



## 10 DAY AGROMET BULLETIN

### SUMMARY OF THE PAST DEKAD 01-05-2026 TO 10-05-2026

The first dekad of May 2026 was characterised by predominantly dry and clear to partly cloudy conditions across most of Zimbabwe, consistent with the country's transition into the cool dry season. Rainfall was notably absent across the majority of the country's provinces, with only isolated and very limited rainfall recorded at a few stations. Cloud cover was generally low, across most areas.

The limited rainfall recorded during this period was confined to a few stations: Marondera in Mashonaland East (45.0 mm), Kutsaga (9.4 mm), Harare Belvedere (5.4 mm), Zvishavane in Midlands (3.5 mm), Zaka (1.9mm), Wedza (1.5mm), Rupike in Masvingo (1.0 mm).

Minimum temperatures across most of the areas were below 10 degrees with very cold conditions experienced in Bulawayo Metropolitan and Matabeleland South provinces signifying the onset of the winter season. Reference can also be made to Figure 1(a), which shows that most areas recorded minimum temperatures of 6°C. Hot day time temperatures were experienced in the low-lying areas of the country with a high of 38 degrees recorded in Kanyemba with Beitbridge, Chisumbanje and Kariba recording 36 degrees. The exception was Manicaland Province which had lower daytime conditions (Fig 1b).

Evaporation rates were low in Manicaland, Matabeleland South and Masvingo Provinces (indicated by the blue colour in Figure 1(c)), due to the cloudy conditions which were experienced in those areas.

### 10-DAY WEATHER SUMMARY BY PROVINCE FOR THE PERIOD 01-05-2026 TO 10-05-2026

Province	Station	Clouds (Oktas)	Min/Max Temp. (C)		Relative Humidity range (%)		Rainfall total in 10 days (mm)	Wind direction	Wind speed (knots)	Evaporation (mm)	Sunshine hours
Mashonaland Central (5 Stations)	Henderson	32	6	31	36	97	00	NE	02	-	-
	Mvurwi										
	Guruve	1	10	32	38	97	00	NE	06	-	-
	Mt Darwin	4	10	34	33	100	00	SE	02	-	-
	Kanyemba	2	17	38	31	88	00	NE	04	-	-
Mashonaland East	Mutoko	2	12	32	31	100	00	E	04	44.4	-
	Chivhu	2	10	31	24	96	00	NE	03	-	-
	Marondera	2	07	30	34	100	45.0	NE	03	-	-

(4 Stations)	Wedza	1	12	30	20	100	1.5	E	03	-	-
Mashonaland West (6 Stations)	Chinhoyi	3	13	31	25	97	00	NE	02	-	-
	Chibero	1	11	30	35	95	00	NE	03	-	-
	Karoi	2	13	28	43	100	00	NE	03	-	-
	Kariba	2	17	36	47	88	00	VRB	07	-	-
	Kadoma	1	12	32	27	97	00	VRB	03	-	-
	Mhondoro	1	09	32	28	94	00	SE	01	-	-
Harare (2 Stations)	Belvedere	2	15	28	32	98	5.4	E	04	47.1	095
	Kutsaga	2	10	30	24	97	9.4	NE	03	43.4	094
Midlands (4 Stations)	Gokwe	1	13	31	35	91	00	NE	02	-	101
	Gweru	2	07	29	27	99	00	NE	06	-	101
	Kwekwe	1	12	29	44	94	00	SE	03	47.0	0
	Zvishavane	6	13	30	29	100	3.5	SE	03	42.6	-
Manicaland (7 Stations)	Rusape	1	09	29	28	100	00	SE	02	39.0	086
	Nyanga	1	07	10	37	97	00	SE	03	31.2	102
	Mukandi	2	11	24	26	100	00	SE	03	44.8	092
	Buhera										
	Chipinge	1	14	31	33	100	00	SE	03	40.2	100
	Chisengu										
Masvingo (6 Stations)	Makoholi	1	05	32	25	91	00	VRB	03	-	-
	Masvingo	1	07	32	23	100	00	VRB	05	42.8	105
	Zaka	1	19	31	28	100	019	NE	02	-	-
	Rupike	1	-	-	43	88	1.0	SE	07	-	-
	Buffalo Range	1	11	35	36	100	00	VRB	03	37.7	094
Matabeleland North (6 Stations)	Binga	1	16	34	21	79	00	VRB	03	61.8	103
	Lupane	1	04	33	24	100	00	SE	03	-	-
	Hwange	1	08	32	20	88	00	NE	05	-	-
	Tsholotsho	1	04	33	17	97	00	VRB	02	-	-
	Nkayi	1	07	33	20	95	00	SE	03	-	093
	Victoria Falls	1	07	32	18	100	00	SW	06	-	104
Matabeleland South (5 Stations)	Kezi	1	04	32	28	100	00	NE	03	-	-
	Matopos	2	05	31	26	97	00	E	04	-	-
	Beitbridge	1	09	36	23	97	00	SE	04	30.0	-
	West Nich	1	05	34	-	-	00	E	01	-	087
	Plumtree	2	05	31	21	97	00	N	06	-	-
Bulawayo	Goetz	1	05	29	23	98	00	NW	04	44.2	100

