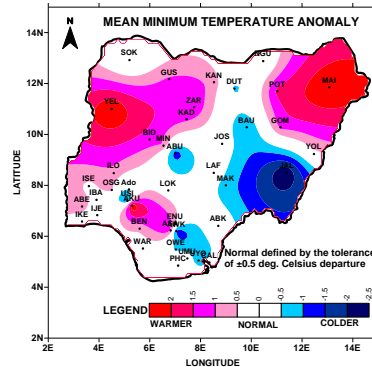


Fig.8: Mean Minimum Temperature Departure

The minimum temperature departure is shown in figure 8 and it revealed that most parts of the country experienced normal to warmer than-normal with the exception of areas in and around Dutse, Abuja, Bauchi, Makurdi, Jalingo, Akure, Awka, Uyo and Owerri had colder than-normal night temperature anomalies.

3.0 Vegetation Conditions

No available data for the dekad under review.

4.0 Weather/Agricultural Outlook for 3rd dekad (21-30), April, 2017.

4.1 Weather Outlook

The Inter-Tropical Discontinuity (ITD) is expected to continue its north ward movement to attain a mean position of 12.5°N.

The sunny condition is expected over the northern part of the country and Partly cloudy conditions across the central states with some prospect of thundery activities in the evening to morning hours while some places in the inland and coastal cities of the South have prospect of localize rainfall activities.

4.2 Agricultural Activity

The harvesting and drying of dry season agricultural produce across far North is expected to cease. Planting and land preparation for rain fed agriculture is expected to start/continue across the central states. Farmers are advice to consult NiMet SRP.

TABLE OF AGROMETEOROLOGICAL DATA FOR THE DEKAD

STATION	RAINFALL	RAIND AY	PET	TMAX	TMIN	DD	RADIATION
ABEOK	37.9	3	49.4	35.2	25.5	223.7	19.5
ABUJA	12.3	1	55.9	35.9	22.8	213.6	22.5
BENIN	125.4	5	44.1	32.8	24.7	207.6	17.9
CALABAR	149.4	4	47.1	32.8	23.3	200.2	19.4
ENUGU	141.4	5	47.1	33.9	24.8	213.4	18.9
IKEJA	51	4	46.8	33.8	24.7	212.5	18.9
ISEYIN	46.1	3	49.5	34.2	24.1	211.3	20.0
JOS	10.4	2	48.2	30.1	18.3	161.7	21.2
KADUNA	0	0	55.5	36.8	24.3	225.2	21.9
KANO	0	0	58.7	38.7	25.3	239.8	22.6
MAKURDI	50.5	4	50.2	35.1	24.8	219.9	20.0

MINNA	5.7	1	55.2	37.8	26.1	239.6	21.2
WARRI	174.5	6	48.8	34.2	24.4	212.9	19.6
UMUAHIA	106.7	2	46.3	33.1	24.1	205.6	18.9
SOKOTO	0	0	62.9	41.0	26.4	256.7	23.6
YELWA	0	0	58.5	40.9	28.8	268.3	21.5

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:

**The Director-General/CEO,
Nigerian Meteorological Agency (NiMet),
National Weather Forecasting and Climate
Research Centre, NnamdiAzikiwe International
Airport, PMB 615 Garki, Abuja.**

E-mail: agrometbulletin@nimet.gov.ng; NiMet WEB SITE: www.nimet.gov.ng

Phone: +2348038620950, +2348036040765