



AGRICULTURAL CALENDAR

For the 2026 Cropping Season in the
GUINEA HIGH SAVANNAH ZONE



GLOSSARY

Agricultural Calendar: A decision-making and advisory tool for planning, managing, and monitoring agricultural activities. It presents the types of crops (maize, sorghum, beans, etc.) and agricultural operations (field preparation, planting, maintenance, etc.) in a given agro-ecological zone (Sudano-Sahelian, Guinea High Savannah, Bimodal Rain forest, Western Highlands, and Monomodal Rain forest).

Climate All meteorological elements and phenomena (temperature, atmospheric pressure, precipitation, wind, etc.), as well as their dynamics in time and space (expressed in seasons) that characterize a given place or a specific geographical area over a long period (at least 30 years, according to the WMO).

Climate Variability: Variations in meteorological parameters (temperature, rainfall, etc.) around an average on seasonal and inter-annual time scales in a given region.

Climate Change: Also known as climate disruption, climate change corresponds to a long-term change (from one decade to one million years) in the statistical parameters (average parameters, variability, etc.) of the Earth's global climate or its various regional climates. These changes may be due to intrinsic earth processes, external influences or more recently, human activities.

Agro-Ecological Zone: A geographical unit defined in terms of climate, geomorphology, soils, and/or vegetation cover and possessing a specific range of potentials and constraints for land use. Cameroon has five agroecological zones, i.e., the Sudano-Sahelian, the Guinea High Savannah, the Bimodal Rain Forest, the Highlands and the Monomodal Rain Forest Zones.

SUMMARY

The climate forecasts from April to June 2026 indicates a slight decrease in rainfall compared to the historical average (1982 to 2022) in the Adamawa region (Guinea High Savannah zone).

The weather forecast from April to June 2026 indicates:

For temperatures

An overall increase in average temperatures compared to the averages recorded during from April to June, 1982 to 2022 in the Adamawa region (Guinea High Savannah zone)

For rainfall

A slight decrease in rainfall amount compared to the average recorded from April to June, 1982 to 2022 in the Adamawa region (Guinea High Savannah zone),

Possible onset of the rainy season:

- **From the first dekad (between 1st and 8th) of April 2026 in the Mayo-Banyo Division** (Banyo, Bandam, Mayo-Banyo, Songkolong, Kimi, Mayo Darle, Mbamti, Bankim, Nyamboya, Sambolabbo, etc.), **the southern and western parts of the Djerem Division** (Tibati, Mbakaou, Mbirim, Djombi, Koata, Nyanda, Bamyanga, Zamboi, etc.);
- **Between the first and second dekad (between the 7th and 17th) of April** in the South, Centre and South-Western parts of the **Vina Division** (Ngaoundere, Likok, Anloua, Martap, etc.), **the South and Central parts of the Faro and Deo Division** (Galim-Tignere, Dankali, Gassanguel, Paro Baya, Pom, Tignere, Tchabal Amadou, Gadjiwan, Mayo Baleo, etc.);
- **From the second to the third dekad (between the 18th and the 26th) of April** in the **Mbere Division** (Meiganga, Meidoungou, Ngaoubela, Bindiba, Lokoti, etc.), the eastern part of the **Djerem Division** (Ngaouandal, Djounde, etc.) and the eastern part of the **Vina Division** (Belel, Nganha, Idool, Nabemo, Tourningal, Mbe-sassa, Nyambaka, etc.);
- **Between the third dekad of April and the first dekad of May (between 22nd April and 4th May) 2026** in the **Faro and Deo Division** (Kontcha, Alme and Sarki Mata) and **Vina** (Wak, Karna Manga, Nyassar, Wame Grand and Mbe).

In light of the above, the National Observatory on Climate Change (NOCC), together with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER), recommends that sowing starts from :