## MINIMUM, MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE AND EVAPORATION MAPS

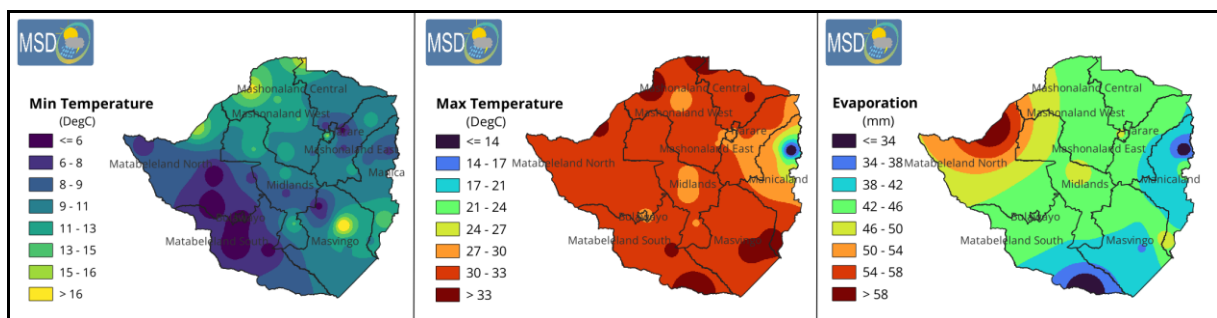
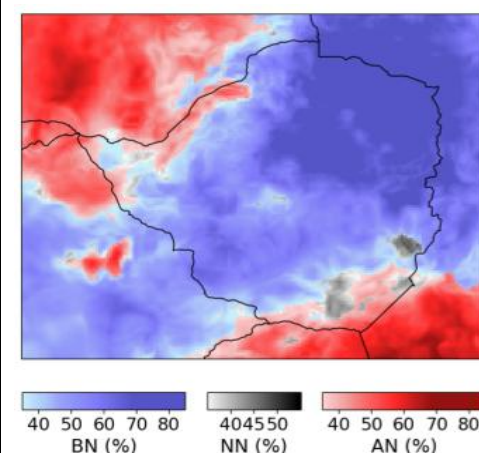
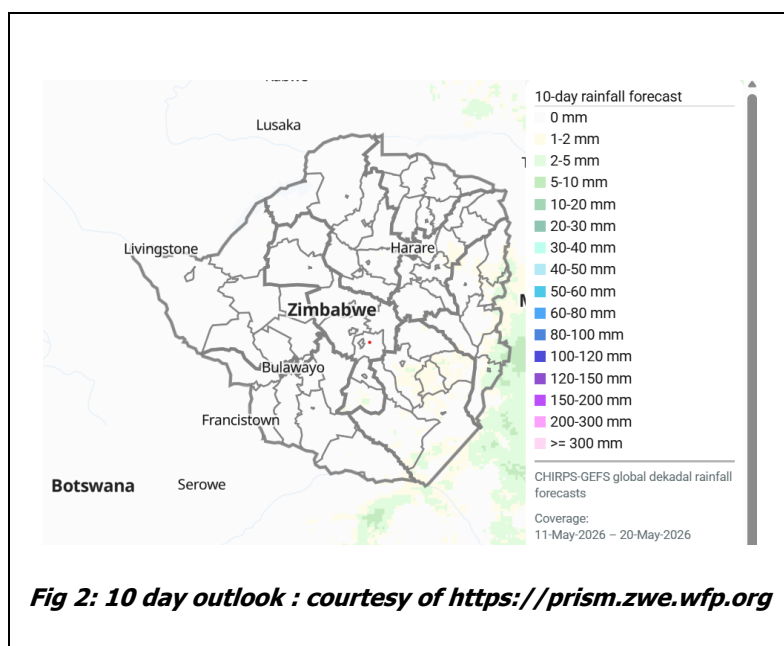


Fig 1: a) Minimum Temperature, b) Maximum Temperature and c) Evaporation for the dekad ending 10-05-2026

## WEATHER OUTLOOK: MAY 2026



Temperatures in May 2026 are expected to be below normal across many parts of the country as shown in figure 2.

