Weekly Ugandan Agriculture, Market, And Weather Report

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Executive Summary

Uganda is entering the early dry season with predominantly dry conditions across all major agricultural regions. Forecasts predict very low rainfall (typically below 10 mm) and temperatures ranging from mid-teens to low-30s °C. This drier-than-normal period is already causing declining pasture quality and tightening water availability in pastoral zones.

Cropping systems are primarily in post-harvest or late-harvest phases for the second season in most regions, while Karamoja is in its off-season. The main agronomic priorities are grain drying, storage, and protection, along with soil management and land preparation for the next main season. Utilizing hermetic storage and improved hygiene can significantly reduce post-harvest losses for crops like maize, beans, and sorghum.

Staple food prices are generally higher than last year, particularly for beans in urban centers and maize in deficit areas, indicating moderate to sharp increases. National livestock policy is also evolving with new initiatives on Foot-and-Mouth Disease vaccination and anti-tick vaccine production. The combination of below-average rainfall, elevated prices, and changing disease control programs necessitates active management by farmers and close monitoring by policymakers and humanitarian actors.

Price Trend

Staple prices, especially beans and maize, are moderately to significantly higher than a year ago, with the largest increases in urban and deficit markets.

Rainfall Anomaly/Hazard

Below-average rainfall and hotter-than-normal conditions dominate, raising concerns about pasture drying, water scarcity, and cumulative drought stress.

Farmer Action

Farmers should prioritize safe grain drying and hermetic storage, conserve water and fodder, and begin structured land and input preparation for the next cropping season.

*From one of IDEA's partners

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Weather – Karamoja

- Expected 7-day rainfall is very low, roughly 0–5 mm across most of Karamoja, indicating a continued dry spell.
- Temperatures will range from about 18–20 °C at night in higher elevations to 30–33 °C during the day in lowland areas.
- Conditions are drier and warmer than the seasonal norm, sustaining existing soil moisture deficits and accelerating pasture drying.
- No major storms or flooding are anticipated; the main hazard is persistent dryness, which will further reduce surface water and grazing quality.

Weather – Northern Region

- A dry week is forecast for Acholi, Lango, and West Nile, with total rainfall near 0–5 mm over seven days.
- Minimum temperatures will be around 18 °C in the early morning, with daytime maximum near 30–32 °C.
- Northern Uganda is firmly in its dry season, following below-normal rainfall since October and ongoing soil moisture deficits.
- No severe storms are expected; the key risk is sustained dryness that may worsen water shortages for both livestock and households.

Weather – Eastern Region

- Eastern Uganda (Teso, Bukedi, Busoga, Mt. Elgon slopes) is expected to receive at most 0–10 mm of rain, mostly in isolated light showers near highlands and lakes.
- Daytime temperatures will typically be 28–31 °C in lowlands, with cooler conditions near 24–26 °C at higher altitudes; nights will be about 18–20 °C.
- The short rains have underperformed, and drought impacts such as dry pastures and low water tables remain evident.
- No major storm systems are forecast; the main hazard is cumulative dryness, which can stress late-season crops and reduce recovery of grazing areas.

Weather – Western Region

- Western Uganda (Bunyoro, Toro, Kigezi, Ankole) should see predominantly dry conditions, with localized showers giving about 0–15 mm in some highland and Rwenzori foothill areas.
- Temperatures will range from roughly 15–18 °C at night in highlands to 27–30 °C in lowland districts such as Hoima and Kasese.
- Parts of the region continue to experience a drier-than-normal pattern, which slows pasture regrowth and lowers soil moisture.
- No storms or floods are expected; the main concern is gradual drying of water points and stress on perennial crops without supplementary moisture.

