

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN NO.8, MARCH 2ND DEKAD (11-20) 2025

GMET/AGROMET/110325

FORM910

GHANA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



SUMMARY

A total of 1183.0mm of rainfall was recorded from the 11th to the 20th of March. Kade and its surrounding areas recorded 115.6mm of rainfall, the highest total rainfall for the dekad. The entire country except for **Babile** recorded rainfall. The Northern sector recorded significant amounts of rainfall than it did in the previous dekad. Most parts of the country experienced rainfall surpluses with the most noticeable areas being **Wa, Bole, Zuarungu, Bolgatanga, Akim Oda, Kade, Atebubu, Dormaa Ahenkro** and **Accra**.

The warmest periods of the dekad were experienced within the Northern sector of the country. The highest average maximum temperature of 41.2°C was recorded by **Navrongo**. **Tamale** recorded the highest average minimum temperature of 27.6°C. **Abetifi** recorded both the lowest average daytime and nighttime temperatures of 31.5°C and 22.4°C respectively.

For the next Dekad, above normal rainfall amounts are expected over the Coastal and inland areas with places such as **Half Assini, Elubo, Tarkwa, Sefwi Bekwai, Dunkwa, Saltpong, Oda, Asamankese, Accra, Ada, Tema and Akatsi** expected to be affected. Warmer temperatures are anticipated across most parts of the country except for places along the Coastal areas.

With the Southern sector anticipated to record more rains in the coming weeks, farmers around **Ho, Akim Oda, Kade** are advised to begin planting as the season for most places within the forest zone has begun. Within the dekad, some parts of the Northern sector such as **Wa, Bole, Bolgatanga and Damongo** recorded significant rainfall amount. **However, this is not enough to sustain farming activities.**

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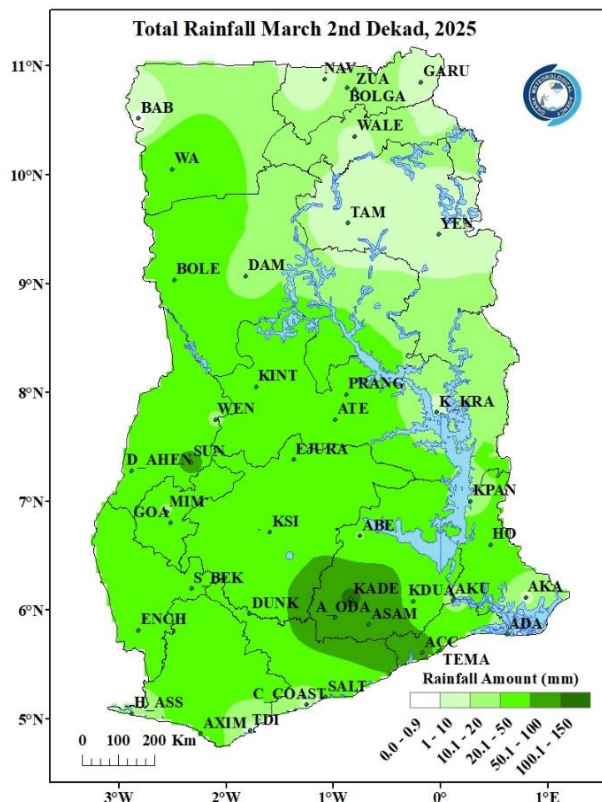


