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

Period: 10 – 20 November 2025 **Issue No. 02** **Season: 2025/2026**

Agro Meteorological Bulletin

Highlights

- **Above average** rainfall recorded in most parts of Zambia;
- Onset of rains established over most parts of the country;
- Most parts of Zambia attain **sufficient (90% - 100%) moisture levels**;
- Forecast indicates **reduction in rainfall** between 26th November to 3rd December, 2025;

Advisories on Crops

- Farmers in advised complete land preparation during this period of reduced rainfall;
- Farmers growing Maize, Beans and Groundnut can continue planting;
- Farmers advised to put in place moisture conservation measures such as mulching, ripping and intercropping;
- In areas expected to receive good rainfall, farmers are encouraged to continue planting their crops;
- Apply basal dressing fertilizer at planting;
- ensure crop diversification in order to strengthen resilience to pests and disease as well as climate risks;
- Farmers with irrigation facilities can continue planting their crops and supplement with irrigation during moisture deficit periods
- In areas with sufficient moisture, tree seedlings for improved soil fertility should be planted in the main fields and protected against livestock.

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RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

Dekadal Rainfall performance

Period: 11th - 20th November, 2025

The periods from 11th to 20th November 2024 was characterized with widespread rainfall due to the moist and unstable airflow from the northwest (Congo air) that covered most parts of the country. Significantly high rainfall amounts were recorded during the dekad. According to reports of Meteorological stations, the highest recorded was 190mm from Petauke followed by Mkushi with 180mm. Other high amounts recorded include Isoka and Misamfu with 165mm each, Kasempa 163mm and Kabompo 159mm. The rest of the stations recorded rainfall less than 150mm with Livingstone recording the lowest of 25mm.

The satellite rainfall map further indicates that during the dekad, most parts of Zambia had rainfall exceeding 60mm with most areas over Western and Northern provinces (in brown color) indicating rainfall less than 60mm ***(See figure 1 & Table 1).***

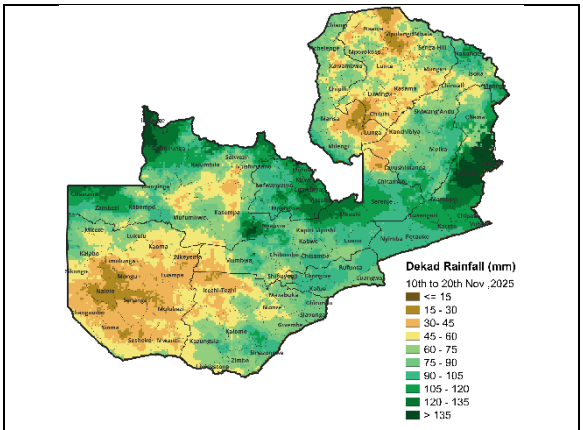

Figure 1: Dekadal Rainfall *10th to 20th November, 2025*

Dekadal Rainfall Anomaly:

Period: 11th - 20th November, 2025

The rainfall anomaly for the period under review indicates that most parts of the country recorded above average rainfall (in green colors); except for very few areas of Luapula, northern and Western Province Provinces (Brown) where below average rainfall was recorded. However, the deficits were not so significant as they were less than 24mm below the long-term average (***See figure 2 & Table1***).

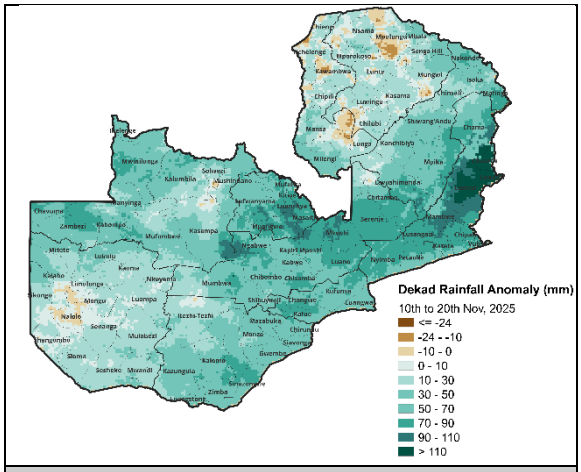

Figure 2: Dekadal Rainfall Anomaly 10th to 20th November, 2025

Rain-days:

Period: 11th - 20th November, 2025

The rainfall distribution for the period 11th to 20th November, 2025, indicates that most areas recorded more than 6 rain days with the highest of 9 days recorded in Ndola, Isoka and Msekera. However, most part of Western and Southern Provinces including some parts of Lusaka and a few areas Eastern and Northern provinces where less than 6 rain days were recorded. The lowest number of rain days was 3 recorded in Livingstone and Choma. (***See figure 3 & Table1***).