Weather – Central Region

- Central Uganda, including the cattle corridor and the Lake Kyoga basin, is forecast to receive very light rainfall, about 0–10 mm in scattered showers at most.
- Typical daytime temperatures will be 28–30 °C, rising locally to around 31 °C in urban heat islands, with night temperatures near 19–21 °C.
- Forecasts indicate below-average rainfall paired with slightly above-average temperatures for December, intensifying evapotranspiration.
- There are no specific storm alerts, but moderate heat and drying soils will require careful irrigation and water-use planning for horticulture and livestock.

Weather – Lake Victoria Crescent

- The Lake Victoria Crescent (Kampala, Wakiso, Mukono, Masaka, and nearby areas) will be warm and humid, with only spotty light rainfall totaling about 0–10 mm near the lakeshore.
- Daytime temperatures will reach around 30–32 °C by midday, with night temperatures close to 20 °C, and persistent humidity.
- Conditions are drier than is typical for December in the lake basin, reducing the usual moderating influence of lake-effect showers.
- No major storms are expected; the primary hazard is combined heat and humidity, which can cause stress in poultry, dairy cattle, and irrigated vegetables if cooling and water supply are inadequate.

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Practical Implications – Karamoja

01

Complete Grain Storage

Use the dry, hot week to complete sorting, drying, and hermetic storage of any remaining sorghum, millet, maize, and beans to prevent insect and mold damage.

02

Reserve Crop Residues

Reserve and stack crop residues such as sorghum stover as dry-season feed for cattle, goats, and sheep, keeping them off bare soil to avoid moisture uptake.

03

Begin Land Preparation

Begin early land preparation where soils are still workable, including deep ploughing and removal of volunteer plants to expose and destroy soil-borne pests.

04

Repair Water Structures

Inspect and repair on-farm water harvesting structures, such as small earth dams or lined pits, and organize community-level water rationing plans.

05

Coordinate Support

Coordinate with extension agents and NGOs to align fodder conservation efforts and emergency feed plans with ongoing food assistance in the most stressed subcounties.

Practical Implications – Northern Region

- Focus on completion of second-season harvests and immediate drying of maize, beans, sorghum, and millet, using raised platforms or tarpaulins.
- Move quickly to clean and prepare storage facilities, including rodent-proofing and use of hermetic storage technologies where available.
- Implement land maintenance tasks such as repairing terraces, desilting contour bunds, and incorporating manure or compost into fallow plots.
- Retain and stack crop residues for use as dry-season fodder, while leaving some residues to protect soil from erosion and sun exposure.
- Plan input needs and budgets for the March planting season, including quality seed, basic fertilizers, and any biopesticides for early-season pest management.

Practical Implications – Eastern Region

Harvest Completion

Complete harvesting of second-season maize and beans as quickly as possible and use the prevailing dry spell for thorough grain drying and shelling.

Bird Protection

Monitor any late sorghum for bird damage and implement bird-scaring rotations, especially during early morning and late afternoon hours.

Pest Scouting

Scout any remaining maize and fodder crops for fall armyworm; if larvae are found in whorls, treat promptly with recommended biopesticides.

Soil Building

Incorporate bean haulms and maize stalks into compost pits or lightly till them into soil to build organic matter on sandy, drought-prone fields.

Perennial Care

In banana and horticulture plots, maintain mulch, prune diseased leaves, and prioritize irrigation scheduling in early morning or evening to minimize evaporation.

Practical Implications – Western Region

Post-Harvest Focus

Use the dry conditions to finish harvesting and drying of maize, beans, Irish potatoes, and coffee cherries, focusing on clean, ventilated drying surfaces.

In highland potato fields, routinely remove and destroy any foliage showing late blight symptoms, and avoid overhead irrigation during cool nights.

Crop Maintenance

Apply mulch around banana stools, coffee trees, and perennial vegetables to conserve soil moisture as the dry season advances.

For coffee, carry out post-harvest pruning to open canopies, reduce disease pressure, and stimulate new productive shoots.

Organize farmer groups to bulk and store quality grain and beans, allowing collective marketing later in the dry season when prices may be more favorable.

