AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN NO.9, MARCH 3RD DEKAD (21-31) 2025

GMET/AGROMET/210325 **FORM910**

GHANA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY

SUMMARY

During the period under review, there was an increase in rainfall across the country compared to the previous dekad, the 2nd dekad of March. **Ada** recorded the highest rainfall accumulation of 113.8mm whereas **Axim** recorded the lowest amount with 0.4mm. Rainfall surpluses were recorded in most parts of the Northern sector and East Coast. Places such as **Kpando, Ho, Ejura, Abetifi, Kade, Akim Oda,** and **Asamankese** within the forest zone also recorded surpluses.

Abetifi and **Navrongo** recorded the lowest and highest average maximum day-time temperatures across the entire country with 30.5℃ and 40.8℃ respectively. Most stations all over the country experienced warmer day-time temperatures as compared with their climatological means (1991-2020). The country recorded minimum average night-time temperatures ranging from 21.4℃ to 28.5℃. **Abetifi** recorded 21.4℃ as the lowest average minimum temperature and **Bimbila** recorded 28.5℃ as the highest average minimum temperature in the dekad.

For evapotranspiration, the country experienced a positive anomaly with **Abetifi** showing the highest amount of evapotranspiration as 13.0. **Wa, Navrongo and Yendi** experienced a negative anomaly indicating a slower rate of evapotranspiration.

Most parts of the **Northern sector** recorded soil moisture content ranging from 30-40% in the dekad. The Southern sector recorded soil moisture content ranging from 80-90%.

For the next dekad, **below normal rainfall** is expected over most parts of the **Southern sector** toward the **Eastern flanks** of the **Northern sector**. The rest of the country is likely to receive **normal rainfall**. For temperatures, **above normal** temperatures are expected over the entire country. Places around **Wa,Tamale, Bole, Salaga, Wenchi, Prang, Kintampo, Bui, Sunyani, Mim and Kete-krachi** are likely to be mostly affected.

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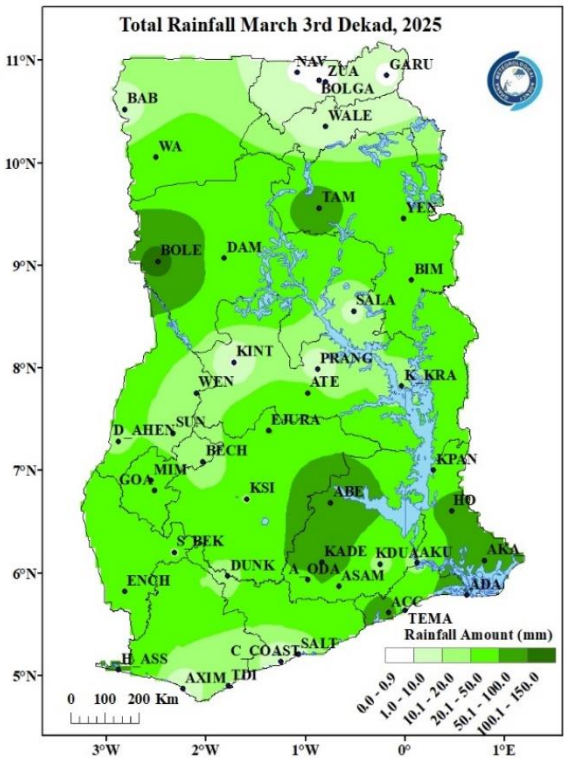
1.0 CLIMATIC ASSESSMENT (MARCH 3RD DEKAD 2025)

