Republic of Zambia
Ministry of Green Economy and Environment
Zambia Meteorological Department

Period: 01 – 10 November 2025 **Issue No. 01** **Season: 2025/2026**

Agro Meteorological Bulletin

Highlights

WEATHER UPDATE

- Most of Zambia is experiencing normal to above-average rainfall with sufficient soil moisture.
- **Alert:** Widespread rainfall is forecast from **12–25 November 2025**.

ACTION ITEMS FOR FARMERS

- **Start Planting:** Utilize the early rains to prepare land and plant now. Use staggered planting methods where appropriate.
- **Manage Water:** Clear your drainage channels immediately to stop fields from flooding.
- **Protect Harvests:** Move last season's maize to dry, secure storage to prevent rotting.
- **Watch for Pests:** Inspect crops daily for pests. Report strange insects to your local Agricultural Office.

ACTION ITEMS FOR LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES

- **Keep Animals Dry:** Ensure livestock have dry shelter away from thunderstorms. Keep feed off the ground and away from rain.
- **Secure Ponds:** Check overflow pipes to stop fish loss. Keep dyke grass trimmed to prevent collapse.
- **Manage Cold:** If temperatures drop below 22°C, use greenhouse covers to protect fish breeding points.

RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

Dekadal Rainfall performance

Period: 1st to 10th November 2025

Widespread rainfall characterized the period from 1st to 10th November 2024, driven by an influx of moist, unstable Congo air from the northwest. Significant rainfall totals were recorded during this dekad, with Kabompo registering the highest amount at 193mm. Other notable stations included Kasempa and Mongu (113mm), Kaoma (112mm), Solwezi (102mm), and Kafironda (94mm).

Conversely, lower totals were observed at Kenneth Kaunda International Airport (8mm), Kalabo (7mm), Kafue Polder (6mm), and Mt. Makulu (3mm), with Chipepo and Lundazi recording just 1mm each. Satellite analysis confirms that while most of Zambia received rainfall exceeding 24mm, the southern regions remained largely drier ***(see Figure 1 & Table 1).***

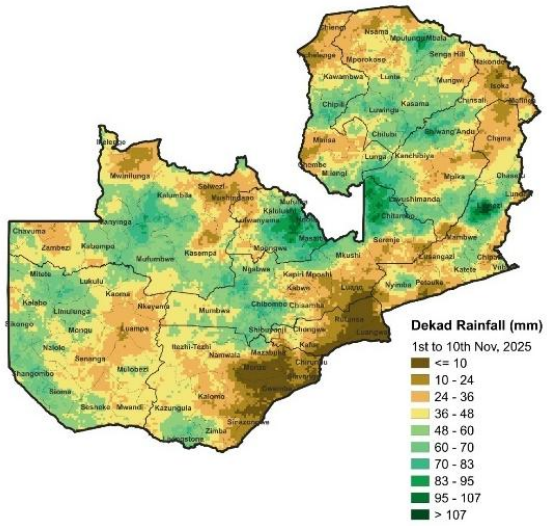

Figure 1: Dekadal Rainfall
1st to 10th November, 2025

Dekadal Rainfall Anomaly:

Period: 1st to 10th November 2025

Rainfall anomalies indicate that most of Zambia received above-average rainfall (green). However, parts of North-Western and Luapula Provinces, along with the southern districts of Southern and Lusaka Provinces, recorded below-average totals (brown). Most deficits remained under 30mm, with only isolated areas exceeding a 30mm deficit (dark brown). ***(See Figure 2 & Table 1)***

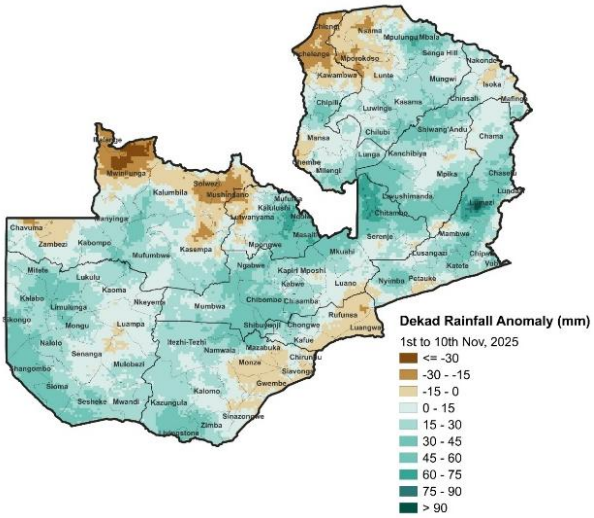

Figure 2: Dekadal Rainfall Anomaly
1st to 10th November, 2025

Rain-days:

Period: 1st to 10th November 2025

Between 1st and 10th November 2025, most areas experienced 2 to 4 rain-days. However, higher frequencies (>4 days) were observed in Northwestern and Western Provinces, as well as parts of the Copperbelt and Central Provinces. Kasempa recorded the highest number of rain days at 8 ***(See Figure 3 & Table 1)***

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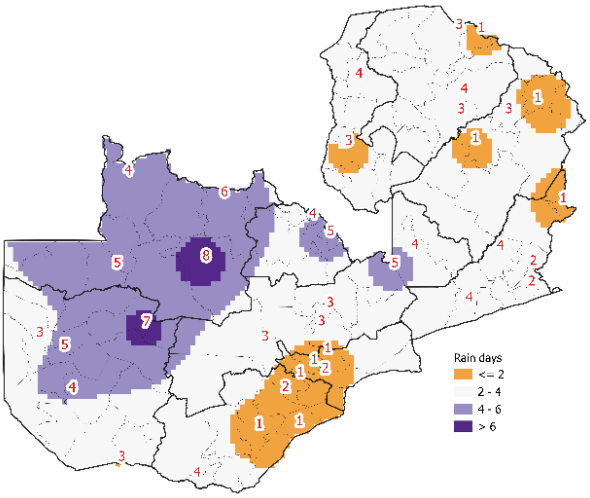

Figure 3: Number Of Rain Days
1st to 10th November, 2025

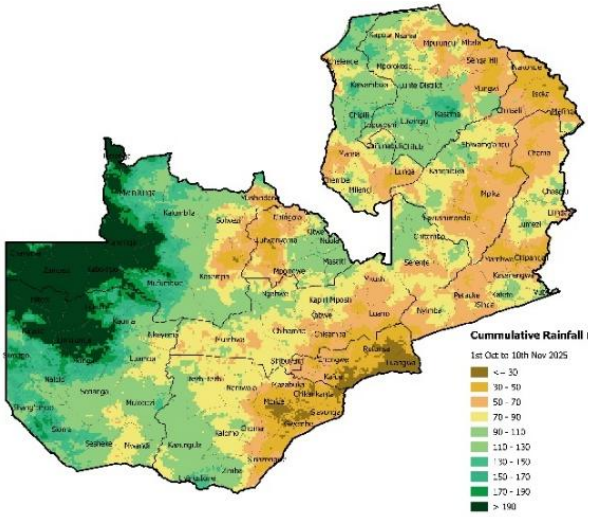

Figure 4: Cumulative Rainfall
1st October to 10th November, 2025

Cumulative Rainfall since start of season

Period: 1st Oct to 10th Nov 2025

Cumulative rainfall analysis up to 10th November 2025 indicates high totals across most of Zambia. Western regions recorded the highest accumulations, exceeding 90mm (green). Most of the Copperbelt, Luapula, Northern, Central, and Eastern Provinces, along with much of Muchinga, received between 50mm and 70mm.

Conversely, lower accumulations (<50mm) were observed in Lusaka, Southern Province, and parts of northern Muchinga. The highest station total recorded to date is 219mm in Kabompo (See Figure 4 & Table 1)

Rainfall Departure:

Period: 1st Oct to 10th Nov 2025

As of 10th November 2025, cumulative rainfall analysis indicates that most of the country recorded normal to above-average totals. However, deficits were noted in parts of North-Western and Luapula Provinces, as well as isolated areas in Southern and Lusaka Provinces.

Station Performance: Kabompo recorded the highest absolute surplus (139mm), while Mumbwa registered the highest percentage increase (223% above average). Conversely, Kawambwa recorded the largest absolute deficit (63mm), while Lundazi showed the steepest percentage drop (96% below average).

