



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES & REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES  
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Date: 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016

**WEATHER FORECAST FOR THE NEXT SEVEN-DAY PERIOD  
VALID 19<sup>TH</sup> TO 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2016**

**REVIEW OF THE RAINFALL OVER THE LAST WEEK (11<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> April 2016) AND THE PREVIOUS WEEK (4<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> April 2016)**

All rainfall stations in Kirinyaga County reported rains but the intensities in all stations during last week (11<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> April 2016) were lower than the previous week (4<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> April 2016), apart from Castle Forest and Kibirigwi Irrigation stations which received more rains than the previous week.

In order of decreasing rain intensities during last week, Gathambi Coffee Factory station reported the highest amount of rainfall followed by, Kerugoya WRMA, Kangaita Tea Farm, Njuki-ini Forest, Castle Forest, Kibirigwi Irrigation Scheme, MIAD-Kandongu and Mwea-KALRO Kimbimbi stations. Last week, therefore, was generally drier than the previous week. This can be seen in Table 1 and Figure 1 below.

*Table 1: Rainfall intensities in order of decreasing wetness during last week (11<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> April 2016)*

Station No.	Station Name	Last week	Previous week
9037264	Gathambi Coffee Factory	119.2	134.9
9037031	Kerugoya WRMA	106.1	134.6
	Kangaita Tea Factory/Farm	94.7	166.8
9037140	Njuki-ini Forest station	88.3	120.3
9037115	Castle Forest Station	83.2	61
9037174	Kibirigwi Irrigation Scheme	80.5	79
9037112	MIAD-Kandongu	29.1	79.5
9037110	Mwea-KALRO Kimbimbi	27	60.4

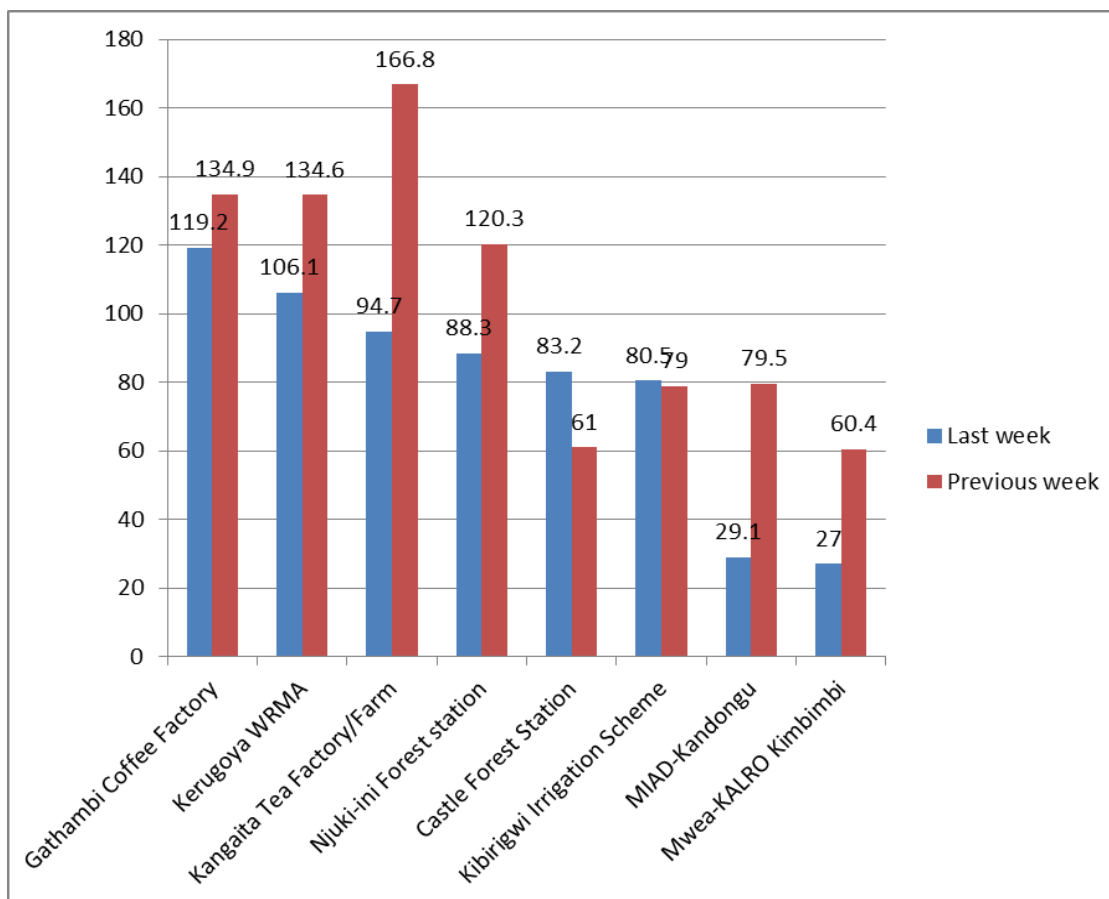


Fig. 1: Rain performance comparison between the last week (11th to 17th April 2016) and the previous week (4th to 10th April 2016).

