



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
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Date: 25th April 2016

**WEATHER FORECAST FOR THE NEXT SEVEN-DAY PERIOD
VALID 26TH APRIL TO 2ND MAY 2016**

REVIEW OF THE RAINFALL OVER THE LAST WEEK (18TH TO 24TH APRIL 2016) AND THE PREVIOUS WEEK (11TH TO 17TH APRIL 2016)

The March-April-May (MAM) 2016 seasonal rains are ongoing. Several stations in Kirinyaga County reported more rainfall last week (18th to 24th April 2016) than the previous week (11th to 17th April 2016). All rainfall stations in Kirinyaga County reported rains during last week.

In order of decreasing rain intensities during last week, Castle Forest station reported the highest amount of rainfall followed by Kangaita Tea Farm, Gathambi Coffee Factory, Kibirigwi Irrigation Scheme, Kerugoya WRMA, Njuki-ini Forest, Mwea-KALRO Kimbimbi and MIAD-Kandongu stations. Last week, therefore, was generally wetter 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 (18th to 24th April 2016)

| Station No. | Station Name | Last week | Previous week |
|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| 9037115 | Castle Forest Station | 137 | 83.2 |
| | Kangaita Tea Factory/Farm | 122.1 | 89.7 |
| 9037264 | Gathambi Coffee Factory | 87.8 | 119.2 |
| 9037174 | Kibirigwi Irrigation Scheme | 81.9 | 80.5 |
| 9037031 | Kerugoya WRMA | 77.3 | 106.1 |
| 9037140 | Njuki-ini Forest station | 65.2 | 88.3 |
| 9037110 | Mwea-KALRO Kimbimbi | 42.2 | 29.5 |
| 9037112 | MIAD-Kandongu | 22.4 | 29.1 |

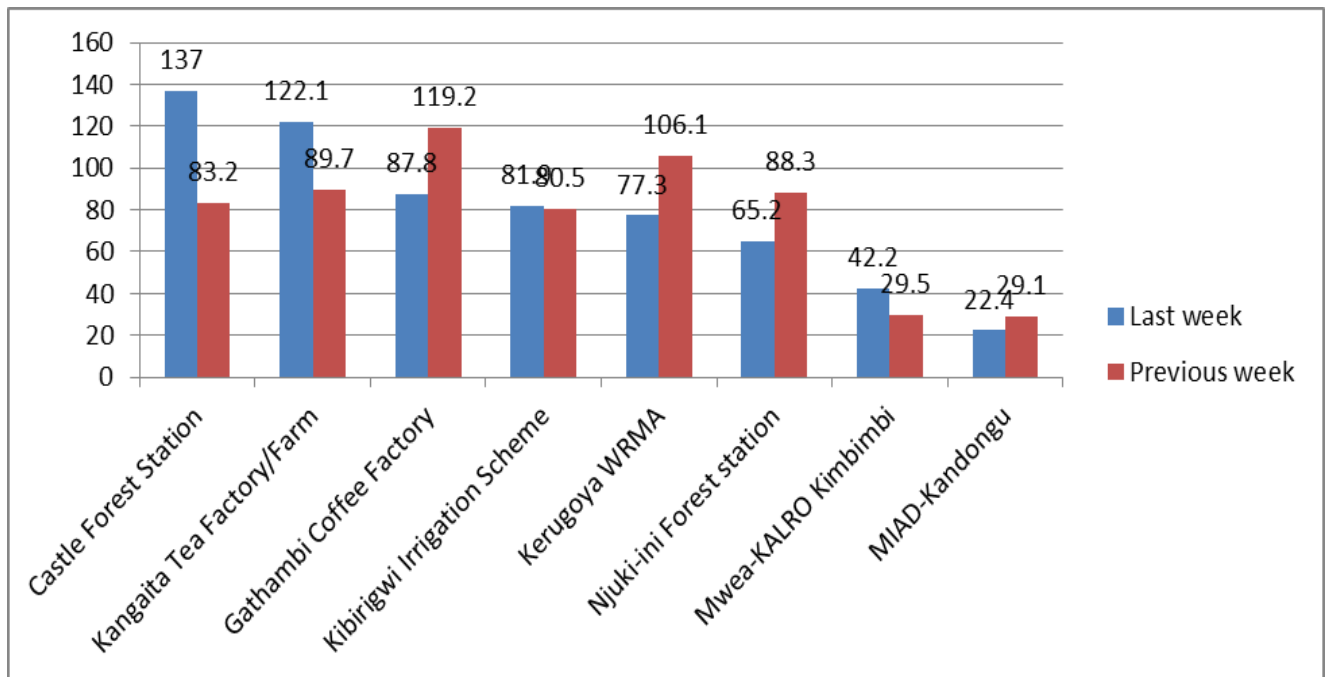


Fig. 1: Rain performance comparison between the last week (18th to 24th April 2016) and the previous week (11th to 17th April 2016).

