



Government of Malawi
Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy
and Mining

Malawi 10-day Weather and Agrometeorological Bulletin

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



Be wise be weather-wise
Department of Climate Change and
Meteorological Services

Period: 01 – 10 December 2025

Season: 2025/2026

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HIGHLIGHTS

- During the first dekad of December 2025 the southern part of the country received moderate to heavy rains...
- Weeding and basal dressing in progress over the south while planting over centre and north...
- Normal to Above normal rainfall anticipated across the country during the second dekad of December 2025

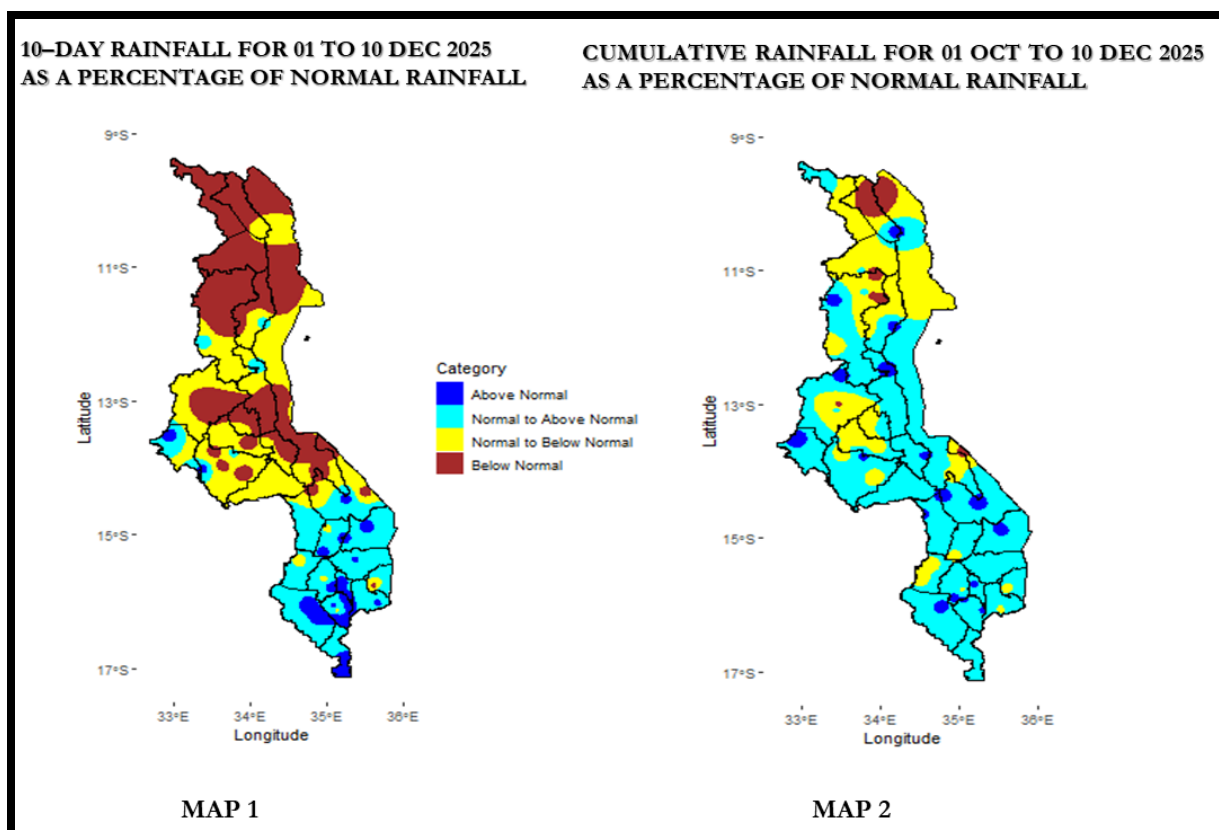


Figure 1: Observed dekadal and cumulative seasonal rainfall as percentage of normal for Malawi

1.0 WEATHER SUMMARY

It was generally hot over most areas with rainfall activities, which were heavy over the south due to the influence of Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ).