1.0 CLIMATIC ASSESSMENT (MARCH 2ND DEKAD 2025)

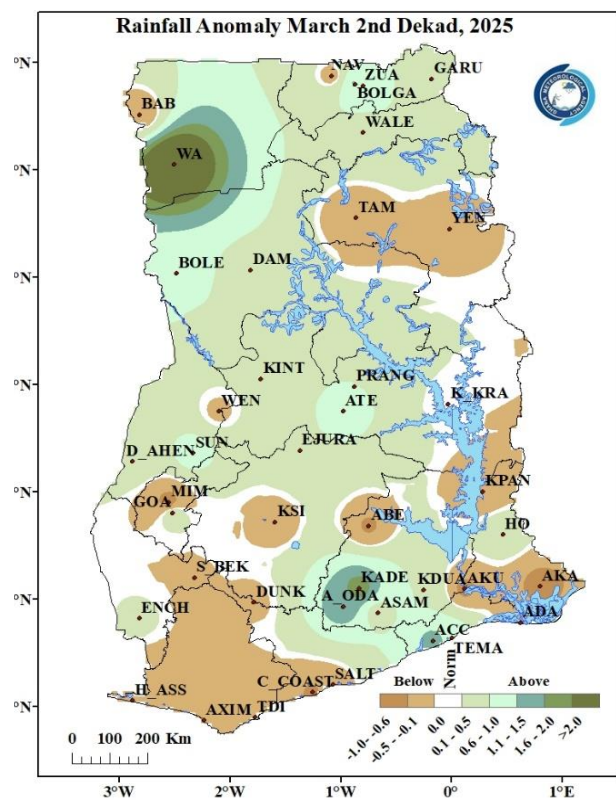
1.1 RAINFALL

Across the rainfall spread throughout the entire country, a total of 1183mm of rainfall was recorded from the 11th to the 20th of March. Kade and its surrounding areas recorded 115.6mm of rainfall, the highest total rainfall for the dekad. Akim Oda, which recorded 11.4mm of rainfall in the previous dekad, recorded 75.9mm. Takoradi, Akatsi, Ada, Saltpond, Tema, Asamankese and Accra which recorded no rains in the previous dekad recorded 7.9mm, 8.6mm, 9.6mm, 20.9mm, 43mm, 58.4mm and 62.5mm respectively. The Northern sector recorded significant amounts of rainfall than it did in the previous dekad. Zuarungu, Damongo, Bolgatanga, Bole and Wa recorded 16.3mm, 17mm, 19.3mm, 33.9mm and 48mm respectively. However, Babile was the only station to have recorded no rain throughout the entire 10-day period (refer to map 1).

Generally, most parts of the country experienced rainfall surpluses with the most noticeable areas being Wa, Bole, Zuarungu, Bolgatanga, Akim Oda, Kade, Atebubu, Dormaa Ahenkro and Accra. However, areas such as Tamale, Yendi, Kpando, Kumasi, Abetifi, Goaso, Axim, Akatsi, Axim and Sefwi Bekwai recorded rainfall deficits, as they recorded total rainfall amounts lower than their dekadal climatological means (refer to map 2).



Map 1: Total Rainfall Map.



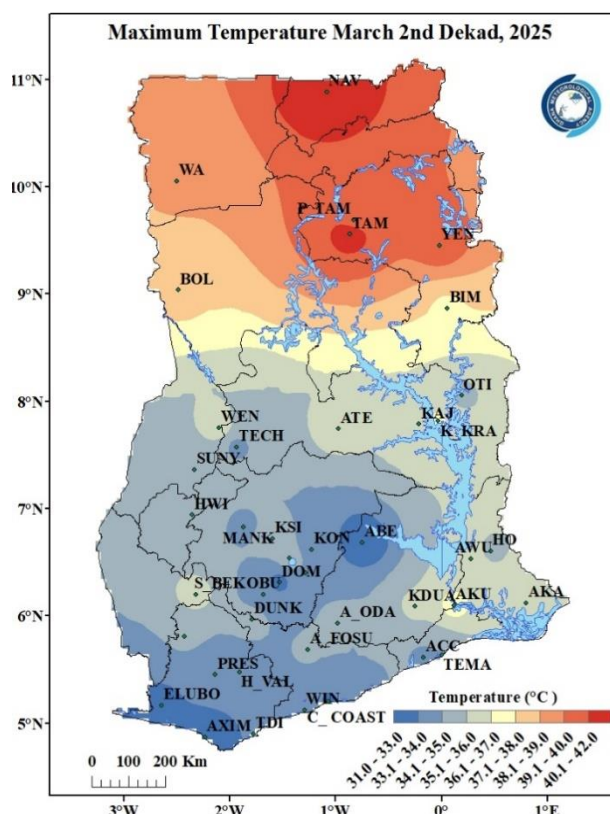
Map 2: Rainfall Anomaly Map.