Practical Implications – Central Region

- Complete any remaining harvesting of maize and beans, prioritizing drying on raised racks or solar dryers to avoid mold in the humid lake-influenced climate.
- Inspect stored maize, beans, and sorghum every two weeks, and shift grain into hermetic bags to protect against larger grain borer and other storage pests.
- In banana gardens, carry out de-suckering and mulching, leaving only 3–4 vigorous suckers per mat, and lay cut pseudostems between rows as mulch.
- For irrigated vegetables, schedule watering during early morning or evening and consider drip or basin irrigation to reduce evaporative losses.
- Prepare a procurement plan for quality seed and basic fertilizer for the 2026 first season, and engage with extension staff about any planned drought-tolerant seed support.

Practical Implications – Lake Victoria Crescent

Heat Management

Prioritize heat management for poultry and dairy cows by improving ventilation, providing shade, and ensuring frequent access to cool drinking water.

Garden Protection

For urban and peri-urban gardens, maintain mulch and consider shade nets for sensitive leafy vegetables to mitigate sun scorch and heat stress.

Infrastructure Repair

Use the dry spell to repair farm access roads and drainage channels ahead of future rainy periods, preventing erosion and ponding near homesteads.

Banana Systems

In densely populated smallholder banana systems, continue banana weevil trapping and removal of dead plant material to limit pest build-up.

Market Planning

For farmers supplying urban markets, plan staggered harvest and marketing schedules for bananas and vegetables to capture higher prices while avoiding gluts.

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Crop Calendar And Growth Stages – Karamoja

Maize

Stage: Post-harvest and fallow.

Tasks:

- Finish drying and shelling any remaining cobs; store grain in clean, sealed containers or hermetic bags.
- Chop maize stover for feeding or composting, and plough remaining residues into soil to add organic matter.

Beans

Stage: Post-harvest and storage.

Tasks:

- Sort, dry, and thresh beans thoroughly; protect from bruchids using hermetic storage or botanical protectants.
- Use bean haulms as dry-season fodder while retaining some residues on fields as surface mulch.

Sorghum

Stage: Post-harvest and land resting.

Tasks:

- Dry and thresh panicles well; winnow grain to remove chaff and insect fragments.
- Stack and store sorghum stalks as strategic feed reserves, and plan deep ploughing to disrupt stem-borer and soil pest cycles.

Millet

Stage: Post-harvest and storage.

Tasks:

- Finish threshing and winnowing; ensure grain is dried to safe moisture levels before bagging.
- Use residual millet stubble to protect soil from erosion, and later incorporate it into soil before the next planting.

Bananas

Stage: Perennial maintenance in limited homestead plantings.

Tasks:

- Maintain mulch and basic weeding around existing banana clumps to conserve scarce soil moisture.
- Regularly inspect for weevils and diseases, and remove any obviously infested or diseased mats.

Crop Calendar And Growth Stages – Northern Region

Maize

Stage: Second-season harvest and post-harvest handling.

Tasks: Complete harvesting and dry grain to about 13 percent moisture before storage, using raised drying racks where possible. Store in hermetic bags or treated sacks, and monitor stores for early signs of pests or mold.

Beans

Stage: Second-season harvest and storage.

Tasks: Finish pod picking, drying, and threshing; avoid drying directly on bare soil. Manage bruchids through clean stores, timely bagging, and use of botanicals or hermetic technology.

Sorghum

Stage: Mostly post-harvest; limited late fields at grain-drying stage.

Tasks: Dry harvested heads thoroughly, then thresh and winnow; protect grain from birds and storage pests. Retain some seed-quality grain for next season, and rotate sorghum fields with legumes to maintain soil fertility.

Millet: **Stage:** Post-harvest and seed selection. **Tasks:** Clean and store millet grain in dry, ventilated stores, setting aside the best heads for seed. Leave a light residue cover on fields to protect soil structure, then incorporate residues before the next season.

