



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES & REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES  
KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

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Date: 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017

**WEATHER FORECAST FOR THE NEXT SEVEN-DAY PERIOD  
VALID 7<sup>TH</sup> TO 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2017**

**REVIEW OF THE RAINFALL OVER THE LAST WEEK (30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY TO 5<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY) AND THE PREVIOUS WEEK (23<sup>RD</sup> TO 29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2017)**

It goes without saying that Kirinyaga County has been receiving rainfall over few areas for the last two weeks. This is evident from what has been reported over the last two weeks. Last week (30<sup>th</sup> January to 5<sup>th</sup> February 2017) received both more intense rainfall and had more areas receiving rainfall than the previous week (23<sup>rd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> January 2017). The rains activity was as follows, Castle Forest Station reported the highest amount of rainfall, followed by Kangaita Tea Farm and Kerugoya WRMA, while MIAD-Kandongu, Njuki-ini Forest, Gathambi Coffee Factory and Mwea-KALRO-Kimbimbi stations all reported nil rainfall during last week. The above information is as presented in Table 1 and Figure 1 below.

*Table 1: Rainfall intensities in order of decreasing wetness during last week (30th January to 5th February 2017)*

| Station No. | Station Name              | Last Week | Previous Week |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| 9037115     | Castle Forest Station     | 36.6      | 0             |
|             | Kangaita Tea Factory/Farm | 11.5      | 6.4           |
| 9037031     | Kerugoya WRMA             | 6.6       | 2.6           |
| 9037112     | MIAD-Kandongu             | 0         | 0             |
| 9037140     | Njuki-ini Forest station  | 0         | 0             |
| 9037264     | Gathambi Coffee Factory   | 0         | 0             |
| 9037110     | Mwea-KALRO Kimbimbi       | 0         | 0             |