1.2 MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

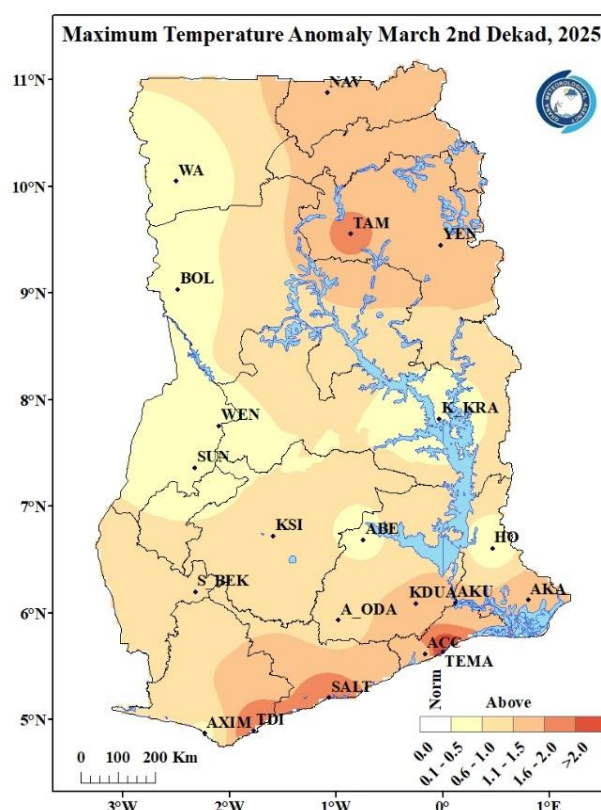
The warmest periods of the dekad were experienced within the Northern sector of the country. Temperatures within the sector ranged from 36.8°C to 41.2°C with the highest been recorded by Navrongo. Areas in and around Bole, Wa, Yendi and Tamale recorded 37.4°C, 38.1°C, 39.7°C and 40.5°C respectively.

Conversely, the Transition and Southern sector recorded cooler temperatures as compared to that of the Northern sector. Abetifi recorded the lowest average maximum temperature of 31.5°C. Axim, Accra, Dunkwa, Kumasi, Ho, Atebubu and Kete-Krachi recorded 31.6°C, 33.7°C, 34.3°C, 34.5°C, 34.8°C, 35.5°C and 36.1°C respectively.

Generally, the entire country experienced warmer temperatures as compared to their Climatological means, with Tamale, Takoradi, Saltpond, Accra and Tema amongst the most noticeable stations (as seen in map 4).



Map 3: Maximum Temperature Map.

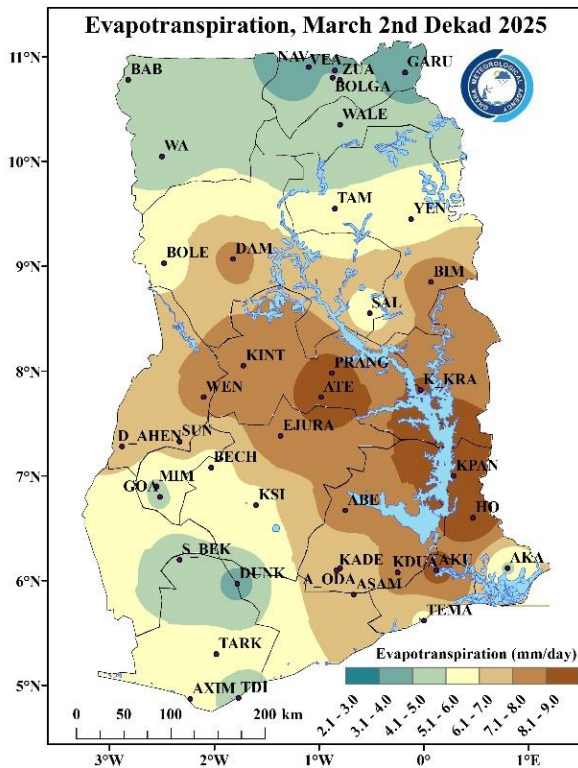


Map 4: Maximum Temperature Anomaly Map.