Bananas: **Stage:** Perennial fruiting and bunch filling in suitable zones. **Tasks:** Support heavy bunches with stakes to prevent pseudostem breakage and harvest at appropriate maturity for local markets. Apply mulch and organic manure around mats to maintain soil moisture and nutrient supply through the dry season.

Crop Calendar And Growth Stages – Eastern Region

Maize

Stage: Second-season maturity and active harvest.

Tasks:

- Harvest maize as soon as husks yellow and grains are firm; avoid leaving cobs on stalks under strong sun for extended periods.
- Shell and dry grain thoroughly, then move it quickly into protected storage to avoid late-season pest and mold damage.

Beans

Stage: Second-season harvest and drying.

Tasks:

- Pull or cut plants when most pods have turned brown; heap under cover for final drying, then thresh.
- Use tarpaulins or mats for drying, and store in pest-proof containers as soon as moisture content is safe.

Sorghum

Stage: Mostly first-season crop already harvested; some off-season fields at heading to grain-filling stage.

Tasks: For any late sorghum, protect from birds through coordinated field guarding, reflecting tapes, or scare devices. After harvest, manage residues to reduce stem-borer carryover, and rotate with legumes or root crops to improve soil health.

Millet

Stage: Post-harvest in main-production zones.

Tasks: Continue sorting and bagging millet; retain a portion of high-quality grain as seed for next season. Keep millet stubble to reduce erosion, then lightly till it in to add organic matter ahead of the next rains.

Bananas

Stage: Perennial fruiting and canopy maintenance, especially in Busoga.

Tasks: Remove diseased and senescent leaves and use them as mulch to conserve moisture and suppress weeds. Monitor mats for weevils and nematode damage, and practice de-suckering to maintain optimal plant density.

Crop Calendar And Growth Stages – Western Region

1

Maize

Stage: Second-season harvest, crib drying, and storage.

Tasks: Continue harvesting, especially in mid-altitude zones, and use well-ventilated cribs or drying platforms. Inspect for ear rots and remove diseased cobs before shelling to reduce storage contamination.

2

Beans

Stage: Late harvest and storage.

Tasks: Complete picking of remaining pods, dry in thin layers, and thresh gently to reduce mechanical damage. Store beans in cool, dry rooms, and consider hermetic storage or botanical treatments to limit bruchids.

3

Sorghum

Stage: Grain-filling to post-harvest in areas where it is grown.

Tasks: Allow panicles to mature fully but avoid shattering; harvest at physiological maturity and dry on clean surfaces. Retain seed and rotate sorghum with legumes or forage crops to reduce pest and disease buildup.

4

Millet

Stage: Late vegetative to grain-filling in higher-altitude pockets, or recently harvested.

Tasks: Weed any late millet fields to minimize competition and ensure good grain fill. After harvest, conserve straw for livestock feed and incorporate residues into soil to maintain structure.

5

Bananas

Stage: Continuous fruiting, with slight post-rainfall production peak.

Tasks: Apply split doses of organic manure or balanced fertilizer around mats to sustain bunch size and quality. Maintain heavy mulch and carry out regular de-suckering, sanitation, and weevil trapping to keep plantations productive.

Crop Calendar And Growth Stages – Central Region

Maize

Stage: Final second-season harvest and grain drying. **Tasks:** Finish harvesting and remove cobs from fields to avoid losses from stray showers or field pests. Dry grain on raised structures, then store in hermetic bags or improved granaries to guard against pests.

Bananas

Stage: High production and harvest following recent rains. **Tasks:** Harvest bunches at the correct maturity to meet market preferences and reduce post-harvest losses. Maintain mulching, weeding, and drainage in banana gardens, and continue weevil traps and removal of diseased mats.

Beans

Stage: Harvest largely completed; focus on storage. **Tasks:** Inspect stored beans for early signs of bruchid damage and move them into sealed containers where possible. Keep stores clean, elevated, and dry, and avoid mixing fresh beans with older stock.

