



GHANA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY

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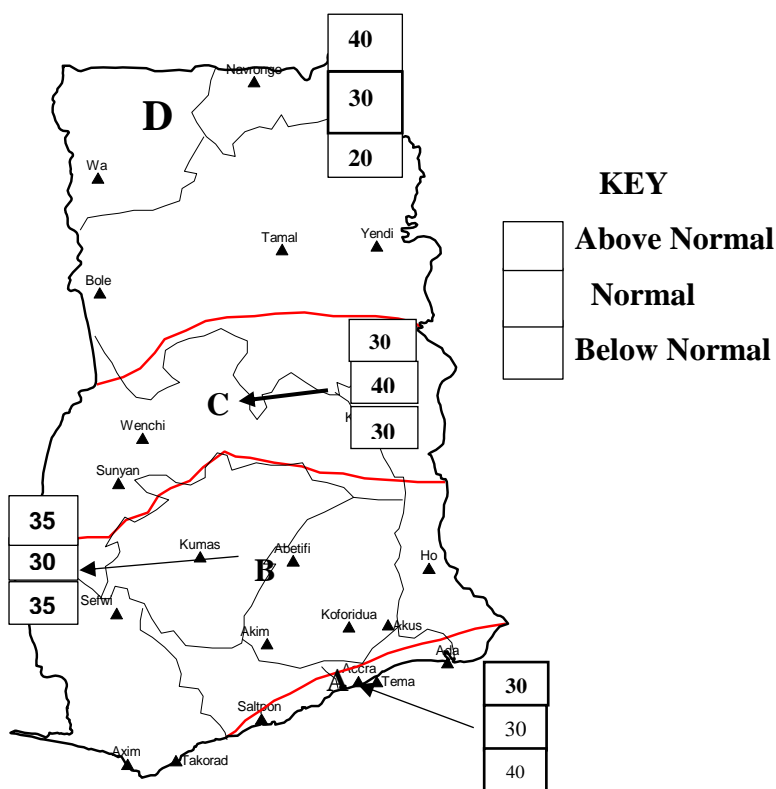
AUGUST 2017

GHANA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY RAINFALL SEASONAL FORECAST FOR THE MINOR SEASON 2017

SEASONAL FORECAST FOR SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER (SON) FOR GHANA AND UPDATES FOR THE NORTHERN REGION

Continuous enhanced rainfall activity is expected over the Northern, Upper East and Upper West Region for the September, October, November rainfall season whilst for the same period, cumulative rainfall amount for the season for the South is expected to decrease in amount.

Onset of rainfall activity for the South of the country, 8°N and below is expected to be normal to late.



ONSET AND CESSATION DATES OF 2017 RAINY SEASON FOR THE MINOR SEASON

SECTORS	ONSET DATES	CESSATION DATES	EXPECTED RAINFALL AMOUNTS
East Coast	4 th Week of Sept – 1 st week of Oct	4th Week of October	100mm-300mm
West Coast	Minor Breaks	1 st Week in Dec	300mm-600mm
Forest Zone	3rd -4th Week in August	3rd-4th Week in Nov	350mm - 700mm
Transition Zone	Part will have a continuity whilst Other parts will have a start from 2nd-3rd Week of August	3 rd Week in October	360mm – 480mm
Northern Region	Continuous heavy rainfall	1 st week of Nov.	

SUMMARY FOR THE 2017 MINOR SEASON

THE NORTHERN BELT

Continuous above rainfall expected for the northern regions, the upper east. Upper west region.

THE SOUTHERN SECTOR 8°N AND BELOW

Normal to below normal rainfall for the East coastal zone while the west coastal zone is expected to have normal continuous rainfall from the major rainfall season.

Short dry spells are expected during the first flowery stage

Longer dry spells are expected after the flowery stage to the end of the rainfall season.

Cessation period are expected to be early in the Eastern coast and transition zones.

Cessation periods for the West coast are expected to be normal.

RECOMMEDATIONS

Flood risks

Continuous expected flows into the Volta Basin from continuous rain from catchment areas

Continuous high intensity normal to above normal rainfall, high level flood risks is still to be considered

West Coast of the Country is also expected to have above rainfall cumulative amount and same applies to the Western Region of the country.

Close monitoring of alert thresholds is recommended to enhance anticipatory flood management in identified high risk areas.

Since the risk of flooding is associated with both overflowing streams and intense rains, it is strongly recommended to :

- Ensure People move to higher grounds,
- Ensure that animals do not risk drowning,
- Take measures to protect animals against germs that prefer good wet conditions,
- Ensure strong collaboration between hydrological and meteorological services for the development of integrated flood risk early warning and monitoring systems;
- Continue and strengthen exchanges between agencies in charge of flood monitoring, disaster risk reduction and humanitarian assistance.

Health risks

In areas where a wetter season is expected, there are high levels of risk of cholera and malaria,

- It is strongly recommended to inform and strengthen the capacities of national health systems through civil protection or national platforms on disaster risk reduction,
- It is also recommended, especially in areas that are potentially isolated during the rainy season, that stocks of mosquito nets, anti-malarias, chlorine and other water treatment products be established to control malaria outbreak and to monitor water quality, sanitation, and drainage of gutters.

NB: This outlook should be used with 24 hour forecasts and updates issued by the Ghana Meteorological Agency

There will be updates as the season goes