- **Between 4th and 11th April 2026** in the **Mayo-Banyo** (Banyo, Bandam, Mayo-Banyo, Songkolong, Kimi, Mayo Darle, Mbamti, Bankim, Nyamboya, Sambolabbo, etc.), and the south and western parts of the **Djerem Divisions** (Tibati, Mbakaou, Mbirim, Djombi, Koata, Nyanda, Bamyanga, Zamboi, etc.);
- **Between 10th and 20th April 2026** in the south, centre and south-western parts of the Vina (Ngaoundere, Likok, Anloua, Martap, etc.), the South and Central parts of the **Faro and Deo Division** (Galim-Tignere, Dankali, Gassanguel, Paro baya, Pom, Alhadji, Tignere, Tchabal Amadou, Gadjiwan, Mayo Baleo, etc.);
- **Between 21st and 29th April 2026** in the **Mbere** (Meiganga, Meidoukou, Ngaoubela, Bindiba, Lokoti, etc.), the eastern part of the **Djerem** (Ngaouandal, Djounde, etc.) and the eastern part of the **Vina Divisions** (Belel, Nganha, Idool, Nabemo, Tourningal, Mbe-Sassa, Nyambaka, etc.);
- **Between 25th April and 7th May 2026** in the **Faro and Deo Division** (Kontcha, Alme and Sarki Mata) and Vina (Wak, Karna Manga, Nyassar, Wame Grand and Mbe).

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Context and justification

The 6th report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) of 2022 confirms the evidence of climate change and its adverse effects on ecosystems and socio-economic sectors. This report reveals the high vulnerability of Africa to climate change and underlines the numerous risks and impacts that this continent is already undergoing (in the countries of the Horn of Africa, it is observed that extreme droughts lead to agricultural losses resulting in a lack of access to food for the populations). In 2011, 12.4 million people suffered from famine in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia (FAO, 2011). Thus, identifying solutions to the negative impacts on development sectors caused by climate disruption is becoming a priority for African countries.

In Cameroon, climate change is manifested through the disruption of the onset and end dates of the rainy seasons, the decrease in annual rainfall amount, the reduction of the number of rainy days, the multiplication of extreme climate events (floods, extreme droughts, violent winds, sandstorms and haze, etc.), which are increasingly recurrent and catastrophic. The resulting impacts include disruption of agricultural and fisheries activities, the resurgence of plant diseases, the loss of biodiversity, the multiplication of conflicts over the management of natural resources, food insecurity, population displacement and widespread ecosystems degradation.

Furthermore, the limited availability of reliable forecasting systems on climate hazards exacerbates the country's vulnerability to climate change (PNACC, 2015; National Communications, 2005 and 2014; PAN-LCD, 2006; NBSAP, 2012).

Cameroon, aware of the stakes of this global phenomenon for its socio-economic development, has engaged in various processes related to climate change, notably the ratification of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, adherence to the Kyoto Protocol and recently, the signature and ratification of the Paris Agreement. To better monitor the commitments undertaken within the framework of the above-mentioned Conventions and Protocols, the Head of State created and operationalized the National Observatory on Climate Change (NOCC), and entrusted it with the main mission of "**monitoring and assessing the socio-economic and environmental impacts of climate change, and proposing preventive, mitigation and/or adaptation measures to the adverse effects and risks associated with these changes**". Thus, the Observatory, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER), produces an annual agricultural calendar. This calendar is a decision-making and

advisory tool for agricultural activities and adaptation to the effects of climate change. The present document is a specific agricultural calendar for the High Guinean Savannah Zone for the season from April to June 2026.

1.2. Methodology

The production of agricultural calendar for the High Guinean Savannah Zone (AEZ) involved:

a) Data collection

It involves:

- Climate data collected from the platforms of the major international centres (AccuWeather, Windy, IRI, NOAA, Météofrance, ACMAD, NCEP, etc.);
- Field data on farmers' experiences;
- Information used in the activity reports of the technical structures of MINADER, IRAD and CIFOR.

b) Data processing and analysis

The data was processed using statistical software (Excel, SPSS, Stata, ArcGIS, QGIS). The data was analysed using averages, percentages, and deviations, supported by descriptive analyses.

As part of the data processing and analysis process, several working sessions were organised by a joint technical team made up of experts from MINADER and NOCC,

After review sessions, the Agricultural Calendar specific to the High Guinean Savannah Zone was validated during a workshop attended by a number of stakeholders.

2. SUMMARY OF CLIMATE FORECASTS FOR THE PERIOD FROM APRIL TO JUNE 2026

Given the global climatic context, the research carried out by NOCC on the spatial and temporal dynamics of rainfall in the Guinea High Savannah zone and the results of the work of international climate forecast centres (NOAA, MétéoFrance, NCEP, ACMAD, etc.), the climate situation of April, May and June 2026 will be characterised by:

A. At the general level:

- The progressive installation of the monsoon from the southern part of the country to the southern part of the Adamawa region;
- The gradual retreat of the Harmattan towards the northern part of the country;
- The migration of the Intertropical Front (ITF) towards the southern part of the North region.