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1.1 RAINFALL SITUATION

Most areas received rains during the last dekad, generally normal to above normal were observed over the south while northern and central areas experienced normal to below-normal conditions as indicated in Map 1 from figure 1. Heavy episodes were dominant over the south with some notable cumulative rainfall amounts exceeding 150mm. Zoa Tea Estate in Thyolo recorded 201.9 mm in 6 rainy days, Lujeri Tea Estate in Mulanje recorded 194.4 mm in 7 rainy days, Chancellor College in Zomba recorded 168.1 mm in 7 rainy days and Ntaja Meteorological station in Machinga recorded 163.8 mm in 6 rainy days. Figure 2 below shows the recorded dekadal rainfall.

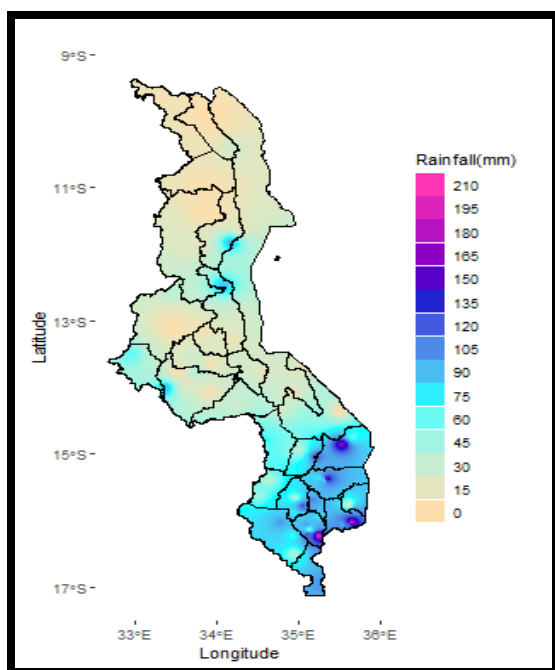


Figure 2: Observed dekadal rainfall for Malawi, 01-10 December 2025

Figure 3 shows the number of rainy days experienced across the country. The highest number of rainy days observed was 8 from Chichiri Meteorological station, Mimosa Meteorological station, Nsanje Boma, FortLister Phalombe, Mulanje Boma, Bvumbwe Meteorological station and Phalula Agriculture. The average number of rainy days was 4.

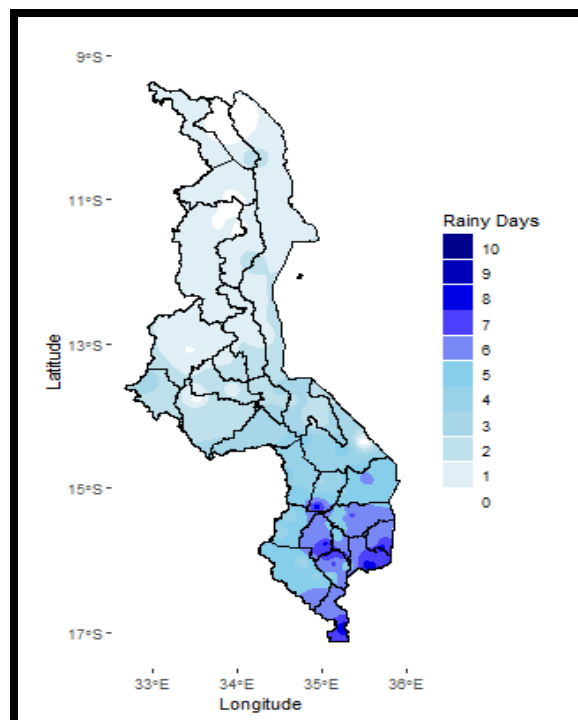


Figure 3: Rainy days for Malawi, 01-10 December 2025

1.2 OTHER WEATHER PARAMETERS

During the last dekad, warm to hot conditions were dominant and the average maximum temperatures ranged from 25.1°C at Dedza Meteorological station to 35.3°C at Karonga Meteorological Station where the highest absolute maximum temperature of 38.0°C was also registered on 09th December 2025. Average minimum temperatures ranged from 16.0°C at Bvumbwe Meteorological Station to 25.1°C at Karonga Meteorological Stations.