***** 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

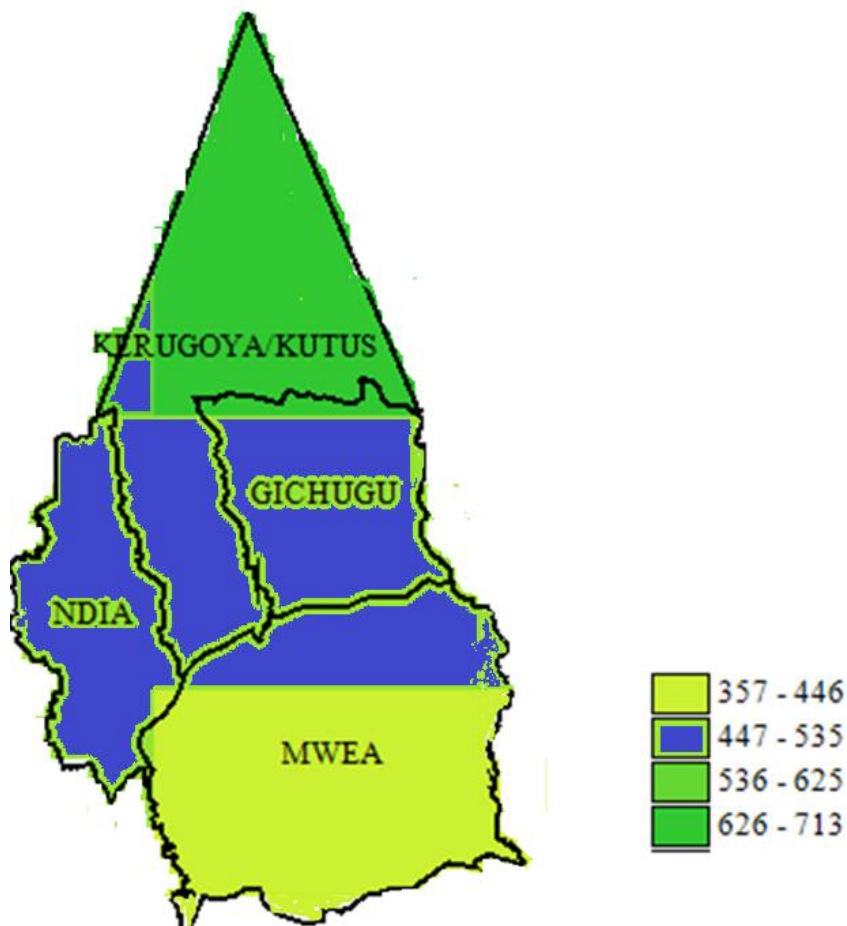


Fig. 2: Downscaled County Seasonal Forecast for March-April-May 2016. The figures are likely to have been an underestimation. The blue shaded region deserve approximately 700mm while the green shaded areas deserve more than 800mm.

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

KIRINYAGA COUNTY WEEKLY FORECAST

FOR THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS (26th APRIL TO 2nd May 2016):

- Heavy rainfall is expected to occur in Kirinyaga County.
- There is a risk of flooding over low-lying areas and those with poor drainage.
- Land-slides are likely on steep slopes.
- Roads are likely to be slippery thus motorists need to exercise caution.

| <i>DAY</i> | <i>MORNING</i> | <i>AFTERNOON/EVENING</i> |
|---------------------|-----------------|--|
| TUESDAY 26/4/2016 | Rains | Showers over several places |
| WEDNESDAY 27/4/2016 | over few places | |
| THURSDAY 28/4/2016 | Rains | |
| FRIDAY 29/4/2016 | over | |
| SATURDAY 30/4/2016 | several | |
| SUNDAY 1/5/2016 | places | |
| MONDAY 2/5/2016 | | |

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 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 on a smart phone.

O.k.

James Gichuki Gathura

County Director of Meteorological Services