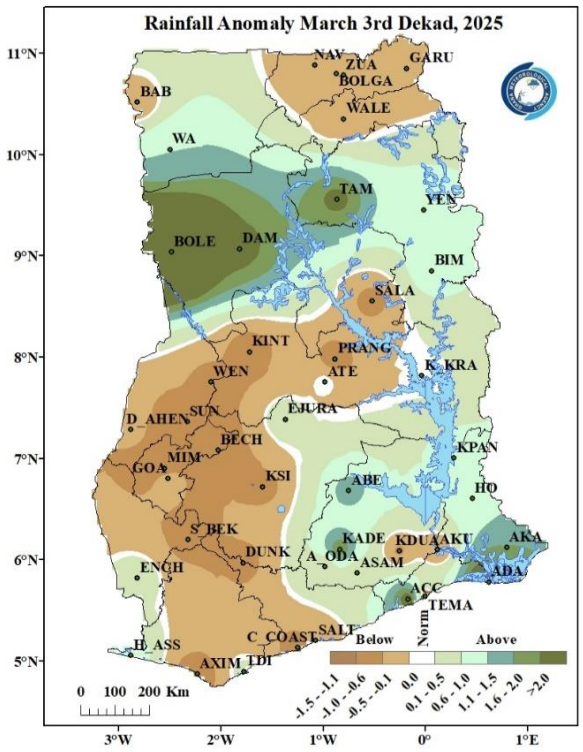
1.1 RAINFALL AMOUNT

Most stations across the country recorded rainfall except for Bolgatanga, Garu, Navrongo, Zuarungu, Cape Coast, Kintampo and Prang. Ada recorded the highest rainfall accumulation of 113.8mm whereas Wenchi recorded the lowest rainfall accumulation of 0.8mm. The country experienced an increase in rainfall amount as compared to the previous dekad (2nd dekad of March).

In the dekad under review, Wa, Bole, Damongo, Tamale, Bimbila, Yendi, Kete-krachi, Kpando, Ho, Ejura, Abetifi, Kade, Akim Oda, and Asamankese recorded positive (surplus) rainfall anomalies. Also, Akatsi, Ada, Accra, Tema, Enchi, Half Assini together with their surroundings recorded surpluses. Atebubu experienced normal conditions as compared to its climatological means (1991-2020). The rest of the country recorded negative rainfall anomalies (deficit).



Map 1: Total Rainfall Map.



Map 2: Rainfall Anomaly Map.

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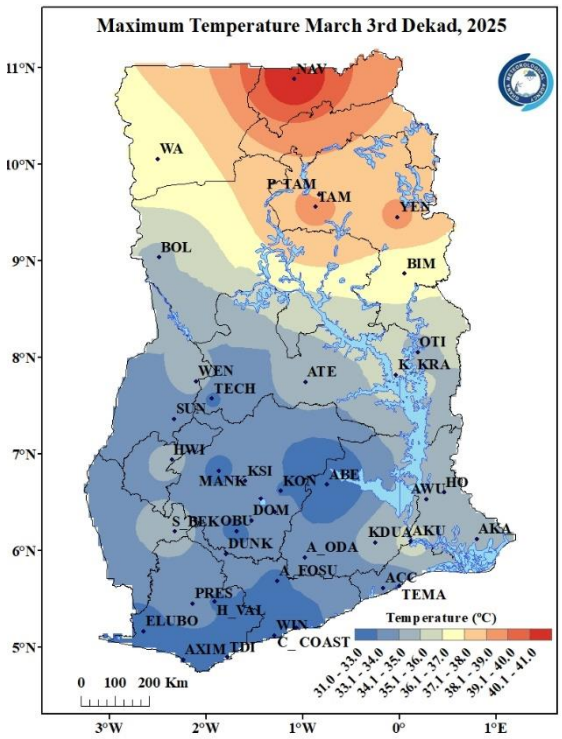
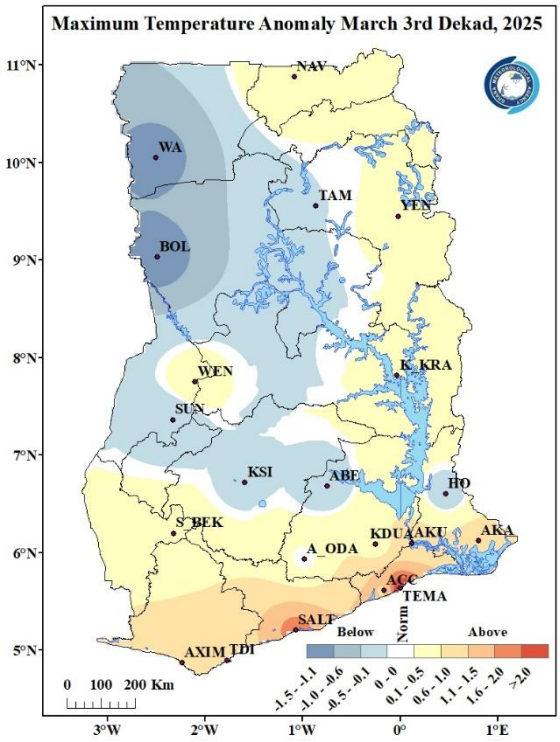
1.2 MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE

Abetifi and Navrongo recorded the lowest and highest average maximum temperatures across the entire country with 30.5℃ and 40.8℃ respectively. Akim Oda and Dunkwa both in the forest zone recorded 33.5℃ as their average maximum temperature. In the Transition zone, Kete Krachi recorded the highest average maximum temperature of 35.7℃ in the zone, with Akatsi recording 34.8℃, as the highest average maximum temperature along the coast.

Most stations over the country experienced warmer day-time temperatures except for Wa, Bole, Tamale, Sunyani, Kumasi, Abetifi and Ho which experienced cooler day-time temperatures in their average maximum temperatures as compared with their climatological means (1991-2020).



Map 3: Maximum Temperature Map.



Map 4: Maximum Temperature Anomaly Map.

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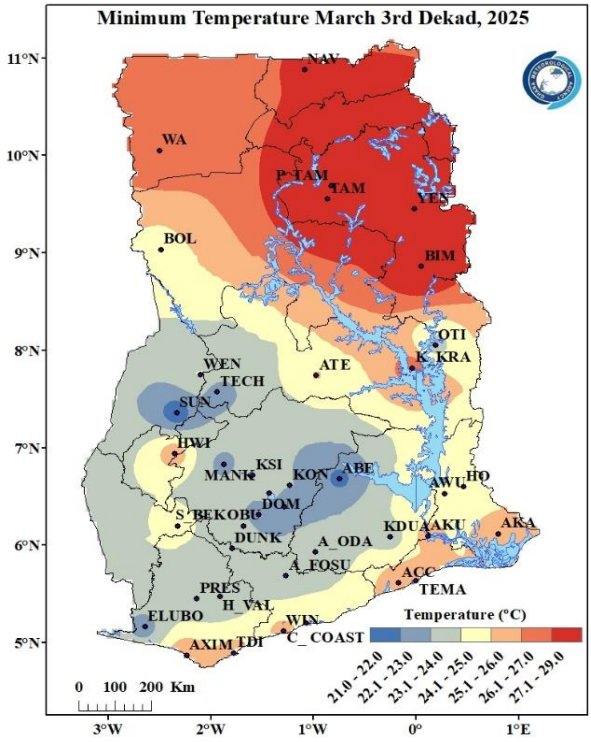
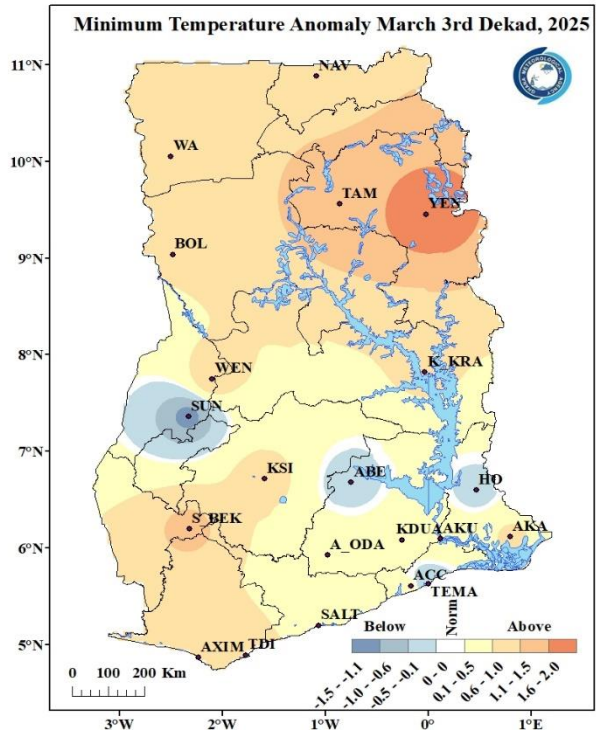
1.3 MINIMUM TEMPERATURE