Dry air was experienced over the north where the average relative humidity was as low as 48% at Bolero Meteorological Station in Rumphi. For the south, there were moist conditions as Mimosa Meteorological station recorded an average of 80%.

The observed daily average wind speeds measured at a height of two metres above the ground level ranged from 2.5 km per hour at Ngabu Meteorological station to 14.8 km per hour at Chitipa Meteorological station.

1.3 OTHER INDICATORS

Most districts over the south have now experienced onset of the 2025/2026 rainfall season with only few stations under monitoring. However, northern and central areas, the dry conditions still have a noticeable impact. This means that though the rainfall amount of 25mm has been attained since October, but due to the dry spell of more than 7 days the onset condition is not yet fulfilled for these 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*”.

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.

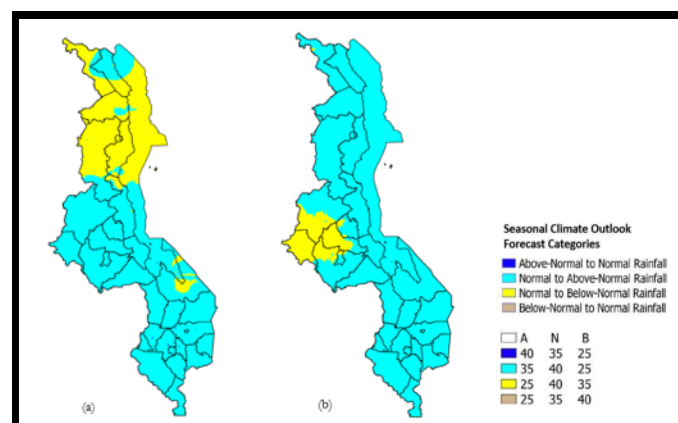


Figure 7: Forecast categories for OND and JFM

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.

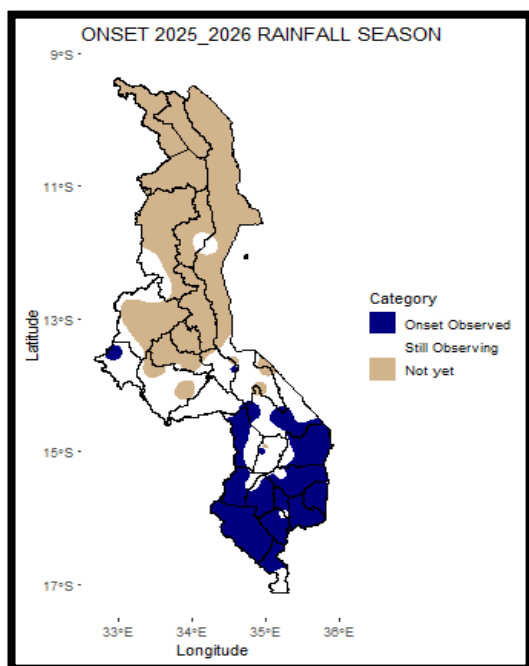


Figure 4 Status of seasonal onset for 2025/2026 season as of 10 December 2025

2. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Some farmers over central and northern region are planting (Figure 5), as some are still waiting for effective rains. For farmers who planted early over the south and central are weeding and also applying basal fertilizer. 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.



Figure 5: Planting in progress under TA Njewa, Mpingu EPA in Lilongwe.



Figure 6 Under the same TA Njewa some farmers are weeding
Photo Credits: Mr Phesere.