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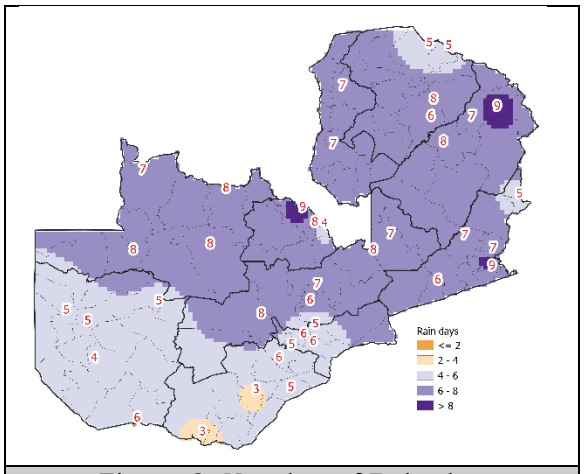

Figure 3: Number of Rain days
1st to 10th November, 2025

Onset of the 2025/2026 Rainfall Season

The onset of the growing season is defined with a criterion of an area receiving a total of 25mm of rainfall in the first 10 days followed by a total of 20mm in the next 20 days. Therefore, the 2025/2026 rain season indicates that rainfall is set across Zambia By October, 2025, the rain season was set over Northwestern and Parts of Western Province (blue), while much of the country had their onset by the first and second dekad (1st – 20th) of November, 2025 **(See figure 4).**

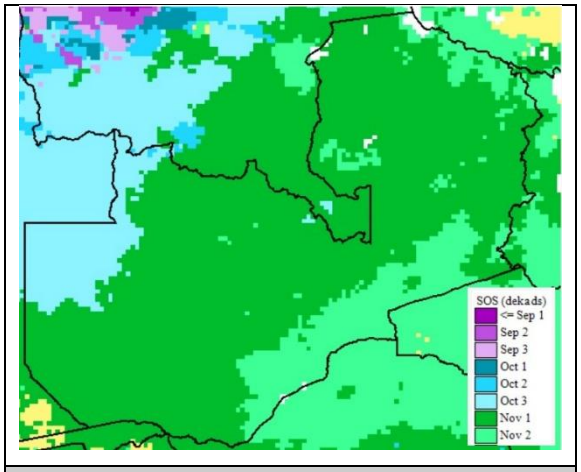

Figure 4: Onset of 2025/26 Season
as of 20th November, 2025

2025/26 Season Rainfall Onset Anomaly

The onset of the 2025/2026 rain season indicates an earlier than normal onset in most parts of Zambia (blue colors). Additionally, normal onset was observed in parts of Northwestern, Copperbelt, Northern, Luapula, Lusaka, southern and Eastern provinces (gray color).

However, a delayed onset by 10 days was observed in parts of Northwestern and Luapula Provinces (**See figure 5).**

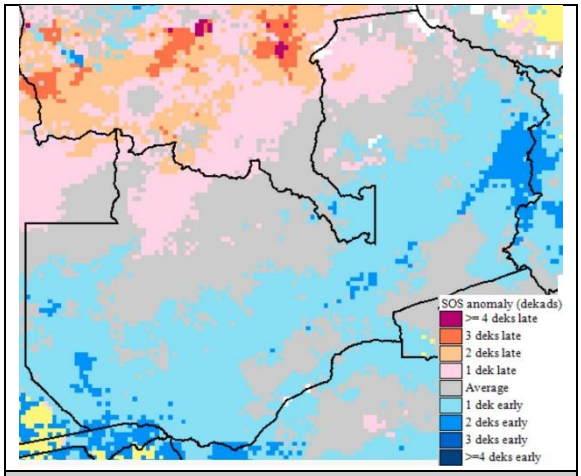

Figure 5: 2025/26 season Onset Anomaly
as of 20th December, 2025

Cumulative Rainfall since start of season

Period: 1st October – 20th November, 2025

Cumulative rainfall analysis up to 20th November 2025 indicates high totals across most of Zambia. Most parts of the country recorded cumulative rainfall exceeding 140mm. However, some parts of Southern, western, Lusaka, Northern and Muchinga Provinces have recorded rainfall ranging between 35mm and 140mm.

