

WEEKLY BRIEF

WEEK 21, 2018

HIGHLIGHTS

- Co-opt Entrepreneurship in Agricultural Training
- Lake Kariba Water Levels at 77% Full
- Mandatory: Employers/Employees to Contribute to Workers' Health Insurance Scheme

IN DETAIL....

CO-OPT ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN AGRICULTURAL TRAINING

Government has called on the School of Agricultural Sciences at the University of Zambia Great East road Campus to tailor programmes that encompass entrepreneurship.

Speaking during the prize giving ceremony to high-flying graduating students at the School of Agricultural Sciences in Lusaka on Thursday 24th May 2018, Minister of Agriculture Michael Katambo, whose speech was read by Deputy Director at MoA Stanslous Chisakuta, said the current curriculum is designed for graduates to look for employment. He said incorporating entrepreneurship in the curriculum would teach students to be more resourceful and set up own businesses instead of waiting for jobs openings.

He, however, congratulated the School of Agricultural Sciences for introducing agronomy for distance learners.

Earlier, the University Vice Chancellor Professor Luke Evuta Mumba announced that Agronomy will be introduced for long distance learners in 2019.

And a resourceful graduand, Lubinga Pathias Nchimunya collected six straight awards during the ceremony.

Nchimunya received awards for;

1. The Zanaco - Best performing student in 4th year courses

2. The Turtle Agro-Mining – Best Graduating student in soil sciences



3. The Omnia Fertiliser – Best Graduating student in 4th and 5th year soil science courses
4. The Saro- Agro – Best graduating student in irrigation and water management
5. The ZNFU – Best overall graduating student in Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Programme
6. The Musika -Overall Best Graduating student in the School of Agricultural Sciences.

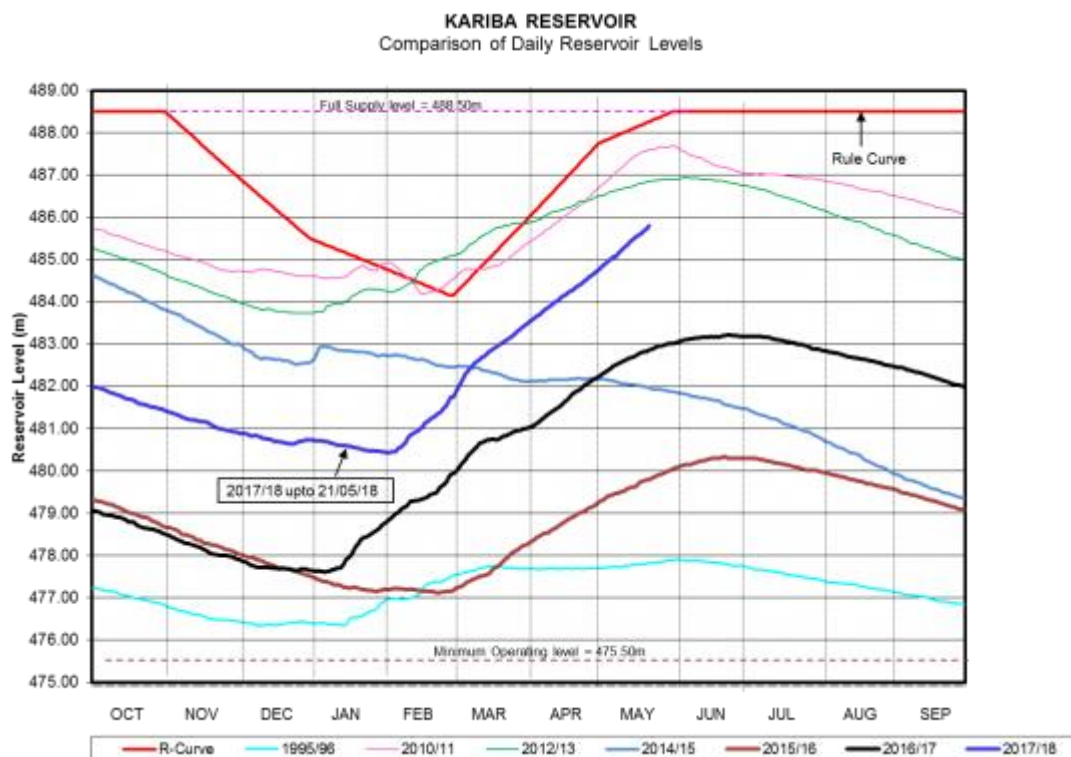
LAKE KARIBA WATER LEVELS AT 77% FULL

The Lake Kariba water level rose by 0.29m during the week due to inflows on the main stream Zambezi River. This necessitated the lake levels to close the week at 485.80m on 21st May 2018. This translates into the Kariba Dam being at 77% full.