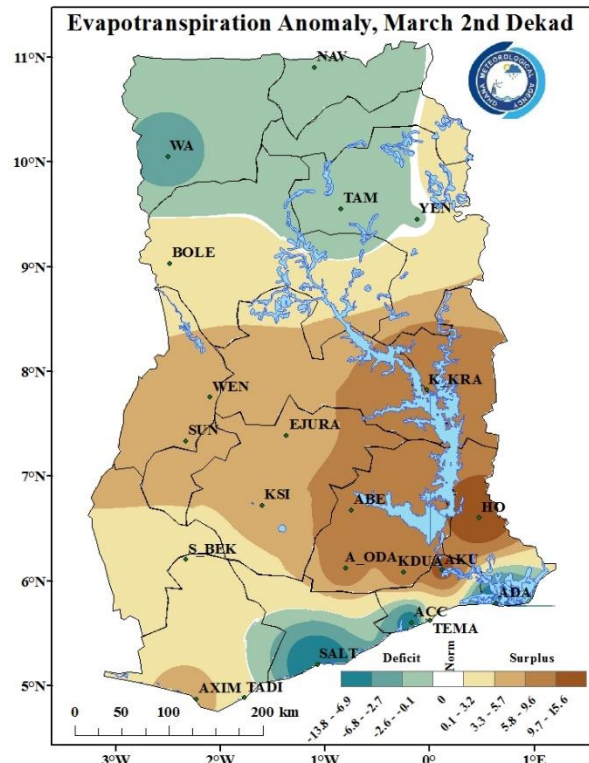
1.4 EVAPOTRANSPIRATION

The country recorded evapotranspiration rate ranging from 2 – 9 mm/day. Vea recorded the lowest rate of evapotranspiration of 2.8mm/day with Ho recording the rate 8.9mm/day as the highest rate of evapotranspiration for the dekad (refer to map 7).

Generally, the country experienced a positive anomaly with Ho showing the highest amount of evapotranspiration as 15.6. Ada, Saltpond, Accra, Wa, Tamale, Navrongo, and Yendi experienced a negative anomaly indicating a slower rate of evapotranspiration (refer to map 8).



Map 7: Evapotranspiration Map.

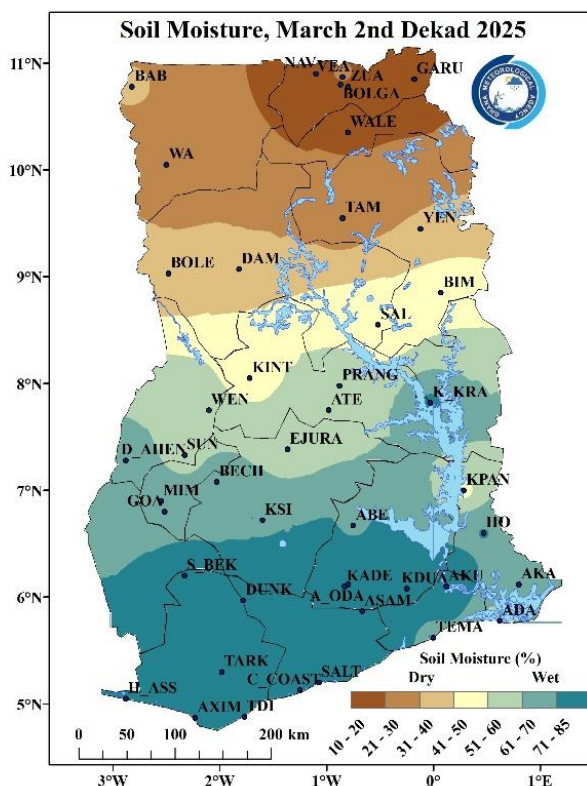


Map 8: Evapotranspiration Anomaly Map.