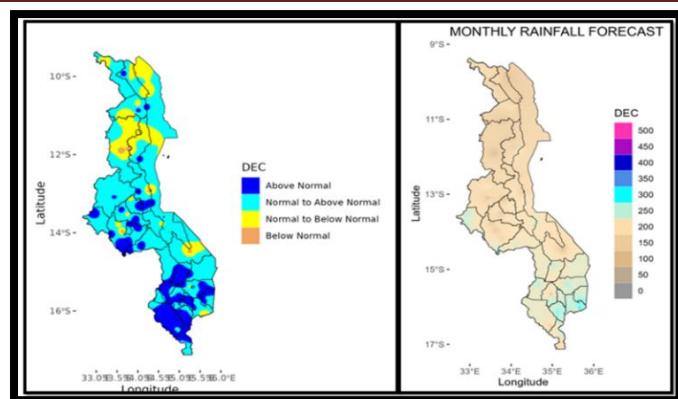


Figure 8: December 2025 rainfall forecast (a) categories and (b) values

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 9). The average temperatures are expected to fall within the range of 26 to 34 degrees Celsius as captured in map (b) of figure 9 below.

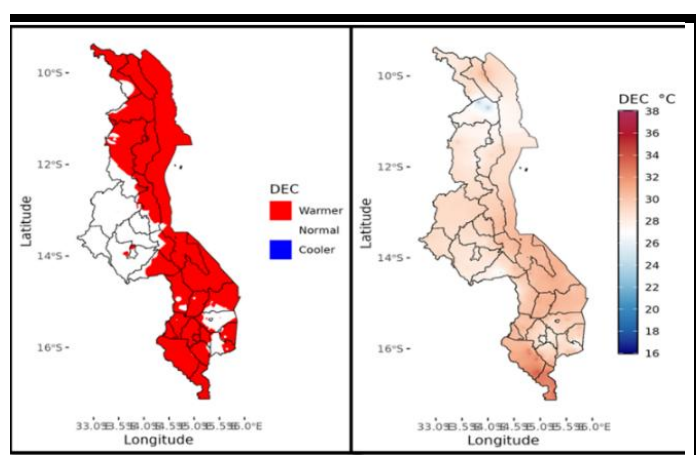


Figure 9: December 2025 temperature forecast

4. OUTLOOK FOR 11 – 20 DECEMBER 2025

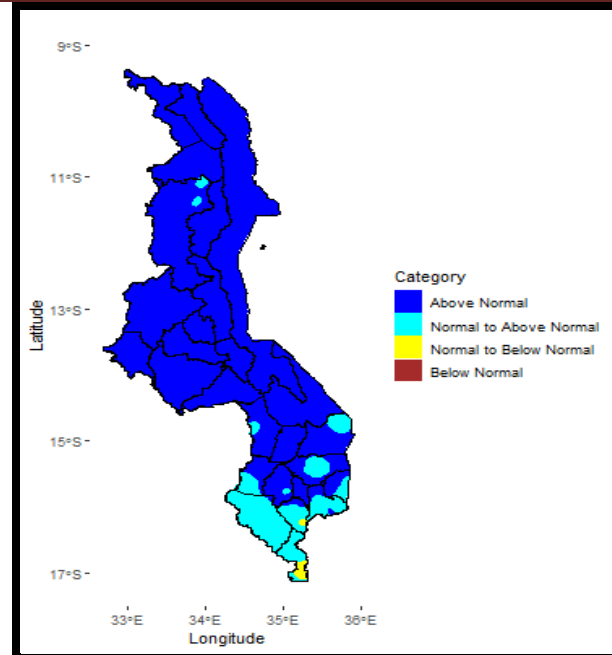


Figure 10: dekadal rainfall outlook for Malawi for 11-20 December 2025

Most northern and central areas are expected to receive above normal rainfall of the historical dekadal amounts as represented by the map in Figure 10 with the southern part expected to receive normal to above-normal dekadal rainfall amounts. This indicates that the temporal distribution is expected to improve over the center and north.

5. POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND ADVISORIES

Due to the rains expected during this dekad, improved soil moisture across most central and northern areas is expected to support crop growth and also be good for planting and early crop establishment for farmers who have not yet planted. In low-lying and poorly drained fields, waterlogging may occur thereby affecting crops. Farmers are advised to apply proper field drainage technics to reduce waterlogging.

Furthermore, livestock farmers are advised to provide adequate shade and ensure regular access to clean water to minimize heat stress and prevent infections.