Last year on the same date, the Lake level was 482.87m or 54% full.

The situation gives a lot of hope of steady supply of electricity to farmers as the season for growing winter crops draws near. Winter crops in Zambia are grown under irrigation. Lake Kariba Lake was created and designed to operate between levels 475.50m and 488.50m with 0.70m freeboard at all times.

Below is the water level graph at Lake Kariba as availed by the **Zambezi River Authority**.





INDUSTRY UPDATES

MANDATORY: EMPLOYERS/EMPLOYEES TO CONTRIBUTE TO WORKERS' HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME

The National Health Insurance Scheme is no longer a bill but law ever since the Republican President signed it.

The scheme will see employees and employers contributing a certain percentage every month towards the employees' health insurance.

The Ministry of Health was contacted for an update on the scheme. The Union was informed that the percentage contribution is yet to be established but will soon be after an actuarial study is carried out.

The study will help in creating a health package for Zambians that will cater for their secondary health cases.

Currently, every Zambian can access basic health care from any public health centre but with the scheme, Zambians that will be contributing towards the scheme will be able to access secondary health services such as renal dialysis and surgery among others.

The contents of the health package are yet to be determined as they are awaiting results of the actuarial study to be conducted. The study will consider among other factors the labour force in the country, disease patterns, household size, unit cost of treatment for each disease and average hospital visits per person per year.

This information will then be used to come up with a health package which will be availed to the public and determine the percentage contribution of both employees and employers. The other contributing factor in determining the contents of the package is the amount of money the National Health Insurance Management Authority will raise. If it raises a lot of money, then more ailments will be covered by the scheme to improve the health of Zambians. The scheme does not exclude people with pre-existing health conditions like most private insurance companies do.

The union was informed that the board is yet to be appointed but regulations that will see the smooth operation of the scheme are currently being worked on. Not all health institutions will be offering scheme covered health services, only those that will be accredited by the Authority. Any non-accredited health institution that offers health care services to a person on the scheme will not be paid for their services by the Authority unless it was an emergency and there was no accredited health institution nearby. This means that if an insured individual or groups of individuals access health care from a non-accredited institution, they will have to pay the bill from their own pocket despite having health insurance. Private insurance firms will be engaged in cases where an individual or groups of individuals feel they want coverage of ailments that may not be covered by the



ZNFU

national scheme package. For accreditation, the Authority is working together with the Health Professionals Council of Zambia (HPCZ) to ensure that the standards that the Authority will set for health institutions to get accredited are met by parties interested in participating in the health scheme.

Some individuals may be exempted from making contributions if; 1) they are mentally or physically disabled person who is not able to work; 2) they are above the age of 65; 3) they are classified by the Minister responsible for social welfare as poor; and 4) any other person as maybe prescribed by the minister.

A CALL FOR COMMENTS

We invite comments on the draft Zambian standards for Cashew Nuts and Harmonization of African Standards - Apiculture that we received from the Zambia Bureau of Standards (ZABS). Please follow the following links for access to the draft standards, the first link is for Cashew Nuts while the second is for Apiculture.

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1rk8y9y4me8vm5c/AACEKtk5tgk-_cSSGjM_twYwa?dl=0

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/uqk8md2ocpju4l5/AADmr68-67nv_Mi2PtP5E-kda?dl=0