Satellite Analysis: Satellite data confirms widespread surpluses ranging between 15mm and 45mm (green), with a few areas exceeding this range. Isolated deficits were observed between 15mm and 85mm ***(See Figure 5 & Table 1).***

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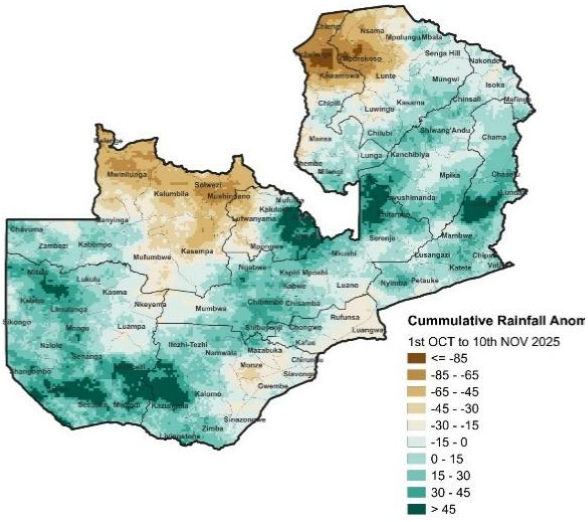

Figure 5: Rainfall Anomaly
1st October to 10th November 2025

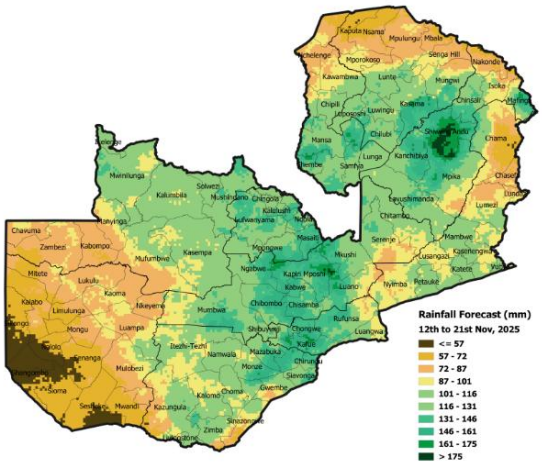

Figure 6: Forecast Rainfall
12th to 21st November 2025

10 -DAY WEATHER FORECAST

General Situation

12th November to 21st November 2025

A moist and unstable air mass from the northwest (Congo air) is controlling the weather in most parts of country resulting in cloudy weather with isolated rainfall.

Detailed Forecast:

Period: 12th to 21st November 2025

Southern, Western, Northwestern, Copperbelt, Central and Lusaka Provinces including the southern parts of Eastern Provinces:

Morning: Cloudy, slightly windy with isolated rain. Temperature will be mild to warm ranging between 10°C and 22°C.

Afternoons: Cloudy, slightly windy with isolated rain and thunderstorms. Temperature will be warm, ranging between 22°C and 37°C.

Nights: Partly cloudy, slightly windy and warm to mild with isolated rain and occasional thunder.

The forecast rainfall map for the period 12th to 21st November 2025 indicates that most areas 87mm. However, some parts of Western Zambia, including the extreme northern parts and a few areas over eastern Zambia (In brown) are anticipated to record rainfall less than 87mm during the forecast period ***(See figure 6)***.

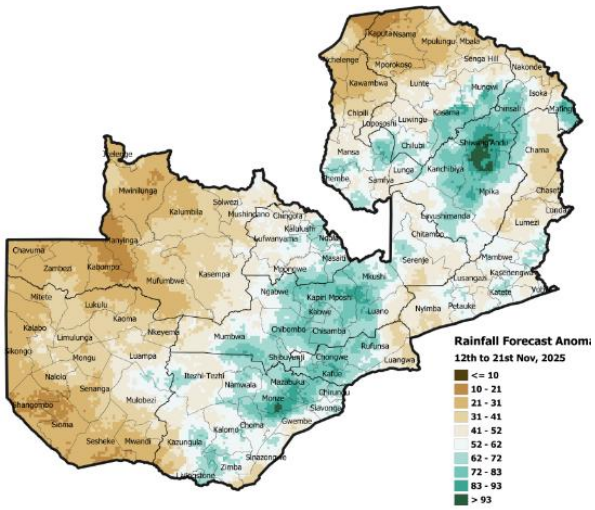

Figure 7: Forecast Rainfall Anomaly
12th to 21st November 2025

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The forecast anomaly map that compares the expected rainfall to the long-term average (30-year Period) rainfall expected during the period 12th to 21st November; indicates that the whole country is expected to record above average rainfall. Areas in green are anticipated to record rainfall amounts exceeding 50mm above their long term mean while those in brown are expected to record less than 50mm below average ***(See figure 7)***.