Conversely, lower accumulations (<35mm) were observed in Luapula Province. The highest station total recorded to date is 378mm in Kabompo (***See figure 6 & Table 1***).

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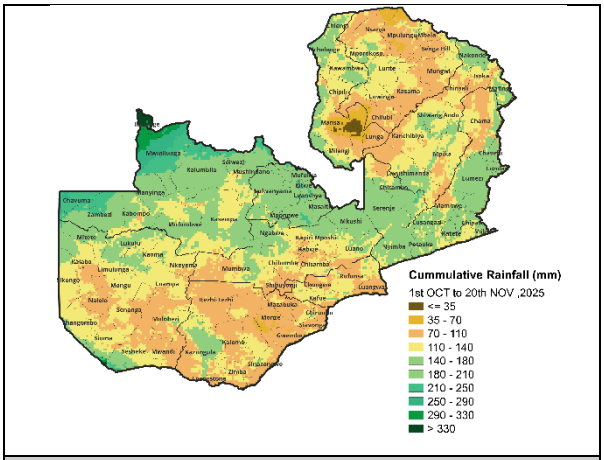

Figure 6: Cumulative Rainfall
1st October to 20th November, 2025

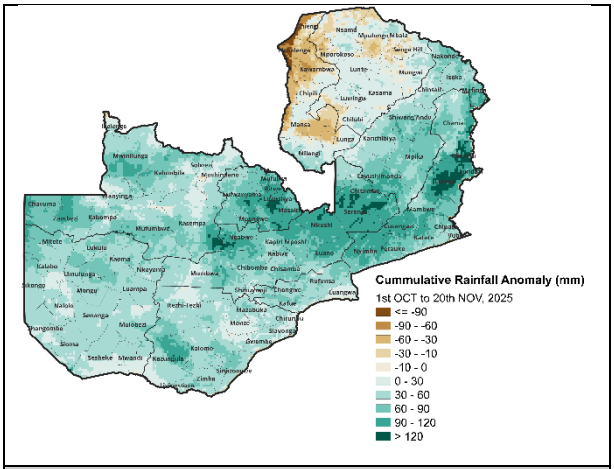

Figure 7: Rainfall Anomaly
1st October to 20th November 2025

Rainfall Departure:

Period: 1st October to 20th November 2025

As of 20th November 2025, cumulative rainfall analysis indicates that most of the country recorded above-average totals. However, deficits were noted in parts of Western Province.

Station Performance: Petauke recorded the highest absolute surplus (194mm), while Mkushi registered the highest percentage increase (608% above average). Conversely, Ka1abo recorded the largest absolute deficit (30mm), and the steepest percentage drop (45% below average).

Satellite Analysis: Satellite data confirms widespread surpluses ranging between 30mm and 90mm (green), with a few areas exceeding this range. Isolated deficits were observed between 10mm and 90mm ***(See Figure 7 & Table 1).***

10 -DAY WEATHER FORECAST

General Situation

25th November to 2nd December, *2025*

There is more than 50% chance of receiving rainfall exceeding 25mm over Northwestern, Western and Southern Provinces while the rest of the country has less than 5% chance of receiving rainfall exceeding 25mm during the forecast period.

Detailed Forecast:

25th November to 2nd December, 2025

NORTHWESTERN, WESTERN AND SOUTHERN PROVINCES INCLUDING THE WESTERN DISTRICTS OF CENTRAL AND LUSAKA PROVINCES:

Mornings: Mainly cloudy, slightly windy and mild to warm with isolated rain and occasional thunder. Temperature will be mild to warm ranging between 11°C and 21°C.

AFTERNOONS: Mainly cloudy, slightly windy and warm to hot with isolated showers and Thunderstorms. Maximum temperature will be ranging from 28°C to 37°C

NIGHTS: Partly cloudy tending to be mainly cloudy in some areas, slightly windy and mild with isolated rain and occasional thunder.

