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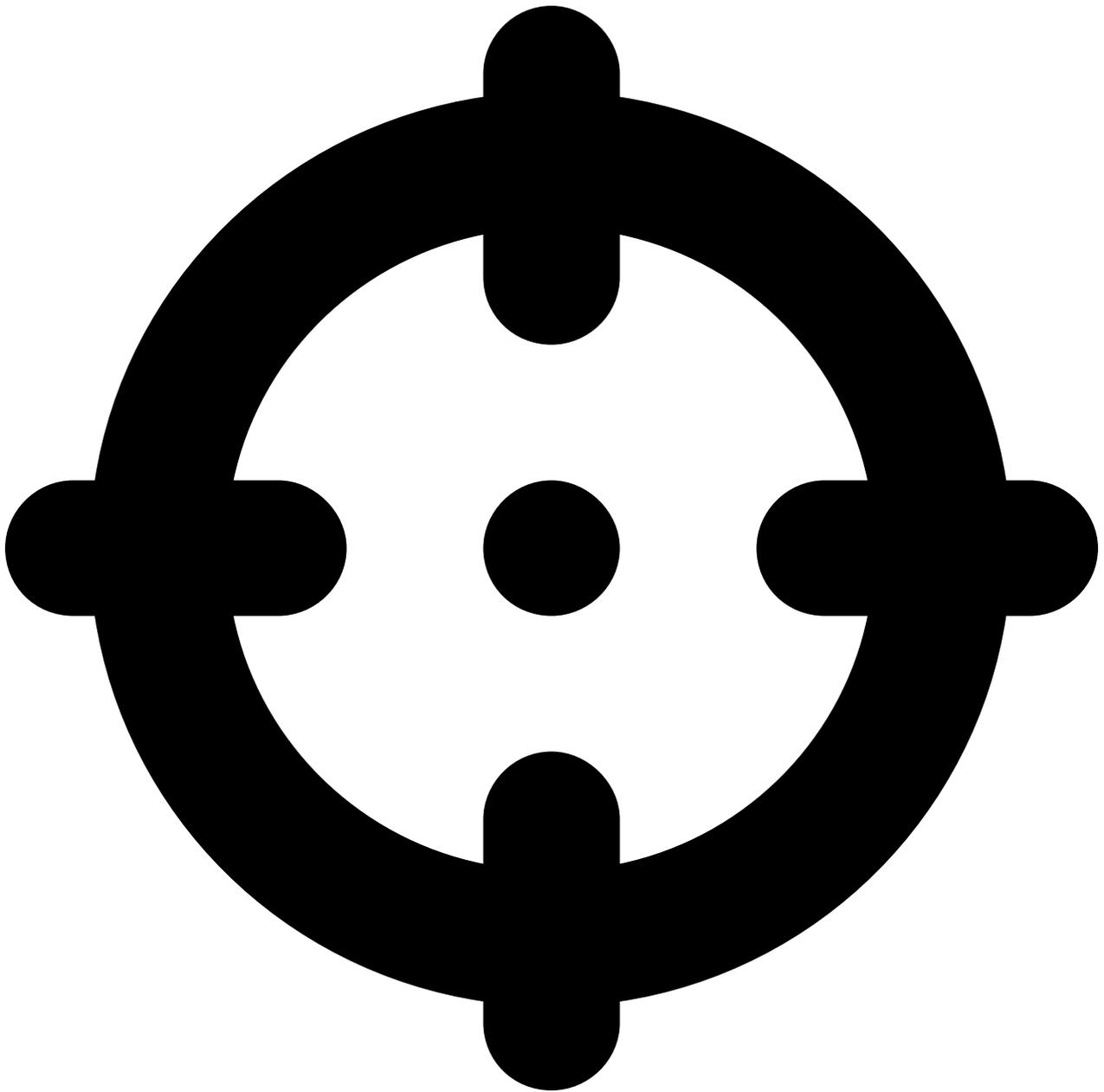
 Prolonged Dry Spell over much of country (19 January 2024)



**Urgency:** Immediate



**Severity:** Minor



**Certainty:** Likely

**Issued:**

Fri 19 Jan 2024

2:48 PM

**Effective:**

Fri 19 Jan 2024

2:48 PM

**Onset:**

Mon 29 Jan 2024

12 AM

**Expires:**

Fri 02 Feb 2024

12 AM

**Area:**

Countrywide

**Description:**

Winds from the south-east coast are strengthening over the east coast of Southern Africa. These should converge with the present northerly airflow currently prevailing over Zimbabwe. As such on Thursday 18 January 2024, heavy rains are expected over the country due to convergence. On Friday 19 January 2024, the south-easterly winds should further strengthen and drive moisture northward. This will start to gradually decrease rainfall across the country starting with the southern parts. This push of moisture northwards should result in mostly sunny and hot conditions from Sunday 21 January 2024, with periodic interludes of cooling winds from the south-east. Remember: to harvest your water to irrigate and stay hydrated

**Instruction:**

WHAT TO DO: • WATER HARVESTING WHEREVER AND WHENEVER POSSIBLE, MORE SO ON THURSDAY 18 JANUARY 2024 FROM FRIDAY 20 JANUARY 2024, FARMING ACTIVITIES THAT REQUIRE LESS RAINFALL(e.g. APPLICATION OF PESTICIDES AND FERTILIZERS) WITH GUIDANCE FROM LOCAL AGRITEX OFFICERS. Stay indoors in air conditioning as much as possible. • Drink plenty of water during the day - don't wait until you are thirsty! • Outdoor workers should drink between two and four cups of water every hour while working. • Avoid drinks with caffeine, alcohol or large amounts of sugar. • Limit your outdoor activity to mornings and evenings and rest often in the shade. • Wear light-colored and loose-fitting clothing, a hat, sunglasses and sunscreen. • Check on those who may be more at risk from high temperatures like: o Infants and young children o People aged 65 or older o People with chronic medical conditions • Never leave your children or pets in a vehicle.

Meteorological Services Department of Zimbabwe