



**Friday (19<sup>th</sup> February 2010)**

# Lesotho Meteorological Services Weekly Weather Brief



## REVIEW OF WEATHER CONDITIONS (12<sup>TH</sup> – 18<sup>TH</sup> FEB 2010)

The period is characterised by hot and wet weather conditions with scattered rains and thundershowers.

This period is the wettest since the beginning of February with most stations having up to 4 rainy days. Heavy rains were received in the south-western parts of the country whereby Mejametalana recorded the highest weekly rainfall of 128mm followed by Mafeteng and Moshoeshoe I with 89.3mm and 56.1mm respectively. The rest of the places recorded weekly rainfall ranging from 14.2mm (Qacha's Nek) to 55mm at Quthing. The rainfall recorded in this period at Mejametalana and Mafeteng exceeded the February normal with 50% and 7% departures from normal respectively.

The highest 24-hour rainfall of 73mm was recorded at Mejametalana on the 14<sup>th</sup>, accompanied by hail which lasted for about 20 hours. This hailstorm destroyed roads and the fruits. Mafeteng is the second highest with 58mm followed by Moshoeshoe I with 48.5mm.

The period was hot as both maximum and minimum temperatures persistently remained above normal except for a few days with below normal maximum temperatures. The highest temperatures were recorded on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> for most places.

Maximum Temperatures ranged from 21.5°C to 32°C in the Lowlands and from 21.1°C to 28°C in the Highlands. Minimum temperatures ranged between 13.3°C and 19.7°C in the Lowlands and between 7.4°C and 16.4°C in the Highlands.

## SEASONAL OUTLOOK (FEB – APR 2010)

The country is expected to receive below normal to normal rainfall for this season. Temperatures are expected to remain above normal.

### WEEKLY WEATHER 19<sup>TH</sup> – 26<sup>TH</sup> FEB 2010

The period is expected to experience mostly partly cloudy and hot to very hot conditions except between Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> and Friday 26<sup>th</sup> when it is expected to cool down slightly. Isolated to scattered rains with thundershowers associated with localized hail at times is anticipated from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Friday 26<sup>th</sup>. Maximum temperatures will range from 24°C to 31°C in the lowlands and from 15°C to 27°C in the highlands. Minimum temperatures will range from 12°C to 16°C and 9° to 15°C in the lowlands and the highlands respectively.

### DETAILED FORECAST

#### Friday 19<sup>th</sup>

Partly cloudy and hot to very hot with a slight chance (20%) of isolated thundershowers in the east. Wind: Light south-easterly turning becoming moderate easterly.

#### Saturday 20<sup>th</sup>

Partly cloudy and hot to very hot. Wind: Moderate north-easterly turning northerly.

#### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>

Partly cloudy and hot with 30% chances of isolated thundershowers especially in the south. Wind: Moderate southerly.

#### Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>

It will be hot with a chance of scattered thundershowers and localized hail. Wind: Moderate northerly.

#### Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>

Hot with a likelihood of scattered thundershowers with a possibility of localized hail. Wind: Moderate north-easterly.

#### Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>

Warm with scattered thundershowers in the south. Wind: Moderate to strong north-westerly.

#### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup>

Warm with isolated to scattered thundershowers in the south. Wind: Moderate to strong south-easterly turning easterly.

#### Friday 26<sup>th</sup>

Warm with a possibility of isolated to scattered thundershowers. Wind : Moderate north-easterly.

***(For updates, please stay tuned to local radio stations and Lesotho TV)***

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