COPPERBELT, LUAPULA, NORTHERN, MUCHINGA AND

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EASTERN PROVINCES INCLUDING THE EASTERN DISTRICTS CENTRAL AND LUSAKA PROVINCES:

MORNINGS: Few clouds, becoming partly cloudy by late morning, slightly windy and mild to warm with a slight chance of isolated rain. Minimum temperature will be ranging from 14°C to 23°C.

AFTERNOONS: Partly cloudy, slightly windy and warm to hot with a chance of isolated showers and occasional thunder. Maximum temperature will be ranging from 27°C to 38°

NIGHTS: Few clouds and partly cloudy in some areas, slightly windy and mild with a chance of isolated rain.

The forecast rainfall map for the period 25th November to 2nd December, 2025 indicates that Northwestern province to receive rainfall amounts between 17mm to 25mm, Southern and Western to receive rainfall amounts greater than 25mm. while the northeastern parts of the country are expected to receive less than 17mm, with northern and Muchinga provinces to receive less than 9mm ***(See figure 8)***.

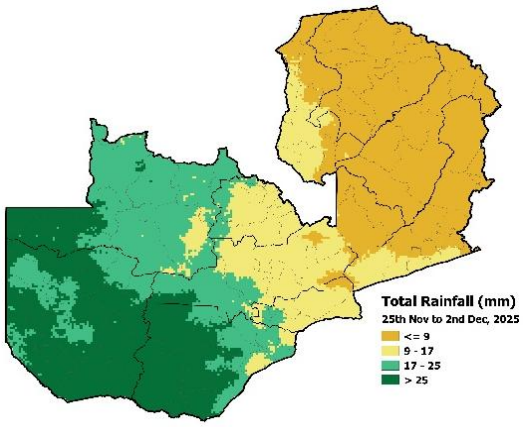

Figure 8: Forecast Rainfall
25th November to 2nd December 2025

The forecast anomaly map that compares the expected rainfall to the long-term average (30-year Period) rainfall expected during the period 25th November to 2nd December, 2025; indicate that the south-western half of the country are anticipated to receive above-average rainfall. Areas shaded in green are expected to record more than 3 mm above their long-term mean, while the darker green areas may receive over 15 mm above average. Meanwhile, the north-eastern half of the country is expected to record a rainfall deficit, with areas in light to dark brown expected to fall more than 10 mm below average, and some areas in the Northern parts likely to experience deficits exceeding 83 mm below the long-term mean ***(See figure 9)***.

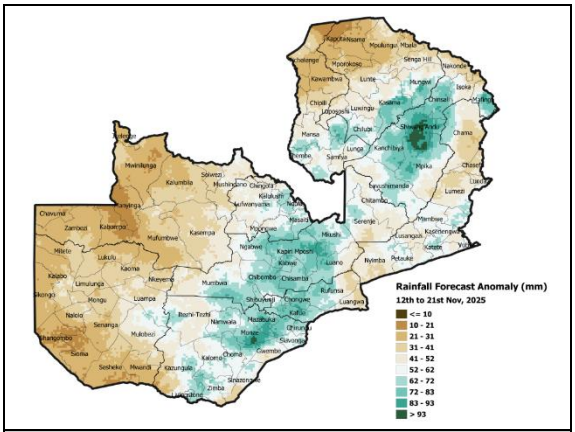

Figure 9: Forecast Rainfall Anomaly
25th November to 2nd December 2025

AGRO-METEOROLOGY CONDITIONS

Soil Water Index

The soil water index as of 20th November, 2025 indicates sufficient soil moisture (90% to 100%) in most parts of Zambia, with other areas indicating satisfactory soil moisture levels (50% to 90%). This can be attributed to the wide spread rainfall that characterized the weather over Zambia. Very few areas are indicating soil moisture less than 50%. The forecast for the next 10days indicate a slight reduction in rainfall in most parts of the country except for areas over Northwestern, Western and Southern

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provinces where higher rainfall amounts are anticipated. However, this may not significantly affect the already existing soil moisture. ***(See figure 10).***