The country recorded minimum average night-time temperatures ranging from 21.4℃ to 28.5℃. Sunyani recorded 21.4℃ as the lowest average minimum temperature and Bimbila recorded 28.3℃ as the highest average minimum temperature for the dekad. Ho and Tema recorded 24.1℃ and 25.8℃ respectively.

Generally, most parts of the country recorded warmer average night-time temperatures as compared to their climatological means (1991-2020). However, Sunyani, Abetifi, Ho and Tema recorded cooler night-time temperatures.



Map 5: Minimum Temperature Map.



Map 6: Minimum Temperature Anomaly Map.

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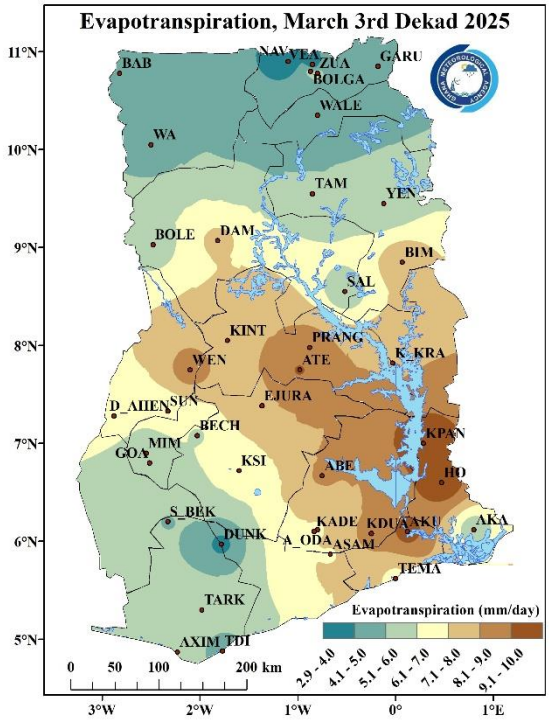
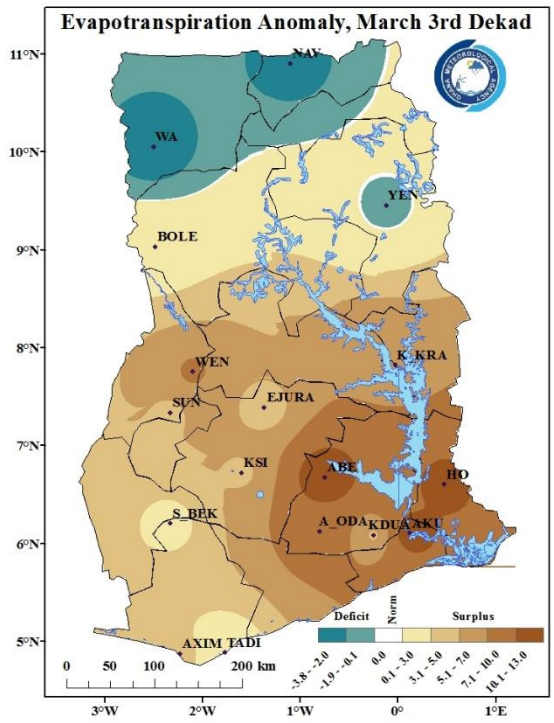
1.4 EVAPOTRANSPIRATION

The country recorded evapotranspiration rate ranging from 2 – 10 mm/day. Ho recorded the highest evapotranspiration rate of 9.9 mm/day with Vea recording the lowest evapotranspiration rate of 2.8 mm/day.

