

## **Prediction of rainfall in two agro ecological zones in Ghana**

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This study considers the prediction of rainfall in two agro ecological zones in Ghana. Daily rainfall data were analysed for two stations (Tamale and Ho). Tamale is in the northern unimodal area and Ho, which is at the southern part of the country showed varying degrees of bimodality with a break between the major and minor seasons.

The start and length of the rainy season were analysed. Start dates were based on rainfall amounts and dry spells. The end of the rains was based on simple water balance. The start and end dates varied systematically with location. The start of the major season for Tamale in the north showed similar variability for both the major and minor season at Ho in the south. The end of the rains was least variable for the major (only) season at Tamale. It was more variable for the end of the minor season and most variable for the major season at Ho. Seasons in Tamale in the north always exceed 100 days duration, whereas at Ho in the south, major and minor season could be as short as 94 and 60 days respectively. The risk of dry spell was greatest at Ho, in both the major and minor season. Dry spell lengths could last for 20 or more days within the season.

The observed pattern of rainfall in the two sites seem to suggest that Tamale in the northern part of the country would be more stable for agricultural production than Ho in the south.

**Tuesday III (Talk)**