Sorghum

Stage: Mostly post-harvest, with limited second-season production. **Tasks:** For any remaining sorghum fields, check for bird damage and harvest promptly at maturity. Use sorghum stover as fodder or soil cover, and plan rotations that include legumes to replenish soil nitrogen.

Millet

Stage: Post-harvest; some household plots may still be drying grain. **Tasks:** Complete drying and bagging of millet grain, ensuring moisture is low enough to prevent caking. Use remaining straw in mixed livestock rations, and lightly incorporate stubble into fields before the next planting.

Crop Calendar And Growth Stages – Lake Victoria Crescent

Maize: Stage – Mostly harvested; minor late fields at final drying stage. Tasks: Dry any late maize indoors or under simple shelters to avoid intermittent lake-induced showers. Prioritize movement of dry grain into rodent- and insect-proof storage structures.

Beans: Stage – Post-harvest, with emphasis on storage and marketing. Tasks: Grade beans by size and quality to target higher-value urban markets. Monitor for storage pests and maintain good air circulation in storage rooms.

Sorghum: Stage – Limited production; chiefly post-harvest or used as specialty crop. Tasks: For small plots, finalize threshing and bagging; keep seed lots labeled and dry. Integrate sorghum into rotations that balance cereals with legumes and high-value vegetables.

Millet: Stage – Post-harvest in smallholder plots. Tasks: Maintain clean storage for millet grain, especially where it is milled regularly for porridge or traditional foods. Retain some millet straw for backyard livestock, and protect erosion-prone soils through minimum tillage.

Bananas: Stage – Continuous fruiting and heavy market supply. Tasks: Implement regular harvesting schedules to match urban demand, avoiding over-mature bunches in the field. Sustain mat fertility through organic manure application and mulch, and maintain sanitation to reduce disease and weevil pressure.

Input And Technical Advisory

Fertility Management

For maize, apply 40–60 kg nitrogen, 20–30 kg phosphorus, and 20–30 kg potassium per hectare, using both mineral fertilizers and manure. For tight budgets, micro-dose NPK at planting and top-dress with urea/CAN 4-6 weeks after emergence.

In banana and coffee, apply 20–30 kg well-decomposed manure per mat/tree annually, split between seasons, maintaining thick mulch. In acidic highlands, apply 1–2 tons/ha agricultural lime during the dry season to raise pH and improve fertilizer efficiency.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

For stored grains, prioritize non-chemical IPM: clean structures, remove old residues, elevate grain, and use hermetic bags to suffocate pests.

For fall armyworm in maize, scout weekly for the first 4-6 weeks; treat only if >20% plants show fresh damage with live larvae. In vegetables, use yellow sticky traps for whiteflies and soap sprays for aphids; avoid broad-spectrum insecticides to conserve beneficial insects. For banana weevils, combine cultural control (sanitation, mulching) with trapping using split pseudostems.

Soil Amendments And Organic Matter

Use the dry season to compost maize stalks, bean haulms, and organic waste into nutrient-rich compost, ensuring proper layering and occasional watering. In sandy, low organic matter soils, maintain residue cover to reduce evaporation and protect soil structure.

If animal manure is available, store it under cover to prevent nutrient loss, and apply it in bands or planting basins to concentrate nutrients near plant roots.

Tech Tip Of The Week – Hermetic Grain Storage

Hermetic bags like PICS sacks allow farmers to store dry grains without insecticides by depriving pests of oxygen. When properly dried, cleaned, and sealed, damage can be significantly reduced compared to ordinary bags.

These bags are reusable for several seasons, offering a cost-effective solution. Prioritize hermetic storage for household food and seed reserves, then scale up as resources allow.

