

Malawi 10-day Weather and Agrometeorological Bulletin

"In support of National Early Warning Systems and Food Security"



Period: 21 – 30 November 2025 Season: 2025/2026

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Reduction of rainfall activities over most areas during the last dekad of November 2025...
- Planting and weeding in progress mainly over southern parts of the country...
- Below normal rainfall anticipated over the north and some central areas during the first dekad of December 2025

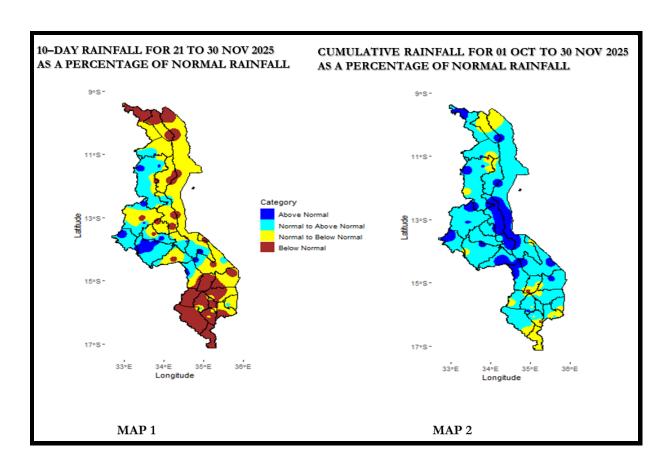


Figure 1: Observed dekadal and cumulative seasonal rainfall as percentage of normal for Malawi

1.0 WEATHER SUMMARY

It was generally hot and dry over most areas due to the influence of warm north easterly airmasses which influenced the weather mainly over northern and central areas. Few rainy days were reported during the first few days of the dekad.

1.1 RAINFALL SITUATION

Season: 2025/2026

During the last dekad of November 2025, dry conditions were dominant over most areas though some areas experienced heavy rains in the first days. Cumulatively, generally normal to above normal has been experienced across the country though the dekadal rainfall reduced as indicated in Map 1 from figure 1.

Below are some notable cumulative rainfall amounts exceeding 50mm as shown in figure 2 below. Euthini Agriculture in Mzimba recorded 111.2mm in 4 rainy days, Nankumba Agriculture in Mangochi recorded 105.1mm in 2 rainy days, Chitedze Meteorological station in Lilongwe recorded 70.7mm in 4 rainy days, Kasiya Agriculture in Lilongwe recorded 69.1mm in 4 rainy days, Chileka Namitete in Lilongwe recorded 68.5mm in 3 rainy days, K.I.A Meteorological station recorded 66.78mm in 4 rainy days, Mpemba Veterinary in Blantyre recorded 57.6mm in 7 rainy days, Ntcheu – Nkhande recorded 57mm in 2 rainy days, and Salima Meteorological station recorded 50.6mm in 2 rainy days.

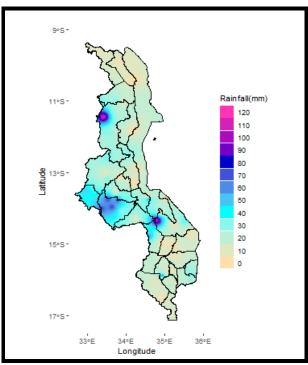


Figure 2: Observed dekadal rainfall for Malawi, 21-30 November 2025

The average number of rainy days was 2 for the period 21 to 30 November 2025 as shown in figure 3. The highest number of rainy days was recorded from Mpemba with 7 rainy days.

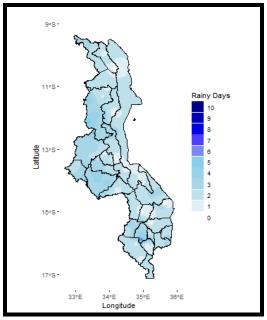


Figure 3: Rainy days for Malawi, 21-30 November 2025

1.2 OTHER WEATHER PARAMETERS

Warm to hot conditions were recorded over most areas during the period under review. Average maximum temperatures ranged from 24.8°C at Dedza Meteorological station to 36.0°C at Ngabu Meteorological Station in Chikwawa. The highest absolute maximum temperature of 38.8°C was registered on 28th November 2025 at Ngabu. Average minimum temperatures ranged from 16.2°C at Dedza Meteorological Station to 25.3°C at Ngabu Meteorological Stations.

The air over Malawi was dry mainly over the north where the average relative humidity was as low as 51% at Karonga Meteorological Station. Some areas over the south experienced relatively moist conditions where Mimosa Meteorological station recorded about 74%.

Daily average wind speeds measured at a height of two metres above the ground level across the country had ranged from 2.2 km per hour at Bolero Meteorological station to 10.4 km per hour at Chitipa Meteorological station.

1.3 OTHER INDICATORS

The onset of the 2025/2026 rainfall season has improved mainly over the southern region, where districts such as Blantyre and Mulanje have already experienced the onset. However, in the northern and central areas, the dry spell during the last dekad had a noticeable impact. This means that though the rainfall amount of 25mm has been attained but due to the dry spell of more than 7 days the onset condition is not yet fulfilled for central and northern areas as shown in figure 4 below. The definition of onset states that "the first day or 3 consecutive days receiving a total of 25mm or more and not followed by 9 consecutive dry days within the next 21 days".