Generally, the country experienced a positive anomaly with Abetifi showing the highest amount of evapotranspiration as 13.0. Wa, Navrongo and Yendi experienced a negative anomaly indicating a slower rate of evapotranspiration.



Map 7: Evapotranspiration Map.



Map 8: Evapotranspiration Anomaly Map.

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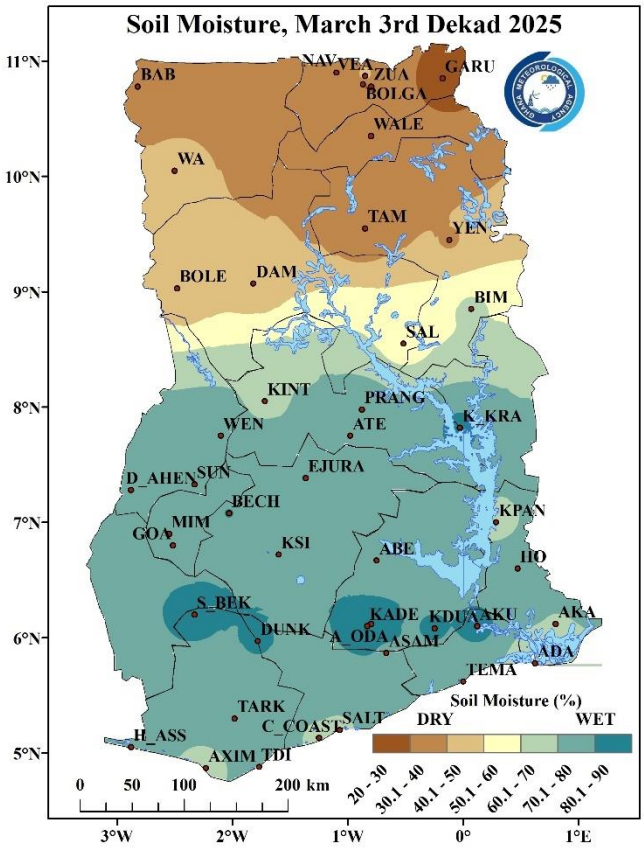
1.5 SOIL MOISTURE

Most parts of the Northern sector recorded soil moisture content ranging from 30-40% in the dekad. Garu and its surroundings recorded soil moisture below 30% as the lowest within the dekad. The Southern sector recorded soil moisture content ranging from 70-80% across most of the stations. Sefwi Bekwai, Dunkwa, Kade, Akim Oda, Koforidua and Akuse recorded soil moisture content ranging from 80-90%.



Map 9: Soil Moisture Map.

