RAINY SEASON FORECAST
2019/2020

Issued by

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GENERAL SITUATION
Generally, much of Zambia is likely to receive Normal to Above Normal rainfall during the 2019/2020 rainfall season. However, there is a likelihood of dry spells around February especially over the Southern half of the country.

DETAILED FORECAST
October, November and December (OND): There is a high chance of receiving Normal to Above Normal rainfall for most parts of Zambia except for the north-eastern areas (Isoka, Chama, Mpika, Mbala, Nakonde, Mpuangu, Chinsali, Mungwi and Lundazi districts) which are likely to receive Normal to Below Normal rainfall (Figure 1).

November, December and January (NDJ): The southern half of the country is likely to receive Above Normal Rainfall while the northern half has a high chance of receiving Normal to Above Normal rainfall with the exception of the north-eastern areas where there is a likelihood of Normal to Below Normal rainfall (Figure 2).

December, January and February (DJF): There is a high likelihood of receiving Normal to Above Normal rainfall for the southern half of the country while the northern half has a high chance of recording Above Normal Rainfall (Figure 3).

January, February and March (JFM): The northern half of the country has a high chance of receiving Normal to Above Normal Rainfall while the southern half is likely to received Normal to Below Normal Rainfall. This part of the season will be characterised by reduced rainfall due to dry spells around February (Figure 4).

N.B.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ABOVE NORMAL:</th>
<th>Rainfall greater than 125% of the average for the period 1981 to 2010 (OND) &amp; 1980 to 2010 (JFM)</th>
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<tr>
<td>NORMAL:</td>
<td>Rainfall between 75% and 125% of the average for the period 1981 to 2010 (OND) &amp; 1980 to 2010 (JFM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>BELOW NORMAL:</td>
<td>Rainfall less than 75% of the average for the period 1981 to 2010 (OND) &amp; 1980 to 2010 (JFM)</td>
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</table>

Please note that this forecast is for planning purposes and is based on three monthly averages and does not necessarily reflect the monthly rainfall distribution. Users of this forecast are therefore advised to contact the Director of Meteorology, in the Ministry of Transport and Communications, for interpretation and updates of the forecast. In addition, users are advised to make use of the daily, 7-day and the 10-day weather forecasts for management purposes.
2019/2020 RAIN SEASON FORECAST MAPS

Figure 1. Rainfall Forecast for October, November & December 2019 (OND)

Figure 2. Rainfall Forecast for November, December 2019 & January 2020 (NDJ)

Figure 3. Rainfall Forecast for December 2019 & January, February 2020 (DJF)

Figure 4. Rainfall Forecast for January, February & March 2020 (JFM)
NORMAL (AVERAGE) RAINFALL BASED ON THE 1981-2010 BASELINE

Figure 5. Normal (Average) Rainfall for October, November & December (OND)

Figure 6. Normal (Average) Rainfall for November, December & January (NDJ)

Figure 7. Normal (Average) Rainfall for December & January, February (DJF)

Figure 8. Normal (Average) Rainfall January, February & March (JFM)
AVERAGE START OF THE 2019/2020 RAINY SEASON

- Dekad 1 = 1st to 10th
- Dekad 2 = 11th to 20th
- Dekad 3 = 21st to 30th/31st

Figure 9. Average Onset Of Rains Over Zambia