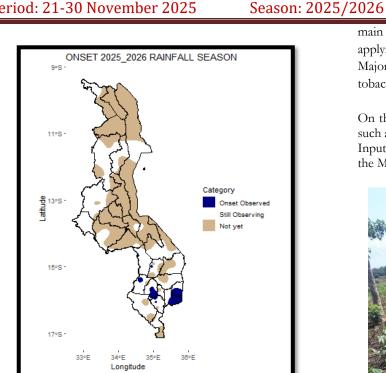


Figure 4 Status of seasonal onset for 2025/2026 season as of 30th November 2025

Though the last dekad of November most areas faced a reduction in rainfall activities but there was minimal threat for drought conditions during the month. The drought index map Standardized Precipitation Evapotranspiration Index (SPEI) shows mostly near-normal to moderately wet conditions across Malawi, especially in the central and southern regions. Some localized areas experienced very wet conditions, supporting improved moisture levels. However, parts of the north and a few isolated southern areas showed moderate to severe dryness, indicating pockets of moisture stress.

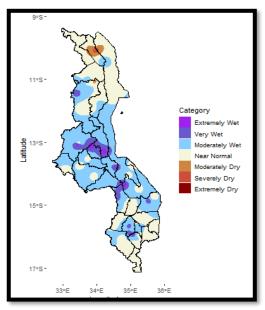


Figure 5: November 2025 drought index, showing wet conditions experienced over

2. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Due to the reduction in rainfall activities during the last dekad of November 2025, some crops mainly over central and northern Page 3 areas were affected because the water balance was too low. The

main on-farm activity has been weeding, with some farmers also applying basal fertilizer (Figure 6) particularly in the southern areas. Majority of tobacco growing farmers are busy with works on their tobacco seed nursery beds in readiness for effective planting rains

On the other hand, farmers are also acquiring agricultural inputs such as seeds and fertilizers among other means through the Farm Inputs Subsidy Programme (FISP) initiative, launched recently by the Malawi Government.



Figure 6: Basal dressing maize planted on 17/11/2024. Milonde EPA. Mulanje. Photo Credit: Andrew Kalusa.

3. SEASONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK

The 2025-2026 rainfall season is expected to be influenced predominantly by ENSO neutral conditions.

The rainfall forecast for the 2025/2026 season is that:

"During October to December 2025, total rainfall amounts are anticipated to be generally normal to above-normal in most areas of the country, with normal to below-normal rainfall likely over some parts of the northern areas.

During January to March 2026, total rainfall amounts are anticipated to be generally normal to above-normal. Despite this trend, localized pockets, particularly in parts of Mchinji, Dowa, Kasungu and Lilongwe are projected to receive normal to below-normal precipitation."

Illustration of the forecast is given in figure 7 below with map (a) and map (b) showing sub-seasons October November December (OND) and January February March (JFM), respectively.

Season: 2025/2026

Figure 7: Forecast categories for OND and JFM

At national level, there are higher chances of normal to above normal cumulative seasonal rainfall amounts over most parts of the country.

The December rainfall forecast indicates a likelihood of normal to above-normal rainfall situation across the country, refer figure 8 below map (a). The monthly rainfall totals are likely to range between 150 and 300 mm as shown in figure 8 map (b) below.

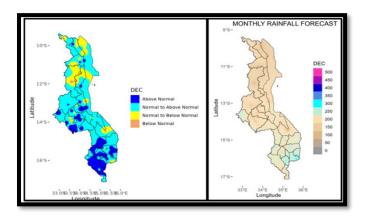


Figure 8: December 2025 rainfall forecast (a) categories and (b) values

Most northern and central areas are expected to receive normal to below-normal rainfall of the historical dekadal amounts as represented by the map in Figure 9 with the southern part expected to receive normal to above-normal decadal rainfall amounts. This indicates that the temporal distribution is expected to be better over the south.

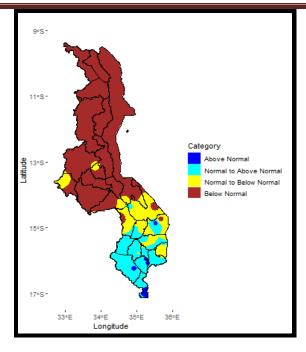


Figure 9: dekadal rainfall outlook for Malawi for 01-10 December 2025

In terms of temperature, December 2025 is expected to be warmer than normal over most areas except for central areas where normal temperature ranges are expected (refer to map (a) of Figure 10). The average temperatures are expected to fall within the range of 26 to 34 degrees Celsius as captured in map (b) of figure 10 below.

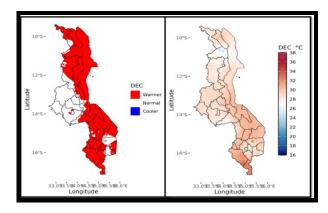


Figure 10: December 2025 temperature forecast

5. POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND ADVISORIES

As dry conditions are expected to persist over northern and some central areas, farmers should continue monitoring both the amount and distribution of rainfall before making planting decisions to avoid poor germination and seed loss. For farmers who have already planted, it is advised to conserve the limited available soil moisture.

Furthermore, farmers are encouraged to focus on securing farm inputs and maintaining irrigation infrastructure to support ongoing irrigation activities. Livestock farmers are advised to provide adequate shade and ensure regular access to clean water to minimize heat stress and prevent infections.