1.5 SOIL MOISTURE

The Northern and Transition parts of the country recorded lower soil moisture content as compared to the forest and coastal areas. The Upper part of Northern region and its surroundings recorded soil moisture content below 40% whereas the Transition zone recorded soil moisture content ranging from 51-60%.

Areas in the Forest zones and along the coast recorded soil moisture content from 61-85% with the exception of Kpando which recorded 48% of soil moisture content.

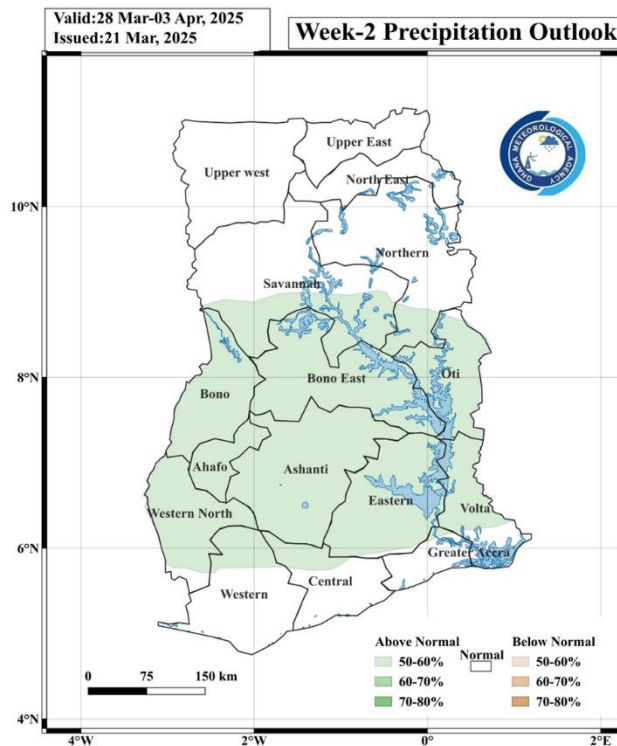
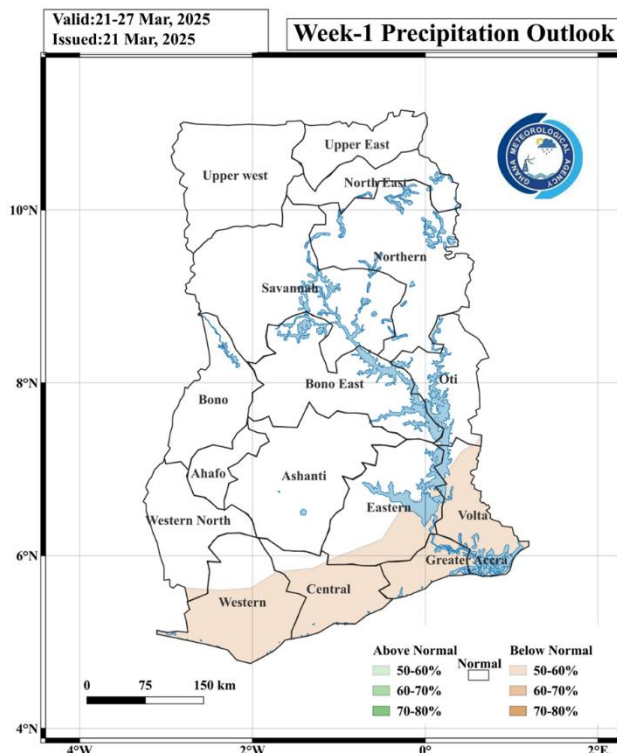


Map 9: Soil Moisture Map.