Livestock And Ranching

- Schedule vaccination campaigns during this relatively stable dry period, prioritizing Foot-and-Mouth Disease vaccinations when government supplies are available, and planning ahead for farmer contributions to vaccine costs.
- Maintain strict tick control through regular spraying or dipping every one to two weeks, rotating acaricide classes, and preparing to integrate the upcoming anti-tick vaccine into herd health plans once it is fully approved and available.
- Implement strategic deworming for cattle, goats, and sheep at the onset of the dry season, using appropriate anthelmintics and simple tools like FAMACHA scoring in goats to prioritize treatment.
- Ensure livestock have access to sufficient water: at least 40–60 liters per day for adult cattle in hot conditions, and 4–10 liters per day for goats and sheep, adjusting upwards on the hottest days.
- Conserve forage by cutting and baling or stacking standing hay from better-watered patches, and integrating crop residues (maize stover, bean haulms, millet straw) into balanced rations, preferably chopped and mixed with a protein source.
- For dairy operations, provide shade structures, good ventilation, and, where feasible, sprinklers or misting during afternoon heat to reduce heat stress and maintain milk yields.
- In small ruminant flocks, maintain clean, dry night shelters to prevent pneumonia in kids and lambs, and treat hoof problems promptly even if overall foot-rot pressure is reduced by dry conditions.
- For poultry, improve coop ventilation, provide shaded water points with frequent refilling, vaccinate village chickens against Newcastle Disease using thermotolerant vaccines, and monitor for external parasites in litter and perches.

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Market Analysis

Regional Average Price Matrix

(Indicative, Per Kilogram Or Bunch-Equivalent Where Noted)

Commodity (UGX / KG)	Karamoja	Northern	Eastern	Western	Central	Lake Victoria Crescent
Maize	1000–1400	1400–1600	1500–1800	1500–1800	1800–2200	1800–2200
Beans	4000	4500–5500	3500–4500	4500–5500	5000–7000	5000–7000
Sorghum	900–1300	1000–1400	1000–1400	1800–2500	1800–2500	1800–2500
Millet	2000–2500	2200–2600	2300–2700	2400–2800	3000–3500	3000–3500
Bananas / Matooke (Bunch)	1200–1600	1100–1400	1200–1500	1100–1400	1400–1700	1400–1700

Key Market Insights

Grain and bean prices are generally higher than at the same time last year, with maize up by roughly 10–20 percent in many rural markets and beans substantially more expensive in major urban centers.

Cross-region spreads are most pronounced for bananas and beans: producers in Western Uganda receive relatively low farmgate prices for bananas, while urban consumers in Central and Lake Victoria Crescent areas pay about double on a per-bunch basis.

Looking Ahead And Reminders

National-Level Outlook

If the current below-average rainfall pattern persists into early 2026, soil moisture reserves will remain low, and first-season planting in March–April may be delayed or require more conservative area and crop choices.

Food prices are likely to strengthen further during the January–March lean period, especially for beans and quality maize, underscoring the value of good storage and staggered selling.

Livestock health policy is entering a new phase, with expanded FMD vaccination and imminent anti-tick vaccination; producers who organize early will be best positioned to comply and benefit.

Regional Checklists – Karamoja

- Confirm household grain stocks, prioritize hermetic storage for key staples, and track local food assistance distributions.
- Map and protect remaining watering points, and coordinate community grazing plans to prevent overuse of fragile rangeland.
- Identify fields that will be planted first when rains return, and plan manure or compost placement ahead of the season.

Regional Checklists – Northern Region

- Maintain regular inspection of grain stores, and plan small, periodic sales rather than distress bulk sales.
- Work with producer groups to assess seed, fertilizer, and biopesticide needs for the March planting season.
- Update local contingency plans for any further rainfall delays, including staggered planting dates and drought-tolerant varieties.

Regional Checklists – Eastern Region

- Track local market prices for maize and beans weekly to decide when to sell stored grain.
- In sandy soils, maintain residue cover and consider short-duration cover crops if minimal moisture is available.
- Prepare irrigation or water-saving plans for dry-season vegetable production, including low-cost drip or watering regimes.