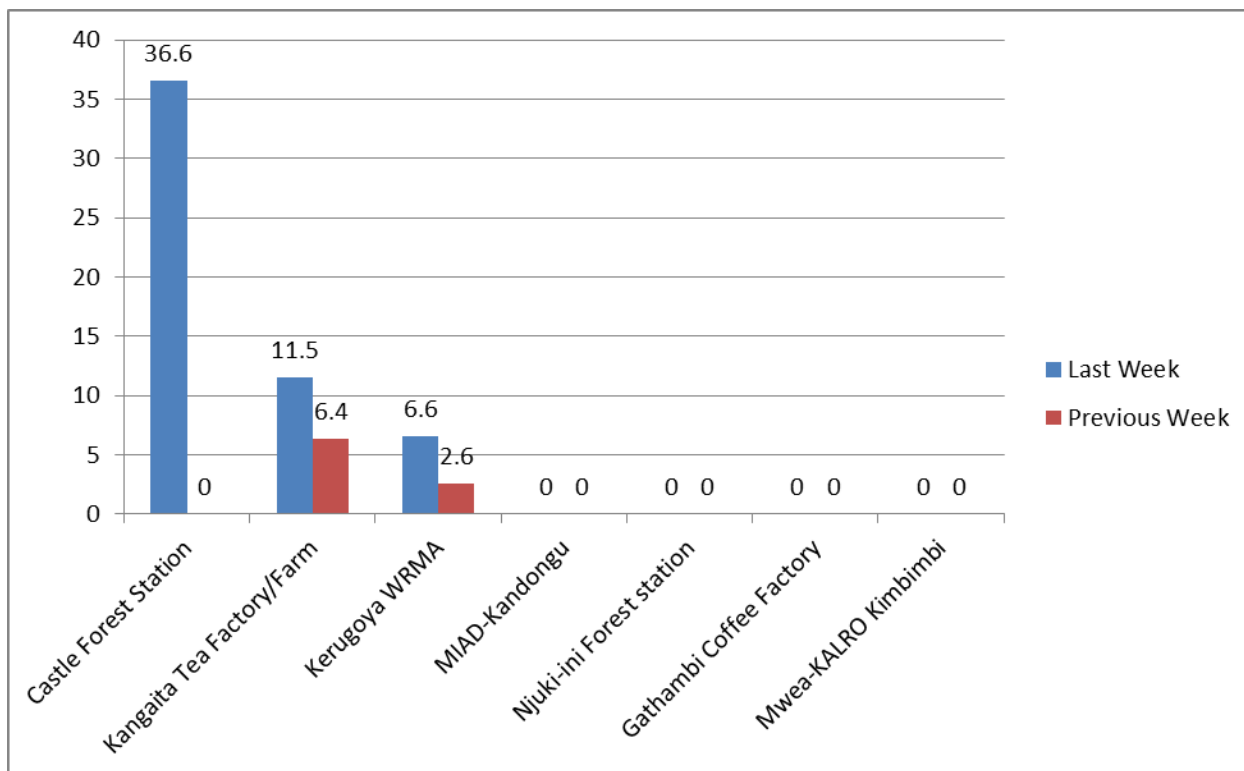


Fig. 1: Rain performance comparison between the last week (30<sup>th</sup> January to 5<sup>th</sup> February 2017) and the previous week (23<sup>rd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> January 2017)

### Rains Performance during the Month of January 2017 in Kirinyaga County

Kirinyaga County is generally dry during the month of January but on average, January 2017 was drier than the other months of January as it will be seen later. In order of decreasing wetness in the total rains received in January 2017, Kangaita Tea Farm station reported the highest monthly rainfall followed by Kerugoya WRMA, Castle Forest and Gathambi Coffee Factory. MIAD-Kandongu, Njuki-ini Forest and Mwea KALRO Kimbimbi stations received nil rainfall. The information above is as represented in Table 2 and Figure 2 below.

Table2: November 2016 Monthly Total Rainfall intensities in order of decreasing wetness

| Station No. | Station Name              | January 2017 Monthly Totals |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
|             | Kangaita Tea Factory/Farm | 8.2                         |
| 9037031     | Kerugoya WRMA             | 4.5                         |
| 9037115     | Castle Forest Station     | 2.7                         |
| 9037264     | Gathambi Coffee Factory   | 1.3                         |
| 9037112     | MIAD-Kandongu             | 0                           |
| 9037140     | Njuki-ini Forest station  | 0                           |
| 9037110     | Mwea-KALRO Kimbimbi       | 0                           |