2.0 RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK FOR MARCH 3RD DEKAD 2025

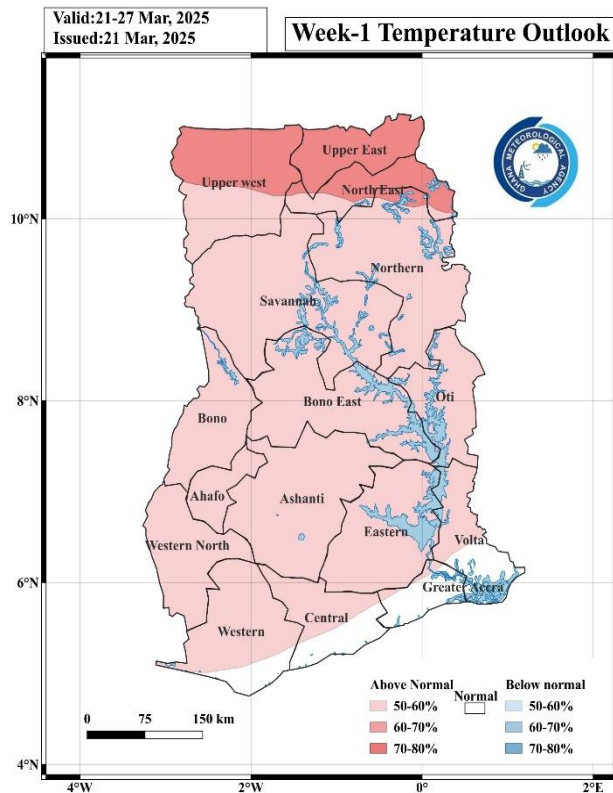
2.1 RAINFALL OUTLOOK

For the next Dekad, above normal rainfall amounts are expected over the Coastal and inland areas with places such as Half Assini, Elubo, Tarkwa, Sefwi Bekwai, Dunkwa, Saltpong, Oda, Asamankese, Accra, Ada, Tema and Akatsi expected to be affected. Transition and parts of the Forest zone are also likely to be affected as the week progresses.

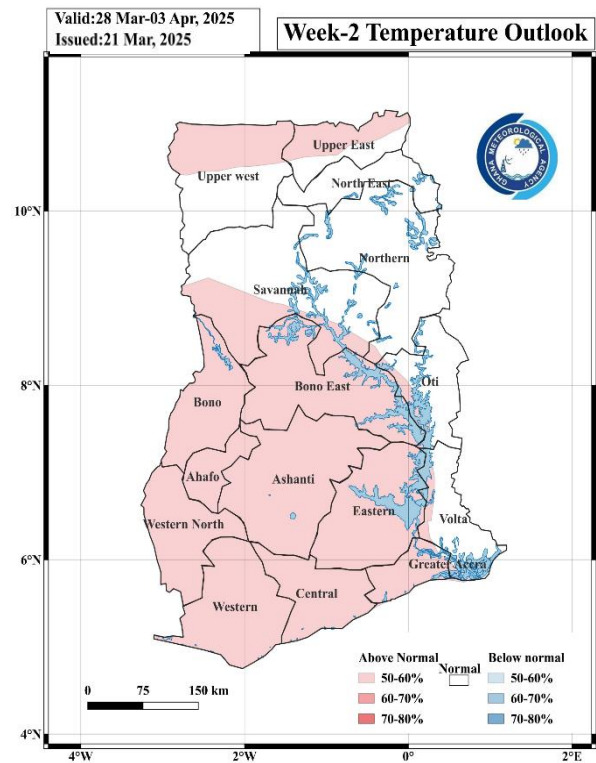


2.2 TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK

Warmer temperatures are expected across most parts of the country except for places along the Coastal areas. However, temperatures along the Coast are expected to be warmer as the week progresses.



Map 12: Temperature outlook Map for week 1.



Map 13: Temperature outlook Map for week 2.