B. In the Agroecological Zone of Interest:

The climate forecast for April, May and June 2026 indicates:

For temperatures

An overall increase in average temperatures compared to the averages recorded in April, May and June from 1982 to 2022 in the Adamawa region (Guinea High Savannah zone).

For rainfall

A slight decrease in rainfall amount in April 2026 and an increase in rainfall from May 2026 onwards in the Adamawa region (Guinea High Savannah zone).

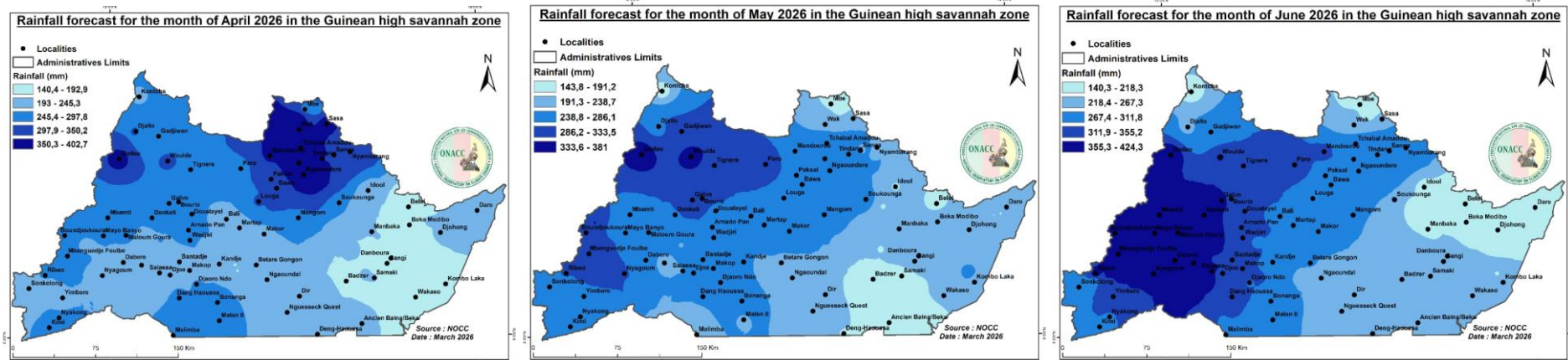


Figure 1: Rainfall forecasts for April, May and June 2026 for the GHS Zone.

The rainy season will probably start from:

- From the first dekad (between 1st and 8th) of April 2026 in the Mayo-Banyo Division (Banyo, Bandam, Mayo-Banyo, Songkolong, Kimi, Mayo Darle, Mbamti, Bankim, Nyamboya, Sambolabbo, etc.), the southern and western parts of the Djerem Division (Tibati, Mbakaou, Mbirim, Djombi, Koata, Nyanda, Bamyanga, Zamboi, etc.);
- Between the first and second dekad (between the 7th and 17th) of April 2026 in the South, Centre and South-Western parts of the Vina Division (Ngaoundere, Likok, Anloua, Martap, etc.), the South and Central parts of the Faro and Deo Division (Galim-Tignere, Dankali, Gassanguel, Paro Baya, Pom, Alhadji, Tignere, Tchabal Amadou, Gadjiwan, Mayo Baleo, etc.);
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- Between the third dekad of April and the first dekad of May (between 22nd April and 4th May) 2026 in the Faro and Deo Division (Kontcha, Alme and Sarki Mata) and the Vina Division (Wak, Karna Manga, Nyassar, Wame Grand and Mbe).