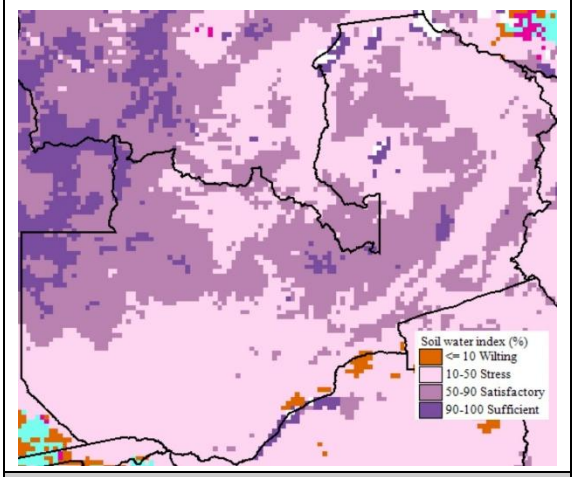

Figure 10: Soil Water Index
11th to 20th November 2025

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.

Advisories for crops

- Farmers in Copperbelt, Luapula, Northern, Muchinga, Eastern Provinces as well as the Eastern districts of Central and Lusaka Provinces are advised to complete land preparation during this period of reduced rainfall. They should have in place moisture conservation measures such as mulching, ripping and intercropping.
- Farmers in Northwestern, Western and the Western districts of Central and Lusaka Provinces are encouraged to continue planting their crops as they expect to continue receiving surplus rainfall. They should construct drainage channels for fields with poor water infiltration due to anticipated water logging conditions.
- Basal dressing fertilizer should be applied at planting.
- Farmers should ensure they diversify their crops in order to strengthen their resilience to pests and disease as well as climate risks.
- Farmers with irrigation facilities can continue planting their crops and supplement with irrigation during moisture deficit periods.
- In areas with sufficient moisture, tree seedlings like Faidherbia albida and Gliricidia sepium for improved soil fertility should be planted in the main fields and protected against livestock. However, for areas expecting moisture deficits, watering newly planted agroforestry species will improve survival rates.

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, Ministry of fisheries and livestock and the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment.

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Table 1:

Period: 10 – 20 November, 2025				**Issue No:** 02				**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 (%)**
Northern Province								
Mbala	97	5	32	112	6	81	31	39
Kasama	120	6	38	189	11	110	79	72
Misamfu	165	8	49	205	12	100	106	106
Mpulungu	38	5	32	80	9	81	0	-1
Mbala	97	5	32	112	6	81	31	39
Luapula Province								
Kawambwa	90	7	53	168	16	193	-25	-13
Mansa	120	7	35	152	12	91	61	67
Muchinga Province								
Mpika	111	8	22	173	9	61	112	185
Isoka	165	9	33	224	10	53	171	324
Chinsali	78	7	33	119	10	53	66	125
Copperbelt Province								
SMKIA	76	4	33	144	8	83	61	73
Kafironda	111	8	33	208	15	83	125	151
Ndola	105	9	35	214	15	100	114	114
North-Western Province								
Mwinilunga	58	7	49	200	18	193	7	3
Kasempa	163	8	38	276	16	139	136	98
Solwezi	124	8	53	263	17	143	120	84
Kabompo	159	8	28	378	20	108	270	251
Eastern Province								
Msekera	67	9	29	91	12	58	33	57
Chipata	94	7	27	139	9	55	83	151
Lundazi	135	5	21	136	6	43	93	218
Mfuwe	107	7	30	145	11	56	89	158
Petauke	190	6	28	253	10	59	194	329
Central Province								
Serenje	144	7	27	226	11	56	170	304
Mkushi	180	8	11	214	13	30	184	608
Mumbwa	73	8	25	122	11	41	82	202
Kabwe Agro	60	7	31	71	10	58	14	23
Kabwe Met	112	6	31	159	10	58	101	175
Lusaka Province								
KKIA	46	5	24	54	6	54	-1	-1
Lusaka City	70	6	23	114	9	53	61	116
Mt Makulu	128	6	28	133	8	69	64	92
Southern Province								
Kalabo	30	5	33	37	8	67	-30	-45
Mongu	118	4	25	237	11	72	166	232
Senanga	37	4	18	102	14	81	21	26
Sesheke	135	6	24	192	10	72	119	165
Western Province								
Kafue Polder	118	5	21	124	6	60	64	105
Livingstone	25	3	21	56	8	60	-4	-6
Magoye	107	6	25	162	8	60	103	172
Choma	59	3	20	73	5	58	14	24
Chipepo	92	5	17	93	6	34	59	175

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