COMMODITY UPDATES

Maize Updates

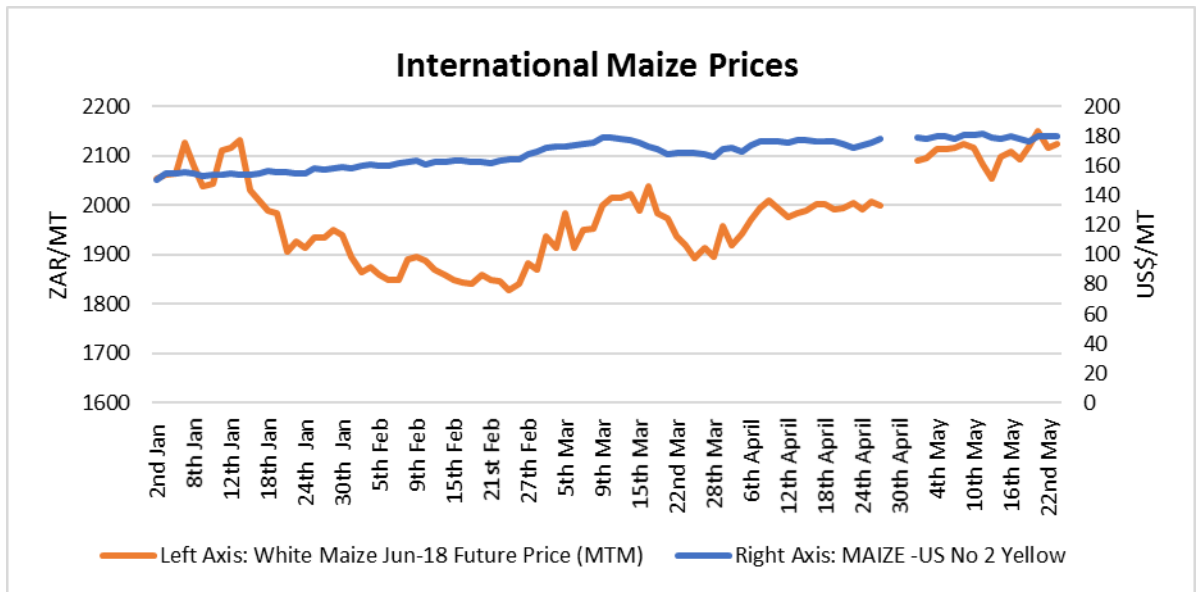
- It has now been a month since ZAMACE recorded any bids or offers for maize. The last offer made on 24th April 2018 still stands at ZMK 1710/MT of maize.
- Malawi's maize harvest for the 2017/18 farming season has gone down by 20%. The decline has been attributed to droughts, Army worms and flooding in different parts of the country. The government of Malawi is reported to have set funds aside to purchase maize to make up for the decline. (Source: RATIN)

International Price Trends

- The U.S gulf spot prices of yellow maize was quoted at US\$ 180.16/MT on 23rd May 2018 while the white maize futures for June delivery on SAFEX settled at ZAR 2125/MT (≈US\$168.52/MT).

ZNFU CORPORATE SPONSORS





Source: SAFEX 2018

Soya Beans Updates

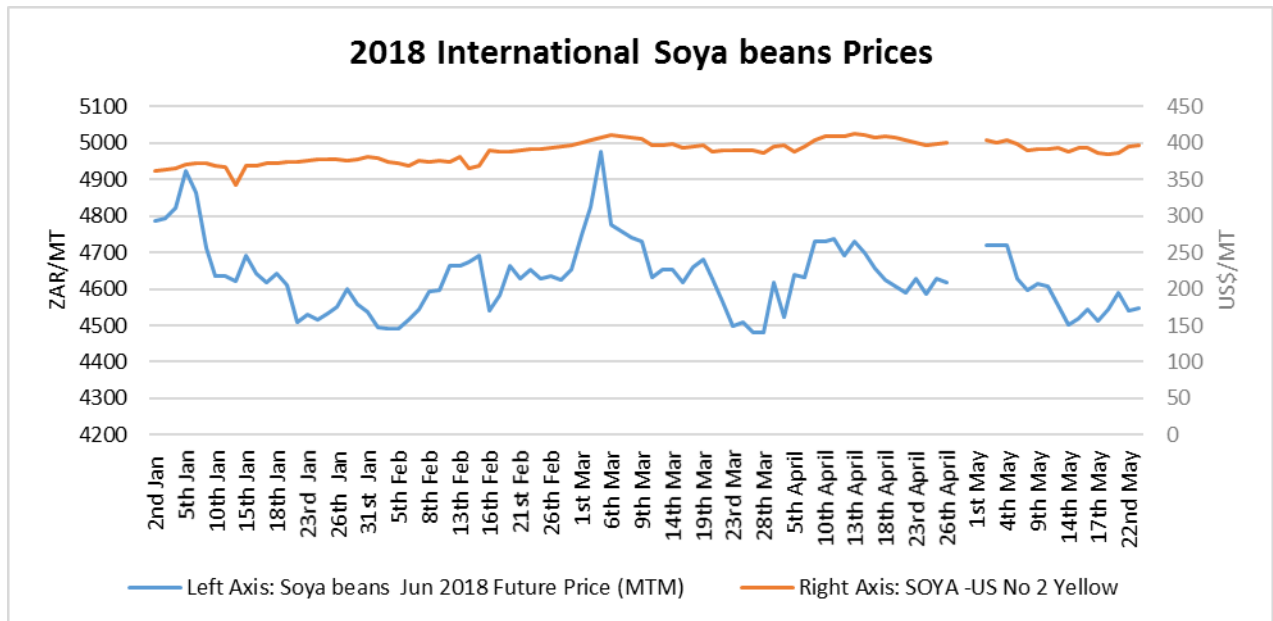
- CBOT Soya beans surged almost 3% on Monday 21st May 2018 as US and China trade tensions eased. China is the largest buyer of US soya beans and so the news of both countries vowing not to launch a trade war against each other led to the soaring of the commodity price. (Source: Xinhua net)
- RATION reports that soya beans demand in Tanzania and internationally has gone up. The local demand increase has been attributed to low production as most farmers still use traditional farming methods.