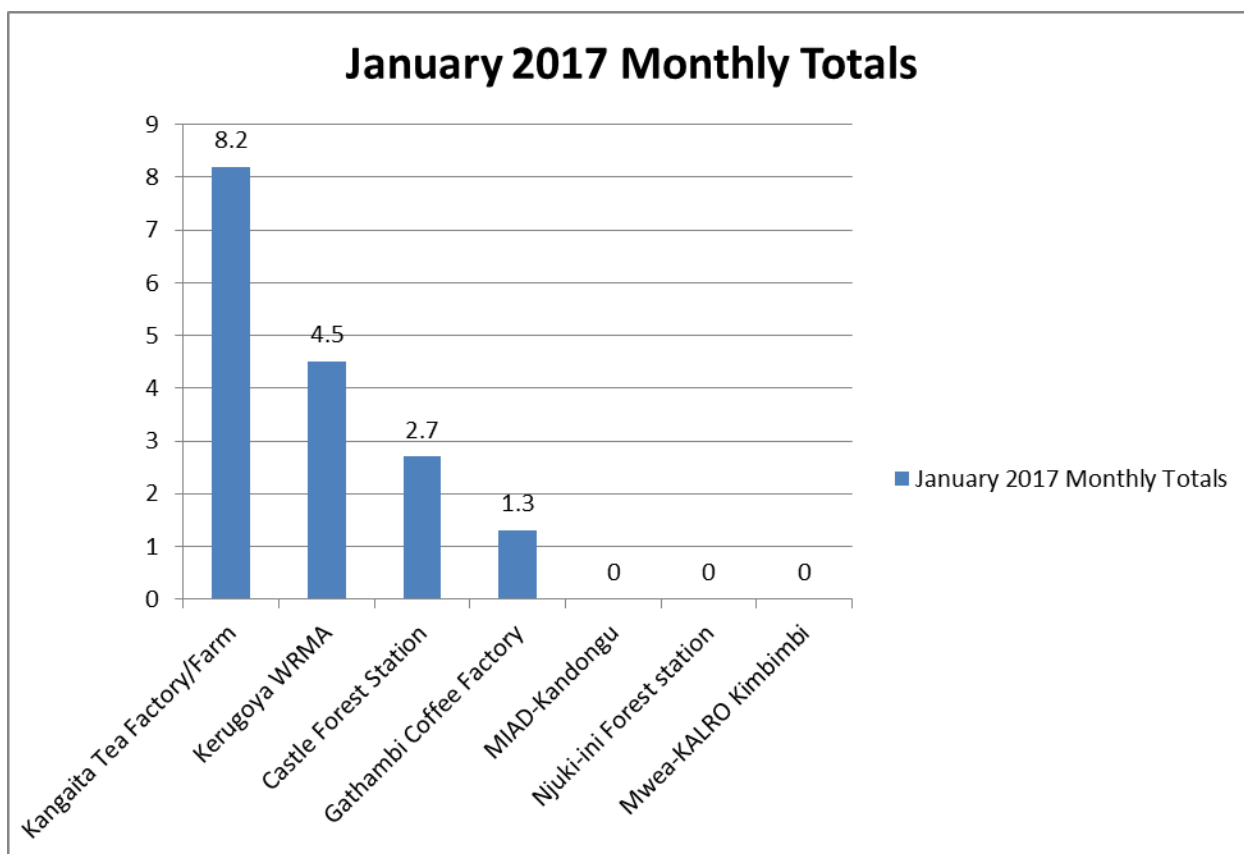


Fig. 2: Rains Performance for the Month of January 2017 in Kirinyaga County

### Comparison between the January 2017 monthly totals and the Long Term Means for January in Kirinyaga County

As compared to other months of January during past years, January of 2017 was generally drier than the Long Term Mean. All stations, reported less than their long term means. This means that the month of January 2017 received below average and depressed rainfall. Table 3 and Figure 3 show the foregoing. *Note that the LTM for Kangaita Tea Farm is bias as it had been calculated using two years only. Good LTM requires a couple of years.*

Table 3: Comparison between the January 2017 monthly totals and the Long Term Means for January

| Station No. | Station Name              | January 2017 Monthly Totals | January LTM |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
|             | Kangaita Tea Factory/Farm | 8.2                         | 94.2        |
| 9037031     | Kerugoya WRMA             | 4.5                         | 51.7        |
| 9037115     | Castle Forest Station     | 2.7                         | 51.5        |
| 9037264     | Gathambi Coffee Factory   | 1.3                         | 28.1        |
| 9037112     | MIAD-Kandongu             | 0                           | 30.8        |
| 9037140     | Njuki-ini Forest station  | 0                           | 25.8        |
| 9037110     | Mwea-KALRO Kimbimbi       | 0                           | 13.7        |

