

...WEEK 18, 2020

HIGHLIGHTS

- **“MARKETING SEASON” OPENS IN LUFWANYAMA**

The private sector led marketing season has opened in Lufwanyama district led by some big players in grain trade and mealie meal production.

- **RELAX ACCESS TO K10BN LOAN FACILITY; ECL**

President Edgar Lungu has directed the Ministry of Finance to ensure massive sensitisation is made regarding the K10 billion government has made available for businesses that have been affected by the Covid 19 pandemic, including the agriculture sector, through commercial banks, for as many people as possible to access it.

- **FARMERS AWAIT FARMING INPUTS FOR 2019/2020 FARMING SEASON**

Some farmers in Chongwe District; Mulalika area, have not yet received the inputs for the 2019/20 farming season.

- **KARIBA HITS 30%**

Kariba Dam water levels have continued rising and slowly raising some glimmer of hope as it closed the week under review at 30.29% full.

DETAILS BELOW ...





“MARKETING SEASON” OPENS IN LUFWANYAMA

The private sector led marketing season has opened in Lufwanyama district led by some big players in grain trade and mealie meal production.

Notable among the players is Mpongwe Milling who are buying maize at K2.80 per kg. Nyimba Investment is another player, purchasing soya beans at K3.50 per kg.

Meanwhile, reports reaching the ZNFU Lufwanyama office are that some private buyers have engaged farmers and buying off maize fields before harvest takes place. The buyers are reportedly coming from Congo DR, while some Zambians are also involved.

The price of maize for a meda with private buyers is going at K15 from the previous K25.

COVID-19 UPDATE

RELAX ACCESS TO K10BN LOAN FACILITY; ECL

President Edgar Lungu has directed the Ministry of Finance to ensure massive sensitisation is made regarding the K10 billion government has made available for businesses that have been affected by the Covid 19 pandemic, including the agriculture sector, through commercial banks, for as many people as possible to access it.

The President has directed that the due diligence and red tape to accessing this loan should not be extremely stringent so as to allow entities that access the facility to start effecting resilience measures to sustain their business in the “new normal” amid Covid 19.

The directive was made by the Head of State Friday 8th May 2020 during his 4th Special National Address on the Covid 19 world pandemic.

The President observed that information to accessing the loan may not have been very clear saying clarity should be made on who and how entities can access this loan with realistic conditions.

And President Lungu has announced that examination classes will reopen on 1st June 2020.

The President has also announced the reopening of restaurants, gymnasiums, cinemas and casinos, but maintained that public health measures as directed by the Ministry of Health should be strictly adhered to. Bars and taverns remain closed until further notice.

Meanwhile President Lungu has announced that Zambia has 14 new cases out of 683 tests done during the last 24 hours. The new have been captured Lusaka 7, 4 Central Province, 3 Copperbelt).

He also announced 8 recoveries; 7 from Lusaka and 1 Masaiti on the Copperbelt.

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FARMERS AWAIT FARMING INPUTS FOR 2019/2020 FARMING SEASON

Some farmers in Chongwe District; Mulalika area, have not yet received the inputs for the 2019/20 farming season.

This is after the Supplier who was to deliver inputs failed to deliver. Farmers have been waiting since December last year as the supplier was making one unfulfilled promise after another to deliver the inputs.

Early this year farmers went to DACO's office to protest against the supplier for delaying the deliveries.

Farmers already swiped, but are still waiting even up to now. The Ministry of Agriculture has engaged the supplier to help the farmers access the farming inputs.

Meanwhile there is also information from Rufunsa District that there are some agro dealers who have not yet supplied the farmers their inputs.

KARIBA HITS 30%

Kariba Dam water levels have continued rising and slowly raising some glimmer of hope as it closed the week under review at 30.29% full.

According to information obtained from the Zambezi River Authority, the lake level has continued rising steadily. It closed the period under review at 479.79m (30.29% usable storage) on 7th May 2020.

Last year on the same date, the Lake level was at 480.19m (33.23% usable storage).

Below are the graphs:

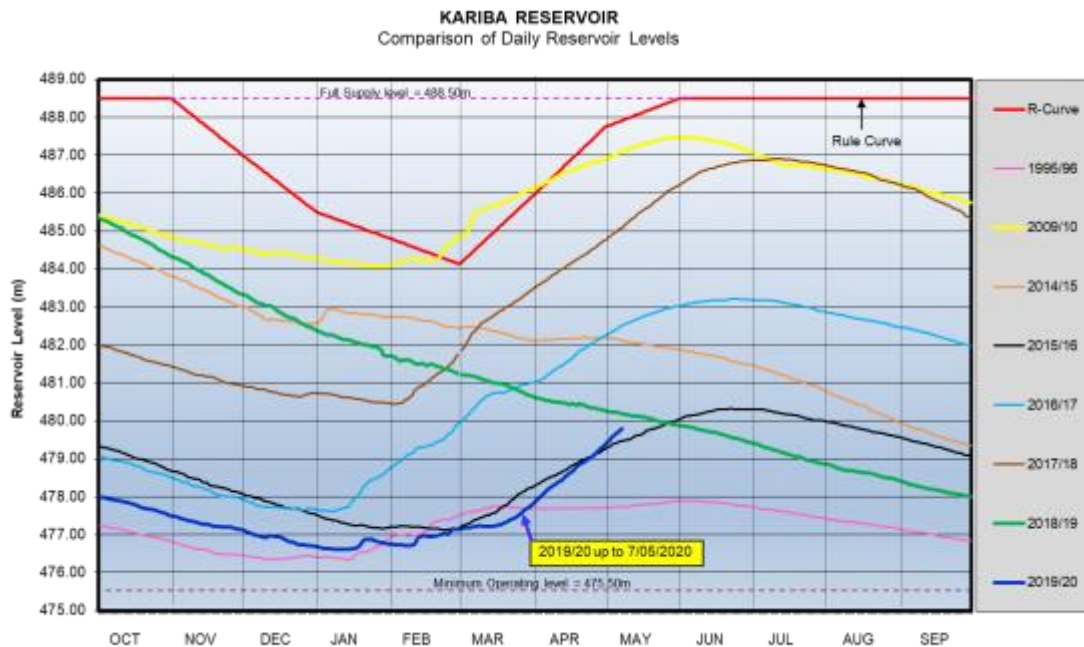
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From:
24 April 2020
To:
7 May 2020

Day	This Year	%Full	Last Year
24/4/2020	479.04	24.85%	480.35
25/4/2020	479.1	25.28%	480.34
26/4/2020	479.16	25.72%	480.33
27/4/2020	479.2	26.01%	480.31
28/4/2020	479.26	26.44%	480.3
29/4/2020	479.3	26.73%	480.29
30/4/2020	479.38	27.31%	480.27
1/5/2020	479.45	27.82%	480.25
2/5/2020	479.51	28.25%	480.24
3/5/2020	479.58	28.76%	480.23
4/5/2020	479.64	29.20%	480.23
5/5/2020	479.7	29.63%	480.22
6/5/2020	479.74	29.92%	480.2
7/5/2020	479.79	30.29%	480.19



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2020 PUBLIC HOLIDAYS (in yellow farmers' holidays)

Wednesday 1st January 2020 – New Year's Day
Monday 9th March 2020 – International Women's Day
Thursday 12th March 2020 – Youth Day
Friday 10th April 2020 – Good Friday
Saturday 11th April 2020 – Holy Saturday
Monday 13th April 2020 – Easter Monday
Friday 1st May 2020 – Labour Day
Monday 25th May 2020 – African Unity Day
Monday 6th July 2020 – Heroes' Day
Tuesday 7th July 2020 – Unity Day
Monday 3rd August 2020 – Farmers' Day
Monday 19th October 2020 – National Day of Prayer
Saturday 24th October 2020 – Independence Day
Friday 25th December 2020 – Christmas Day

DESK OFFICERS AT ZNFU

General Issues affecting farmers/Union - Mrs. Ellah Chembe –

Executive Director – **0973 795 942**

Email: chembe@znfu.org.zm;

Outreach/Land Issues – Mrs. Florence Phiri – D/Head MMS – **0977 434 312**

Email: florencephiri@znfu.org.zm

Accounts/Administration – Mr. William Ndhlovu – Finance Manager – **0977 433 347**

Email: william.ndhlovu@znfu.org.zm

Communication/Media&Public Relations – Calvin Kaley PR/Editor – **0976 591 563**

Email: kakoma@znfu.org.zm

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ALERTS! ALERTS! ALERTS! ALERTS!

ZESCO PROBLEMS??? NO PROBLEM!!



AVAILABLE: GENERATOR 30 KVA LISTER-PETTER – in perfect working order!

Engine overhauled and electrics checked by Zambian agent.

Tel/Whatsapp: 0962 867687

Email: dutch@conservationagriculture.org

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WEATHER

THE SEVEN DAY WEATHER FORECAST FOR THE PERIOD 09TH TO 15TH MAY 2020

GENERAL SITUATION

From 9th to 11th May 2020, a strong, cool and moist airflow from the south east will be affecting most parts of Zambia leading to mainly cloudy and windy weather conditions with a slight drop in temperature.

From 12th to 15th May 2020, a moderate and relatively moist airflow from the south east will be affecting most parts of Zambia leading to partly cloudy and windy weather conditions.

DETAILED FORECAST: 9th to 11th May 2020

Most parts of Zambia: Partly cloudy and mild in the mornings becoming mostly mainly cloudy and warm in the afternoons. The nights will be partly cloudy and mild.

DETAILED FORECAST: 12th to 15th May 2020

Northwestern, Copperbelt, Luapula, Northern and Muchinga Provinces: Partly cloudy, windy at times and mild in the mornings. The afternoons will be mainly cloudy and warm with a slight chance of light showers over the extreme northern parts. The nights will be partly cloudy and mild.

Western, Southern, Lusaka, Central and Eastern Province: Mainly sunny, windy and mild in the mornings. The afternoons will be partly cloudy, windy at times and warm to hot. The nights will be mainly clear and mild to cool.

Produced by the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

Register to get daily Weather updates by requesting through info@zmd.gov.zm

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