AGRO-METEOROLOGY CONDITIONS

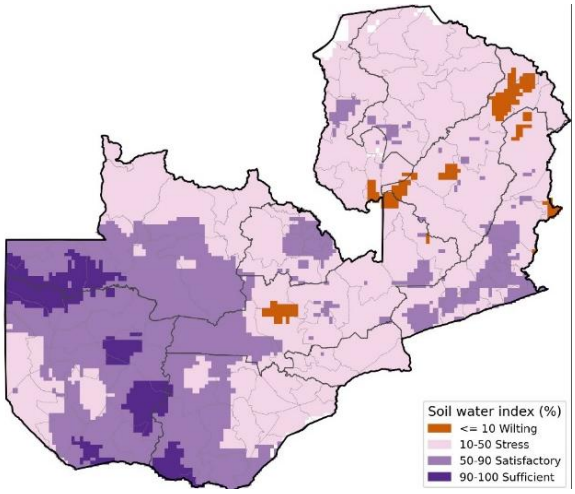

Figure 8: Soil Water Index
1st to 10th November 2025

Soil Water Index

The soil water index as of 10th November 2025 indicates sufficient soil moisture (90% to 100%) in most parts of Western and Northwestern provinces including parts of Southern, Copperbelt, Eastern and few areas over Luapula Province. This can be attributed to the widespread rainfall that characterized the weather over Zambia. However, much of the eastern half of the country indicates soil moisture ranging between 10 to 50%. The forecast indicates widespread rainfall, and this is expected to significantly improve the soil moisture across the country. With heavy falls forecast during the period 12th to 25th November, flooding is likely in areas with saturated soil moisture.

The forecast for the next 10 days indicates widespread rainfall, and this is likely to result in water logging and flooding, especially for areas with already saturated soil moisture ***(See figure 10).***

The Soil Water Index quantifies the moisture conditions at various depths in the soil and is mainly driven by rainfall infiltration, penetration and surface water evaporation processes.

Recommended Actions for Farmers

1. Land Preparation and Planting:

- *Expedite Land Preparations:* Well-prepared land will allow for better water infiltration and reduce waterlogging.
- *Seize the Planting Window*: The onset of consistent and widespread rains provides an excellent opportunity for planting. Farmers are advised to have their seeds and inputs ready to plant with these first effective rains.
- *Consider Staggered Planting:* To spread the risk of pest/disease outbreaks, dry spell especially Southern and western parts) and to manage labour, consider

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planting with the good rain based on the forecast.

2. **Managing Heavy Rainfall and Waterlogging**:

- *Ensure Proper Drainage:* Clear all drainage channels around your fields to prevent waterlogging, which can damage young seedlings and leach soil nutrients.

- *Avoid Compacting Soil:* Do not work on your fields when the soil is completely saturated, as this destroys soil structure and leads to compaction.

3. **Soil and Nutrient Management:**

- *Apply and Secure Fertilizers:* Apply basal fertilizers as recommended for your crop and area. To prevent nutrients from being washed away (leached) by heavy rains, incorporate fertilizers properly into the soil.

- *Use Organic Manure:* Incorporating well-decomposed organic manure improves the soil's water-holding capacity and structure, making it more resilient to both heavy rain and dry spells.

4. **Crop Selection and Practice**

- *Diversification:* Diversify crops based on the forecast and advisory from your district agriculture office.

- *Conservation Agriculture:* Implement or enhance conservation agriculture practices, including:
    - No-till or minimum-tillage practices
    - Cover cropping and organic mulching to protect the soil from heavy rain and runoff.
    - Crop rotation,
    - Certified Seed: Always use quality certified seed to ensure optimal performance.

5. **Post harvest management:**

- Secure last season maize stock to avoid spoilage due to rain or high moisture.

6. **Soil/Water Management and Pest Control**

- *Drainage Maintenance*: Immediately clear all existing field drains, furrows, and drainage channels. Ensure proper outlets are available to quickly move excess water away from fields and low-lying farm structures to prevent crop waterlogging and root rotting.

- *Prevent Soil Erosion:* Implement measures to minimize soil erosion caused by heavy surface runoff. This includes reinforcing bunds/ridges, and if possible, applying mulch or crop residues to exposed soil.

- *Monitor Water Levels:* If farming near rivers or flood-prone areas, monitor local water levels and be ready to move livestock and movable assets to higher ground.