\*\*\*\*\* **START OF RETAINED IMPORTANT INFORMATION** \*\*\*\*\*

### SEASONAL FORECAST

March-April-May (MAM)-“Long” Rains 2016 forecast is as given on Table 2 and Figure 2 below.

**Kirinyaga County is likely to receive near normal (average) rainfall.**

Table 2: Seasonal Forecast

REGION	START OF MAM RAINS	END OF MAM RAINS
Central highlands including KIRINYAGA COUNTY	4th week of March to 1st week of April 2016	3rd to 4th week of May

**Poor temporal distribution of the seasonal rainfall expected**

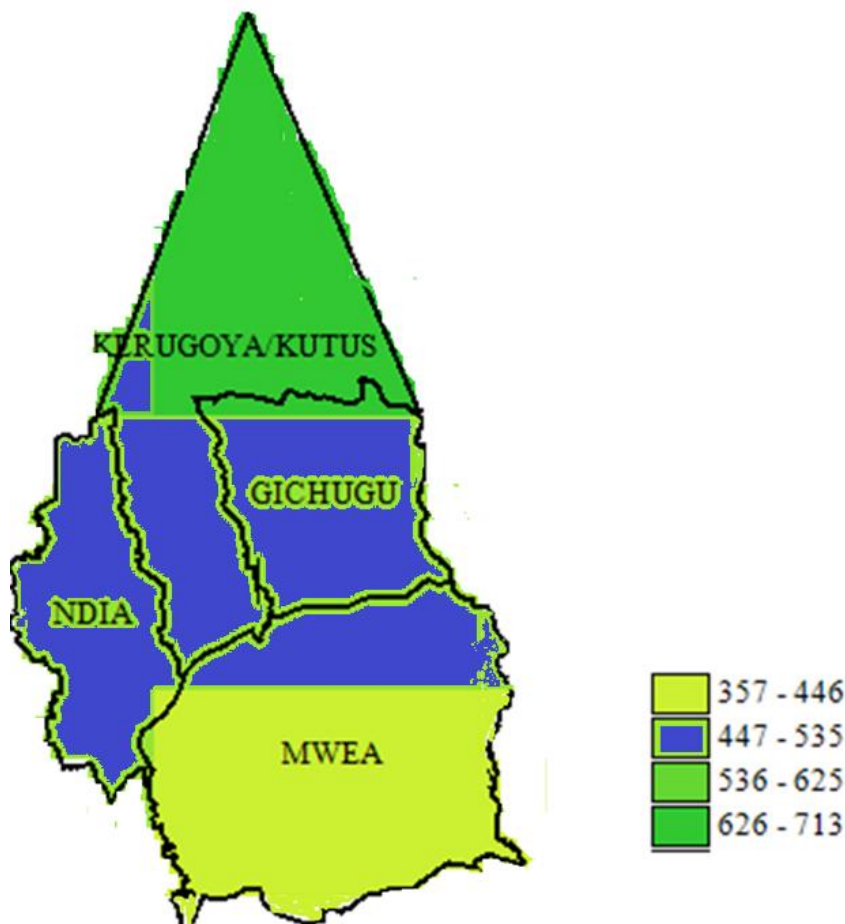


Fig. 2: Downscaled County Seasonal Forecast for March-April-May 2016. The figures are likely to have been an underestimation. The blue shaded region deserve approximately 700mm while the green shaded areas deserve more than 800mm.

\*\*\*\*\* END OF RETAINED IMPORTANT INFORMATION \*\*\*\*\*

### **KIRINYAGA COUNTY WEEKLY FORECAST**

FOR THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS (19<sup>th</sup> TO 25<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2016):

- Rainfall is expected to continue over several parts of the county throughout the forecast period.

<b>DAY</b>	<b>MORNING</b>	<b>AFTERNOON/EVENING</b>
TUESDAY 19/4/2016	Cloudy mornings with occasional rains over few places	showers over several places
WEDNESDAY 20/4/2016		
THURSDAY 21/4/2016		
FRIDAY 22/4/2016		
SATURDAY 23/4/2016		
SUNDAY 24/4/2016		
MONDAY 25/4/2016		

#### KEY OF SCIENTIFIC WORDS USED

Most Places: Between 66% and 100% of Kirinyaga County  
 Several Places: Between 33% and 66% of Kirinyaga County  
 Few Places: Between 0 and 33% of Kirinyaga County

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

**\*\*\*\*\* START OF RETAINED IMPORTANT INFORMATION \*\*\*\*\***

### **PSP Advisory**

Weather/climate advisory from PSP workshop is being disseminated to all stakeholders. Just like the other weather products, the PSP Advisory is attached in the link: <http://kirinyaga.go.ke/weather.html>

## **QUESTIONNAIRE**

Please take your time and fill in the questionnaire which is attached alongside this forecast (if you have never filled it before). You are kindly requested to send the filled questionnaire to [meteorological@kirinyaga.go.ke](mailto:meteorological@kirinyaga.go.ke) for onward delivery to the research centre.

**\*\*\*\*\* END OF RETAINED IMPORTANT INFORMATION \*\*\*\*\***

**Weather Link on the County Government of Kirinyaga website is:**

<http://kirinyaga.go.ke/weather.html>

You can access the weather products using this link even on a smart phone.

O.k.

James Gichuki Gathura

**County Director of Meteorological Services**