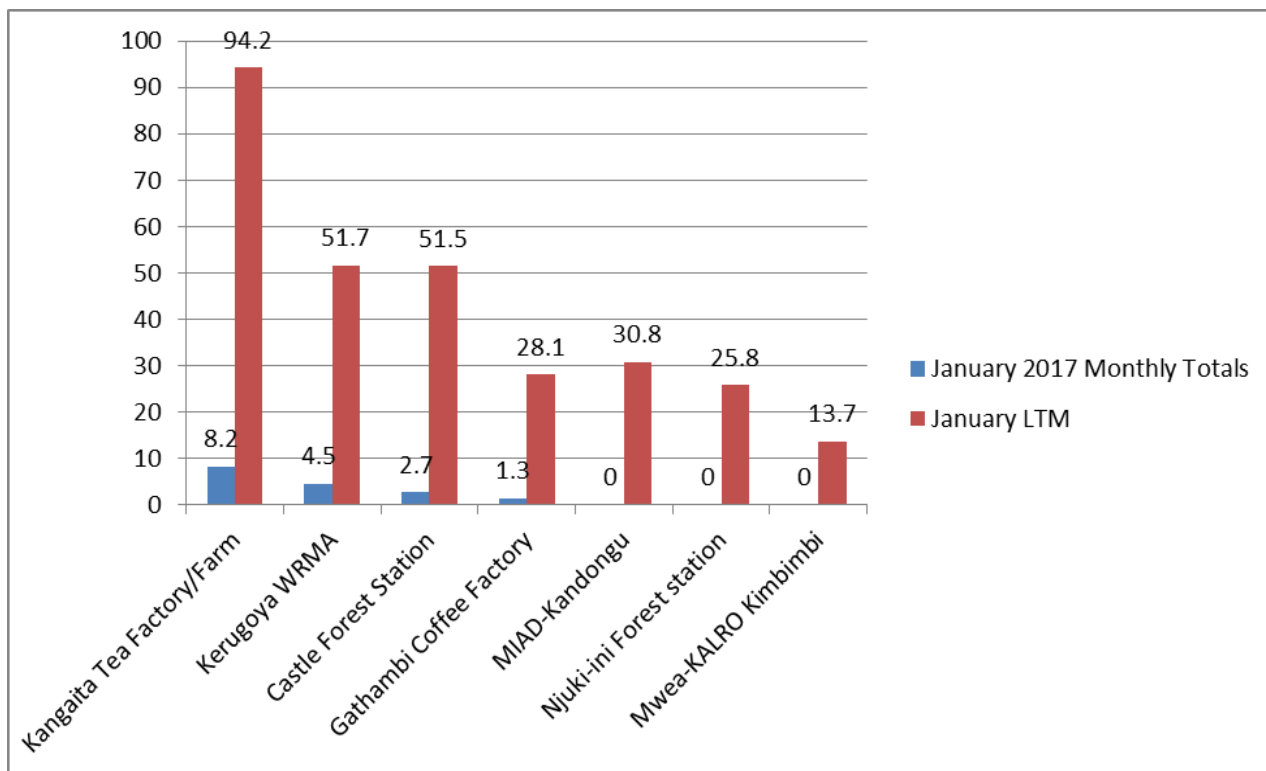


Fig. 3: Comparison between the total rainfall amounts received during the month of December 2016 and the Long Term Means (LTM) for each station during the month of December.

## KIRINYAGA COUNTY WEEKLY FORECAST

### FOR THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS

- Mainly dry conditions to prevail;
- High daytime temperatures and low nighttime temperatures characteristic of February to continue over most parts of the county.

| DAY                | MORNING                | AFTERNOON/EVENING  |
|--------------------|------------------------|--|
| TUESDAY 7/2/2017   | Mainly sunny intervals | Mainly sunny intervals with showers over few places on Tuesday and Wednesday |
| WEDNESDAY 8/2/2017 |                        |  |
| THURSDAY 9/2/2017  |                        |  |
| FRIDAY 10/2/2017   |                        |  |
| SATURDAY 11/2/2017 |                        |  |
| SUNDAY 12/2/2017   |                        |  |
| MONDAY 13/2/2017   |                        |  |

#### 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

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

<http://kirinyaga.go.ke/weather.html> upon update by County Government Website administrators on duty

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

O.k.

James Gichuki Gathura

**County Director of Meteorological Services**