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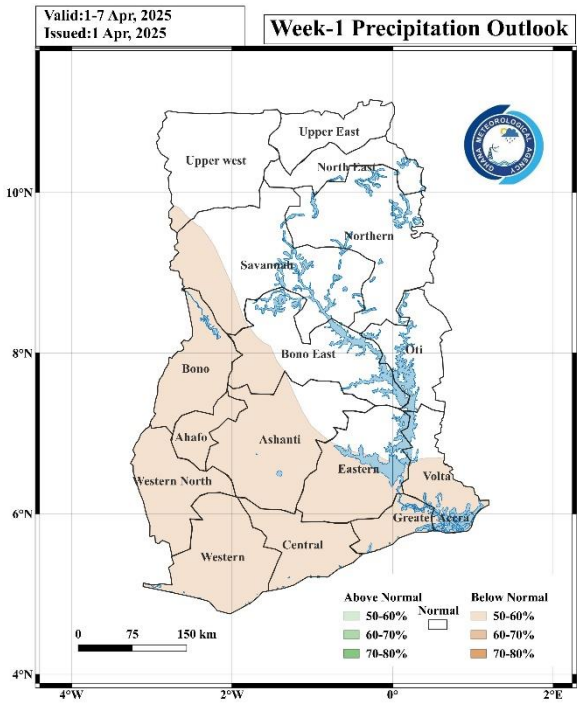
2.0 RAINFALL AND TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK FOR APRIL 1ST DEKAD 2025

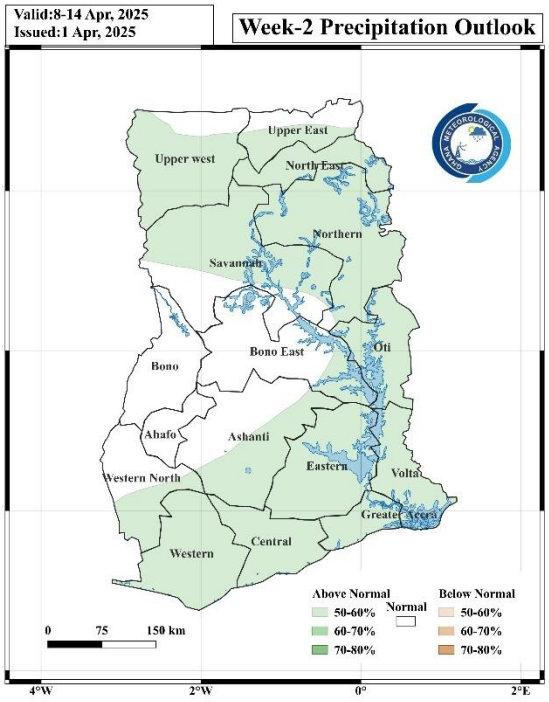
2.1 RAINFALL OUTLOOK

Week 1: Below normal rainfall is expected over most parts of the Southern sector toward the Eastern flanks of the North. The rest of the country is likely to receive normal rainfall.

Week 2: Above normal rainfall is expected over the entire country. However, areas around Sunyani, Bui, Wenchi, Kintampo, Mim together with their environs are likely to experience normal conditions.



Map 10: Rainfall Outlook Map for Week 1.



Map 11: Rainfall Outlook Map for Week 2.