International Price Trends

- The U.S gulf spot price of Soya beans was pegged at US\$ 397.56/MT on 23rd May 2018 while the Soya beans futures for June delivery on SAFEX settled at ZAR 4547/MT (≈US\$360.59/MT).

ZNFU CORPORATE SPONSORS





Source: SAFEX 2018

Wheat Updates

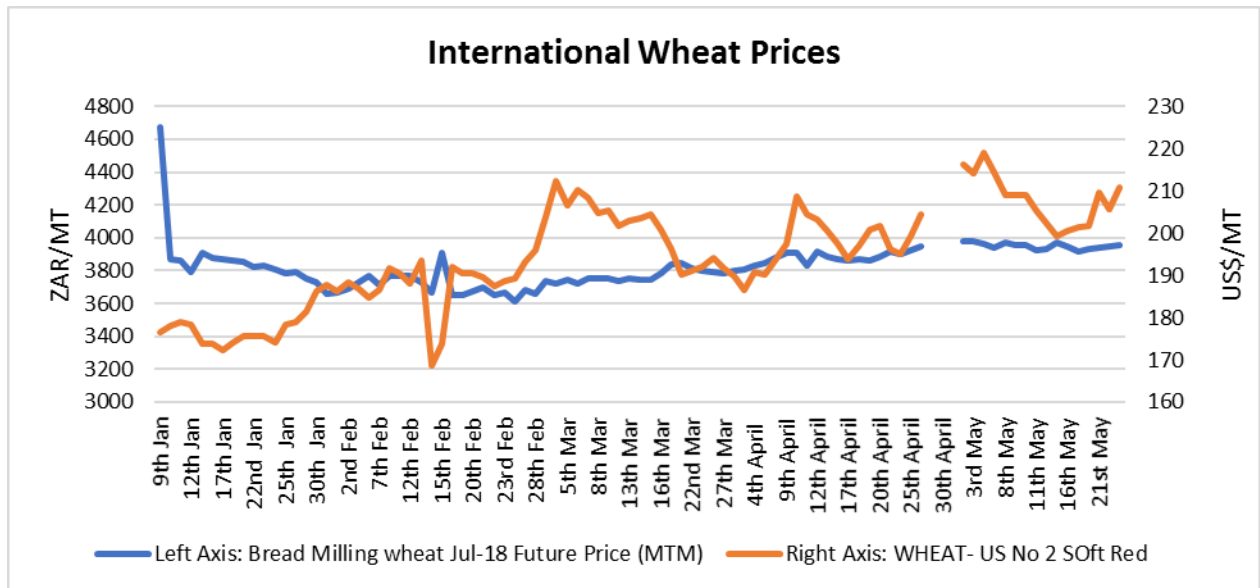
- South Africa exported 1056 MT of wheat to Zambia in the week end 18th May 2018. This is the second lowest wheat export to Zambia by South Africa since March 2018. (Source: SAGIS CEC, 2018)
- A report by RATIN shows that Kenya and Tanzania have increased their wheat imports to meet growing local demand despite the stringent common external tariff of 35%. Kenyan large-scale farmers have raised concerns regarding where they will sale their wheat given the high stocks of cheap wheat imports being accumulated by millers.