Regional Checklists – Western Region

- Focus on quality post-harvest handling for coffee, bananas, and grains to capture higher-value market segments.
- Plan soil conservation works, including terrace repair and contour planting, ahead of the next rains.
- Coordinate with local cooperatives to plan collective marketing windows after price troughs pass.

Regional Checklists – Central Region

- Monitor urban food prices and adjust cropping and marketing plans for peri-urban farmers targeting city markets.
- Maintain banana and horticultural crop health through mulching, targeted fertilization, and water-conserving irrigation.
- Strengthen producer groups' records and financial literacy in anticipation of expanded input-credit and vaccination cost-sharing schemes.

Regional Checklists – Lake Victoria Crescent

- Prepare for ongoing heat and humidity by upgrading water systems and shelter for poultry and dairy animals.
- Optimize planting calendars for irrigated vegetables to avoid the most intense heat periods, while still meeting urban demand.
- Assess potential for off-season banana and vegetable production to fill market gaps when upland regions face stronger drought impacts.

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Government And NGO Updates

Nationwide Foot-And-Mouth Disease Vaccination

MAAIF has announced a shift to a twice-yearly national FMD vaccination program targeting approximately 44.5 million animals, with cost-sharing that requires farmers to contribute a fee per dose.

Relevance: Livestock keepers must budget for regular vaccination and ensure herd registration to maintain access to markets and movement permits.

Anti-Tick Vaccine Production (NAROVAC)

NARO has completed a large-capacity anti-tick vaccine plant at Nakyesasa, aiming to produce tens of millions of doses annually once regulatory approval is finalized.

Relevance: This vaccine should significantly reduce tick burdens and acaricide costs in the medium term, especially in high-burden regions such as Karamoja and the cattle corridor.

Drought-Related Food Assistance In Karamoja

The government and WFP have begun emergency food distributions in Karamoja following several poor seasons and a severely reduced 2025 harvest.

Relevance: Households in this region are heavily market-dependent for cereals and pulses, so emergency rations are critical while livelihoods and resilience programs, including drought-tolerant crops and kitchen gardens, are scaled up.

Champion Farmers Initiative And Input Support

MAAIF, with partners, has launched a multi-year Champion Farmers Initiative and linked input-credit schemes in selected districts of Eastern and Northern Uganda, focusing on improved seed, fertilizer use, and training.

Relevance: Farmers in target districts should engage with district agricultural offices to access these services and demonstrate good repayment behavior to sustain such schemes.

Pest And Disease Early Warnings

The Crop Protection Department has warned of heightened risk of fall armyworm in upcoming maize seasons due to mild dry-season conditions that allow pupae to survive in residues.

Relevance: Farmers should aggressively manage maize stubble, practise rotations, and consider biocontrol options to reduce starting pest pressure next season.

Recent Publications And Links

- **GEOGLAM Crop Monitor For Early Warning – East Africa Update:** Synthesizes recent rainfall, vegetation, and crop condition data, highlighting persisting dryness and moisture deficits in parts of Uganda.
- **ICPAC Seasonal Climate Update – Horn Of Africa:** Provides regional outlooks on rainfall and temperature anomalies, including the expected drier-than-normal pattern affecting Ugandan short rains.
- **Uganda Food Price And Market Bulletin – WFP:** Offers historical wholesale price series for maize, beans, sorghum, millet, and bananas in key markets, useful for contextualizing current price levels.
- **FSIN Hunger Hotspots Report (Nov 2025 – May 2026):** Identifies Uganda, especially the northeast, as at risk of rising acute food insecurity if current dry conditions continue.
- **TAAT And PICS Hermetic Storage Briefs:** Summarize evidence on the performance of triple-layer hermetic bags in reducing post-harvest losses, including economic analyses relevant to smallholders.

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