7. **Pest and Disease Control:**

- The normal to above-normal rainfall increases the risk of

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agricultural pests and fungal/waterborne diseases. Farmers must enhance monitoring and surveillance and be prepared for timely control measures.

8. Livestock Management:

- *Ensure Dry Shelter:* Provide clean, dry, and well-drained shelter for all livestock to protect them from potential cold and wet conditions associated with heavy thunderstorms.
- *Secure Feed Stocks*: Protect animal feed from rain and moisture to prevent mould and spoilage.

9. Advisories for fish farmers:

- In areas receiving more than 100 mm of rainfall, fish farmers are advised to ensure that ponds are fitted with functional overflow pipes to prevent fish escape. Regularly monitor water levels, and if ponds are close to full capacity, drain excess water to maintain safe levels.
- Plant and maintain grass on the pond dykes to strengthen and stabilize them, ensuring the grass is kept always trimmed.
- In locations where temperatures fall below 22 °C, farmers are encouraged to install greenhouses over breeding points to help raise temperatures to optimal breeding conditions.
- Stay updated on the latest weather forecasts and adjust farming practices accordingly.
- For any unusual, strange insects or disease on crops, report to the nearest Agricultural Office in your area.

For any further information, farmers can contact their local District Agricultural Coordinator's (DACO) office or Ministry of Agriculture field officers.

The Agrometeorological Bulletin is a collaborative production of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment.

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Table 1: Period: 1 – 10 November 2025				**Issue No:** 01				**Season:** 2025/2026
Station	**Dekad Observations**			**Total Since 1st July 2025**				
	Rainfall (mm)	**Rain-days (>=1mm)**	**Normal Dekadal Rainfall (mm)**	**Cumulative Rainfall (mm)**	**Cumulative Rain-days**	**Normal Cumulative Rainfall (mm)**	**Rainfall Departure (mm)**	**Percentage Departure (%)**
North-Western Province								
Mwinilunga	75	4	53	142	11	144	-2	-1
Kasempa	113	8	32	113	8	102	11	11
Solwezi	102	6	45	139	9	90	49	55
Kabompo	193	5	32	219	12	80	139	174
Copperbelt Province								
SMKIA	75	5	22	97	7	50	47	94
Kafironda	94	4	30	110	6	65	44	68
Ndola	68	4	22	68	4	50	18	36
Luapula Province								
Kawambwa	54	4	43	77	9	140	-63	-45
Mansa	31	3	26	32	5	57	-24	-43
Northern Province								
Mbala	14	1	19	14	1	49	-35	-71
Kasama	48	3	30	69	5	73	-4	-5
Misamfu	40	4	27	40	4	50	-10	-20
Mpulungu	40	3	19	42	4	49	-7	-14
Muchinga Province								
Mpika	61	1	22	61	1	38	23	60
Isoka	59	1	11	59	1	20	39	191
Chinsali	41	3	11	41	3	20	21	103
Eastern Province								
Msekera	21	2	15	24	3	29	-5	-18
Chipata	44	2	17	44	2	28	16	58
Lundazi	1	1	13	1	1	22	-21	-96
Mfuwe	38	4	14	38	4	26	12	47
Petauke	63	4	14	63	4	31	33	105
Central Province								
Serenje	82	4	16	82	4	29	53	182
Mkushi	34	5	6	34	5	20	14	71
Mumbwa	50	3	15	50	3	15	34	223
Kabwe Agro	11	3	14	11	3	27	-16	-59
Kabwe Met	47	3	14	48	4	27	20	75
Lusaka Province								
Kkia	8	1	15	8	1	31	-23	-74
Lusaka City	43	2	17	44	3	30	14	46
Mt Makulu	3	1	18	5	2	42	-36	-88
Southern Province								
Kafue Polder	6	1	13	6	1	40	-34	-86
Livingstone	32	4	16	32	5	39	-7	-19
Magoye	55	2	15	55	2	34	20	59
Choma	10	1	14	13	2	38	-25	-65
Chipepo	1	1	7	1	1	16	-15	-94
Western Province								
Kalabo	7	3	10	7	3	34	-27	-79
Mongu	113	5	21	119	7	47	72	155
Kaoma	112	7	23	112	7	59	54	92
Senanga	35	4	25	66	10	63	3	4
Sesheke	57	3	12	57	4	49	8	17

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