International Price Trends

- The U.S gulf spot price of wheat averaged US\$210.91/MT on 23rd May 2018 while the bread milling wheat futures for July delivery on SAFEX settled at ZAR 3952/MT (≈US\$313.40/MT).

ZNFU CORPORATE SPONSORS





Source: SAFEX 2018

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

The following are Public/Farmers' Holidays coming up during the year and members should observe THOSE MARKED IN YELLOW;

January 1 (Monday) – **New Year's Day**

March 8 (Thursday) – **International Women's Day**

March 12 (Monday) – **Youth Day**

March 30 (Friday) – **Good Friday**

March 31 (Saturday) – **Easter Saturday**

April 2 (Monday) – **Easter Monday**

May 1 (Tuesday) – **Labour Day**

May 25 (Friday) – **Africa Freedom Day**

July 2 (Monday) – **Heroes Day**

July 3 (Tuesday) – **Unity Day**

August 6 (Monday) – **Farmers' Day**

October 16 (Thursday) – **National Prayers' Day**



ZNFU

October 24 (Wednesday) – Independence Day

December 25 (Tuesday) – Christmas Day

Kindly note that the ones NOT MARKED YELLOW are NOT FARMERS' HOLIDAYS!!!!

PLEASE NOTE THAT FRIDAY 25TH MAY 2018 IS AFRICA FREEDOM DAY; A FARMERS' HOLIDAY AND ZNFU OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED.

ALERTS! ALERTS! ALERTS! ALERTS!



ZAMBIA NATIONAL FARMERS' UNION

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLE BY TENDER

ZNFU is inviting sealed bids from the public to purchase eight (8) motor vehicles with details below;

SER	VEHICLE TYPE	ENGINE	COLOUR	REG.
1	Toyota Hilux	2KD-7487025	White	ABR7743
2	Ford Ranger	WLAT963799	White	ABT5158
3	Toyota Hilux	2KD-5849639	Gold	ALG8144
4	Toyota Hilux	2KD-5813122	Silver	ALG4591
5	Toyota Hilux	2KD-A050711	White	ALK5448
6	Toyota Hilux	2KD-5811020	Gold	ALG3993
7	Nissan Patrol	TB48-0488020	White	ALE8785
8	Toyota Land Cruiser	1HZ-0687720	White	ALE 9148

The bids must be clearly marked “Sale of motor Vehicle by Tender”, and address to ZNFU, Plot No. 2374 Tiyende Pamodzi Road, Show grounds. Telephone: 00260 211 252649/254431.

Bid forms can be collected from the ZNFU head office after paying a non-refundable fee of K100.

Kindly bring the bids in sealed envelopes and deposit them in the Tender box stationed at the Reception of ZNFU offices.

The closing date for receipt of bids is Wednesday 23rd May 2018 at 15:30hrs. Successful bidders will be notified before or by Monday, 28th May 2018. Payment must be made by cash or bank certified cheque to ZNFU before collection of the vehicle.



ZNFU

Viewing of the vehicles will be from Monday 14th May 2018 to Wednesday 23rd May 2018

Kindly note that:

1. ZNFU will not accept late bids and /or bids sent by email
2. ZNFU will however, accept bids sent by registered mail provided they reach ZNFU office before 15:30hrs on Wednesday 23rd May 2018
3. ZNFU reserves the right to accept or reject bids without assigning a reason thereto.

RHODES HAY FOR SALE

Ex Farm Gate K150 per bale +/- 180kg each

Contact: Armandt Blignaut, 0965 898655/ 0955 887201
apollo.dairyfarm@gmail.com
Apollo Agricultural Holdings Ltd
Musenga, Nr Chingola.



Silverlands Ranching Ltd

Top quality heifers; 100 x 230 kgs. heifers, many whose sires are from imported Bonsmara bulls are available for sale at k3, 500 each.

PLEASE CONTACT: **FERGUS FLYNN ON 0960283494**

P.O.BOX 610003

Zimba, Southern Province

Zambia.

QUAILS SALES! QUAILS SALES!