3.0 REVIEW OF CROP GROWTH AND FIELD ACTIVITIES:

Dekad	Crops	Development Stage	Main cultivation operation	Comments
NORTHERN SECTOR				
March 11 - 20, Dekad 2	Tomato (25 – 35 days)	Fruit formation 	Staking, pest control and water often	Soil was kept wet but not flooded, spraying was done if needed to control pests. Extra leaves were cut to help fruits grow.
FOREST & TRANSITION SECTOR				
March 11 - 20, Dekad 2	Maize	Sowing / Planting   Vegetative 	Clearing of land, planting of seeds, mulching	Land was dug well, seeds were planted 2–3 fingers deep, mulching was done to keep soil wet. Rainfall was recorded.
	Rice		Keeping water in field, removal of weeds	Water was kept in the soil at ankle-deep, and weeds were removed. Looked out for small insects.
	Tomato		Removal of weeds, watering, application of manure.	Weeds were removed, watering was done often, manure was added. Leaf spots were looked out for.
COASTAL SECTOR				
March 11 - 20, Dekad 2	Maize	Sowing / Planting  	Clearing of land, planting, mulching	Land was dug well, 2-3 seeds were planted fingers deep, mulching was done to keep soil wet. Used seeds that handle salt.
	Rice		Flood field, plant seedlings	
March 11 - 20, Dekad 2	Tomato	Vegetative 	Pull weeds, water, check pests	Water was kept in the soil at (ankle-deep), 2–3 seedlings were planted together. Used fresh water when salty. Removal of weeds, watering was done often, used pest spray.

3.1 AGRO – ADVISORIES FOR MARCH 3RD DEKAD 2025

	Weather conditions are favourable for crops
	Weather conditions are not very favourable for crops
	Weather conditions are unfavourable for crops

Dominant stages of development	Land Preparation	Germination / Emergence	Vegetation	Maturity (Flowering and fruiting)	Aging

A. For the Northern sector regions.

Crops	Dominant stages of development	Weather	Risks	Cultivation operations planned	Recommendations
Maize			Soil moisture variability, seed rot, early pests.	Land preparation, seed treatment, planting.	Monitor soil moisture, use certified seeds, proper spacing.
Rice					
Sorghum					
Soyabean					
Tomatoes			Foliar diseases, insect damage.	Staking/trellising, pruning, irrigation.	Apply fungicides, maintain proper spacing.

B. For the Forest and Transition regions.

Crops	Dominant stages of development	Weather	Risks	Cultivation operations planned	Recommendations
Maize			Nutrient deficiencies, weeds, leaf diseases. Weeds, water issues, blast disease. Fungal diseases, insect pests.	Top-dressing fertilizer, weeding	Apply nitrogen, monitor for armyworm.
Rice				Transplanting, water management.	Maintain 2-5cm water depth, timely weeding.
Tomato				Staking, pruning, irrigation.	Maintain air circulation, apply fungicides.

C. Coastal sectors.

Crops	Dominant stages of development	Weather	Risks	Cultivation operations planned	Recommendations
Maize			Humidity diseases, nutrient leaching, stem borers. Bacterial leaf blight, flooding, pests. Fungal/bacterial diseases, fruit set issues	Second fertilizer, weeding, pest management	Side-dress fertilizer, ensure drainage
Rice				Water management, second fertilization.	Monitor for disease, prepare for panicle initiation
Tomato				Secondary pruning, disease management	Apply fungicides, ensure ventilation

4.0 APPENDIX

TABLE OF STATIONS

STATION	ABBREVIATION	STATION	ABBREVIATION
ABETIFI	ABE	KOFORIDUA	KDUA
AKIM ODA	A_ODA	KINTAMPO	KINT
ACCRA	ACC	KPANDO	KPAN
ADA	ADA	KUMASI	KSI
AKATSI	AKA	MIM	MIM
AKUSE	AKU	NAVRONGO	NAV
ASAMANKESE	ASAM	SALAGA	SALA
ATEBUBU	ATE	SALTPOND	SALT
AXIM	AXIM	SEFWI BEKWAI	S_BEK
BECHEM	BECH	SUNYANI	SUN
BOLE	BOLE	TAKORADI	TADI
BUI	BUI	TAMALE	TAM
DORMAA AHENKRO	D_AHEN	TEMA	TEMA
DUNKWA	DUNK	WA	WA
GOASO	GOA	WALEWALE	WALE
HO	HO	WENCHI	WEN
KADE	KADE	YENDI	YEN
KETE KRACHI	K_KRA	ZUARUNGU	ZUA

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