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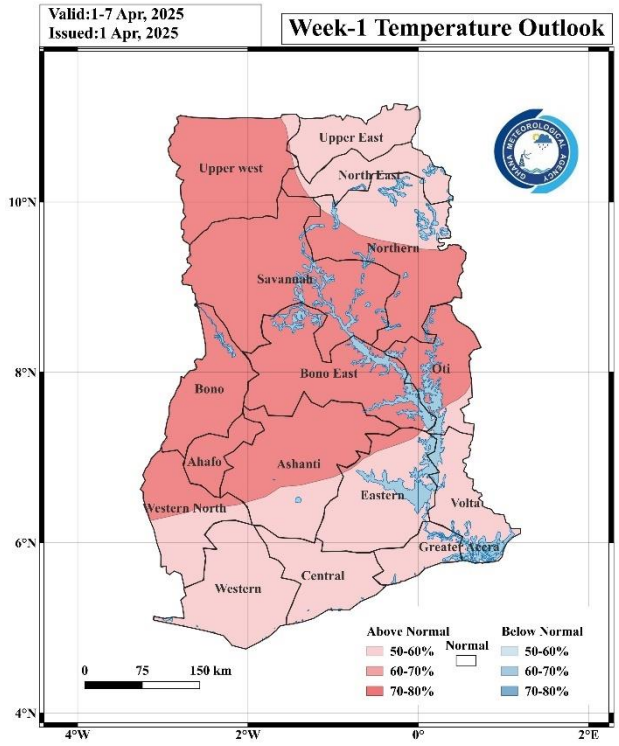
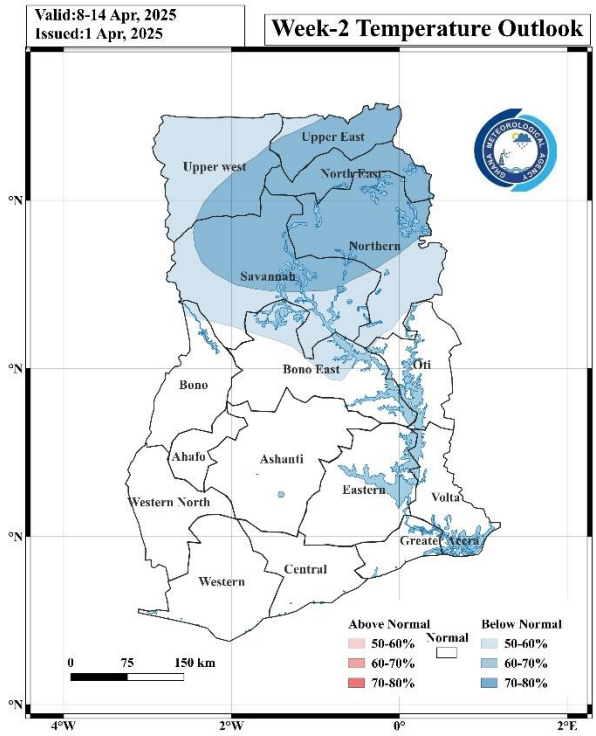
2.2 TEMPERATURE OUTLOOK

Week 1: Above normal temperatures are expected over the entire country. Places around Wa,Tamale, Bole, Salaga, Wenchi, Prang, Kintampo, Bui, Sunyani, Mim and Kete-krachi are likely to be mostly affected.

Week 2: Below normal temperatures are expected over the Northern sector with the Southern half expected to record normal temperatures.



Map 12: Temperature Outlook Map for Week 1.



Map 13: Temperature Outlook Map for Week 2.

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3.0 REVIEW OF CROP GROWTH AND FIELD ACTIVITIES:

Dekad	Crops	Development Stage	Main cultivation operation	Comments
NORTHERN SECTOR				
March 21 - 31, Dekad 3	Tomato (25 – 35 days)	Fruit formation 	Regular watering, staking plants, pest control.	Plants were tied to sticks, sprayed when needed and worms were checked for.
FOREST & TRANSITION SECTOR				
March 21 - 31, Dekad 3	Maize	Sowing / Planting 	Planting treated seeds, fertilizer application. Watering, pest and disease control. Fertilizer application, pest control, pruning.	Healthy seeds were planted and spaced well. Fields were kept moist, and insect damage was looked out for. Small shoots were cut off, crops were sprayed and water well.
	Rice			
	Tomato	Fruit formation 		
COASTAL SECTOR				
March 21 - 31, Dekad 3	Maize	Sowing / Planting 	Tilling, sowing seeds, fertilizer application. Sowing or transplanting, watering. Staking and pruning.	Soil was kept moist, planting was done in rows. Fields were leveled, soil was kept moist after sowing/transplanting. Small branches were removed so fruits can grow big and strong.
	Rice			
March 21 - 31, Dekad 3	Tomato	Fruit formation 		

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3.1 AGRO-ADVISORIES FOR APRIL 1ST 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	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.

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B. For the Forest and Transition regions

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

C. Coastal sectors

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

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4.0 APPENDIX

TABLE OF STATIONS

STATION	ABBREVATION	STATION	ABBREVATION
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

For further inquiries, clarification, information or assistance, Contact:

The Director General – Ghana Meteorological Agency

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