**Table 2: Provincial Weather outlook valid from 11-05-2026 to 21-05 -2026**

Province	Agromet -Weather forecast	Wind Direction & Wind Speed (knots)	Relative Humidity (%)	Min/Max (°C)
Mashonaland Central	Cold and dry conditions will prevail. Expect clear to partly cloudy skies and dry weather throughout the dekad. Mornings will be cold with mild afternoons. No significant rainfall is anticipated.	NE'y, 2–5 kts	20–80%	8–32°C
Mashonaland East	The dekad will be mainly clear and dry. Cool to cold mornings are expected, particularly in higher-lying areas. Afternoons will be warm. Frost is possible in open valley floors toward the end of the period.	E'y, 2–4 kts	20–85%	5–30°C
Mashonaland West	Clear skies and dry conditions are expected throughout the dekad. Morning temperatures will be cool across the plateau, while Kariba will remain hot	NE'y / VRB, 2–6 kts	20–85%	10–33°C

	throughout. No rainfall is expected.			
Harare	Mainly clear and dry conditions with cool mornings and mild afternoons. Temperatures will fall progressively through the dekad. No rainfall is expected.	E'ly / NE'ly, 2–4 kts	25–85%	8–29°C
Midlands	Dry season conditions will dominate. Clear to partly cloudy skies with cool mornings and warm afternoons. A slight risk of isolated mist or low cloud in some valleys during early morning hours. No rainfall expected.	SE'ly / NE'ly, 2–5 kts	20–85%	6–31°C
Manicaland	Mostly clear and dry across the lowveld. Cold mornings in the Eastern Highlands (Nyanga, Mukandi) with frost possible by end of dekad. The escarpment areas will be cool. No significant rainfall expected, though isolated morning mist is possible at higher elevations.	SE'ly, 2–4 kts	25–90%	4–31°C
Masvingo	Clear to partly cloudy and dry throughout the dekad. Morning temperatures will be cold over the Highveld sections, with warm afternoons. No rainfall is anticipated.	SE'ly / VRB, 2–5 kts	20–85%	5–32°C
Matabeleland North	Mainly clear and dry. Warm to hot afternoons are expected across Binga and the Zambezi Valley. Cool mornings will prevail elsewhere. No rainfall expected.	NE'ly / SE'ly, 2–5 kts	15–80%	6–32°C
Matabeleland South	Clear and dry throughout the dekad. Beitbridge will remain hot in the afternoons. Cold mornings are expected across the interior by the end of the dekad. No rainfall is expected.	SE'ly / E'ly, 2–5 kts	15–80%	5–33°C
Bulawayo	Clear to partly cloudy and dry. Cool mornings with mild afternoons. Temperatures will decrease progressively through the dekad as winter establishes. No rainfall expected.	NW'ly / SE'ly, 2–4 kts	20–80%	5–29°C

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## **AGROMET ADVISORY**

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### **Advisory on Dry Season Crop and Livestock Management**

With the dry season now firmly establishing itself across most of Zimbabwe, farmers and agricultural practitioners are advised to shift their focus from crop production management to post-harvest operations, livestock management, and land preparation for the coming season. The following advisory points are relevant for the current period:

**Post-Harvest Handling:** Crops still in the field or recently harvested should be adequately dried before storage to prevent moulds and mycotoxin contamination. Maize should be dried to a moisture content of 12.5% or below before placing in hermetic storage facilities. Ensure storage facilities are clean, pest-free, and protected from the elements.

**Irrigation Scheduling:** Farmers with access to irrigation should begin scheduling winter crops, particularly wheat, barley, and irrigated vegetables. Given the low and declining humidity, evapotranspiration demand will increase through May and June. Irrigation scheduling should be based on soil moisture monitoring and crop water requirement calculations to avoid both water stress and waterlogging.

### **Advisory on Cold Weather and Frost Risk**

As temperatures continue to fall through May, frost risk increases significantly in certain agro-ecological zones. The following areas and farming communities should be particularly alert:

**High-Risk Areas:** Nyanga, Mukandi, Chipinge Highlands, and open vleis and valley floors across the Highveld are most susceptible to radiation frost, particularly on clear, calm nights. Frost can severely damage or kill frost-sensitive crops including beans, tomatoes, tobacco seedlings in nurseries, and sugarcane. Farmers with such crops in frost-prone areas should consider frost protection measures such as overhead irrigation at dawn, smoke screens, or the use of frost-protection fabrics.

Livestock: Young and vulnerable livestock, including newborn calves and poultry chicks, are at risk of cold stress and hypothermia during cold nights and mornings. Provide adequate shelter and bedding.