Isa Brown Jumbo Quails (French Quails) from one week old to point of lay on sale

For further details contact;

Mulela Chibeshi

Phone: 0955 787 497/0968 456 311

Email: mulelachibeshi@gmail.com

ZNFU CORPORATE SPONSORS





ZNFU CALL FOR BUDGET SUBMISSIONS

Government has started calling for budget submissions from various sectors of the economy. It is from this background that the ZNFU is calling on its members to make budget submissions on salient issues affecting the agriculture sector in Zambia.

For submissions or further details contact;

Mrs. Judy Hamonzwe on;

Email: judy.hamonzwe@znfu.org.zm

FROM THE REGIONS

NORTHWESTERN

KASEMPA DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SHOW GOES BACK TO OLD VENUE

The Kasempa District Agricultural Show which was scheduled to take place from the newly acquired 10-hectare piece of land by the show society has been reverted to take place from its usual venue; the show grounds.

This has arisen due to some logistical challenges in terms of clearing the land and construction works and water supply among other issues.

With this development, gate takings will still be considered unlike the one which was supposed to be free for all had it taken place at the new venue.

However, the show dates remain 01st to 02nd June 2018 under the theme "SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT " .

NORTHERN

DACO MBALA URGES FARMERS TO INVEST

Mbala District Agriculture coordinator Mr. Boniface Mwalonga has urged farmers to be putting their money into investment such as buildings, Livestock among other things which can generate income at household level.

He also advised farmers to keep some produce for home consumption saying it is taboo for a farmer to be queuing for mealie meal after selling all the maize to FRA.

During the same meeting, Mbala District farmers association Chairperson Mr. Hector Chonya thanked the government for grading the feeder roads which lead to high productive areas in the District. He also advised all CaCa members to remain nonpartisan because FISP is for every farmer who is eligible to benefit. He, however, urged farmer not to get receive double benefits.

ZNFU CORPORATE SPONSORS





This came to light during the camp show at KAKA camp under the theme; “sustainable Economic Empowerment”.

SOUTHERN

2018 CROP MARKETING SEASON

Owing to the fact that there has been a notable reduction in the production of most crops during the 2017/18 farming season, farmers in Monze District are hopeful of a better marketing season of 2018.

Farmers have raised concern over low prices being offered by some traders, which they say are unacceptable. The traders, known as Briefcase buyers, are offering K1 per 1kg to K1.20 per 1kg which is too low considering the high cost of production that farmers incur.

Farmers are saying selling a 50kg maize grain bag at K50 – K55; no farmer can breakeven as most small-scale farmers do not even attain the recommended potential yield per hectare. Farmers are therefore, hopeful that Government through the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) will in some way redeem farmers by offering them a better price for their hard labour.

2017/18 SEASON FISP E-VOUCHER PAYMENTS

It is surprising to note that to date about 35% of the 28, 586 Monze District FISP beneficiaries under the FISP electronic vouchers system have not yet been funded by Government.

And farmers who solely depended on the cards have not yet acquired their farming inputs. These farmers have since visited local offices several times for possible help, but the challenge has not been addressed as funding of cards is done centrally.

Farmers are now pleading with Government through the Ministry of Agriculture to look into their plight. Farmers have further lamented that management of FISP electronic voucher system during the first two season was better than it was during the 2017/18 season. They have since called on Government to make necessary adjustments to the system management and make it work better for the small farmers in the 2018/2019.

WEATHER

SEVEN-DAYS WEATHER FORECAST 25TH MAY TO 1ST JUNE 2018

ZNFU CORPORATE SPONSORS

GENERAL SITUATION



ZNFU

From 25th May to 1st June 2018; relatively moist and stable winds from the southeast will be affecting most parts of the country resulting into mostly cloudy, windy and mild to cool weather conditions.

Forecast: 25th to 27th May 2018; Muchinga, Eastern, Lusaka, Southern and Central Provinces: Mostly cloudy, windy and mild with a chance of drizzle. Afternoons are likely to be warm while evenings are expected to be mild and cool.

The rest of Zambia: Mainly sunny, windy and mild in the morning while afternoons are likely to be cloudy and warm with evenings tending to be mild and cool. Forecast: 28th May to 1st June 2018 Most areas: Mainly sunny, windy and mild early in the day becoming mostly cloudy by afternoon, tending to be mild and cool in the evening. Nights will have few clouds, slightly windy and mild to cool.

Produced by Zambia Meteorological Department, Ministry of Transport and Communications.

ZNFU CORPORATE SPONSORS