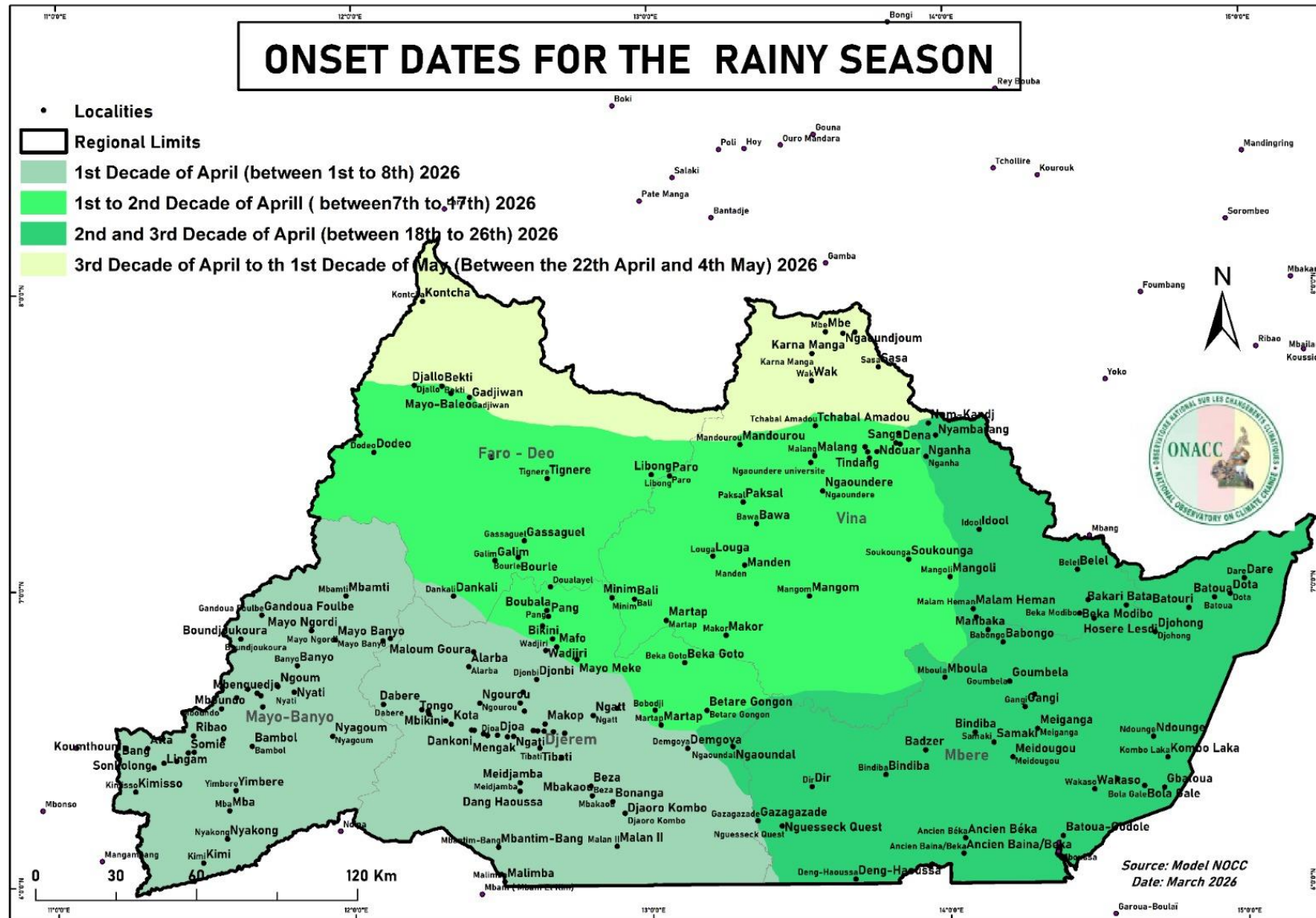


Figure 2: Onset dates for the rainy season in the High Guinean Savannah Zone

Suggested sowing dates:

Based on the above, the National Observatory on Climate Change (NOCC), together with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER), recommends that sowing should begin:

- **Between 4th and 11th April 2026** in the **Mayo-Banyo** (Banyo, Bandam, Mayo-Banyo, Songkolong, Kimi, Mayo Darle, Mbamti, Bankim, Nyamboya, Sambolabbo, etc.), and the south and western parts of the **Djerem Division** (Tibati, Mbakaou, Mbirim, Djombi, Koata, Nyanda, Bamyanga, Zamboi, etc.);
- **Between 10th and 20th April 2026** in the south, centre and south-western parts of the Vina (Ngaoundere, Likok, Anloua, Martap, etc.), the South and Central parts of the **Faro and Deo Division** (Galim-Tignere, Dankali, Gassanguel, Paro baya, Pom, Alhadji, Tignere, Tchabal Amadou, Gadjiwan, Mayo Baleo, etc.);
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- **Between 25th April and 7th May 2026** in the **Faro and Deo Division** (Kontcha, Alme and Sarki Mata) and the **Vina Division** (Wak, Karna Manga, Nyassar, Wame Grand and Mbe).

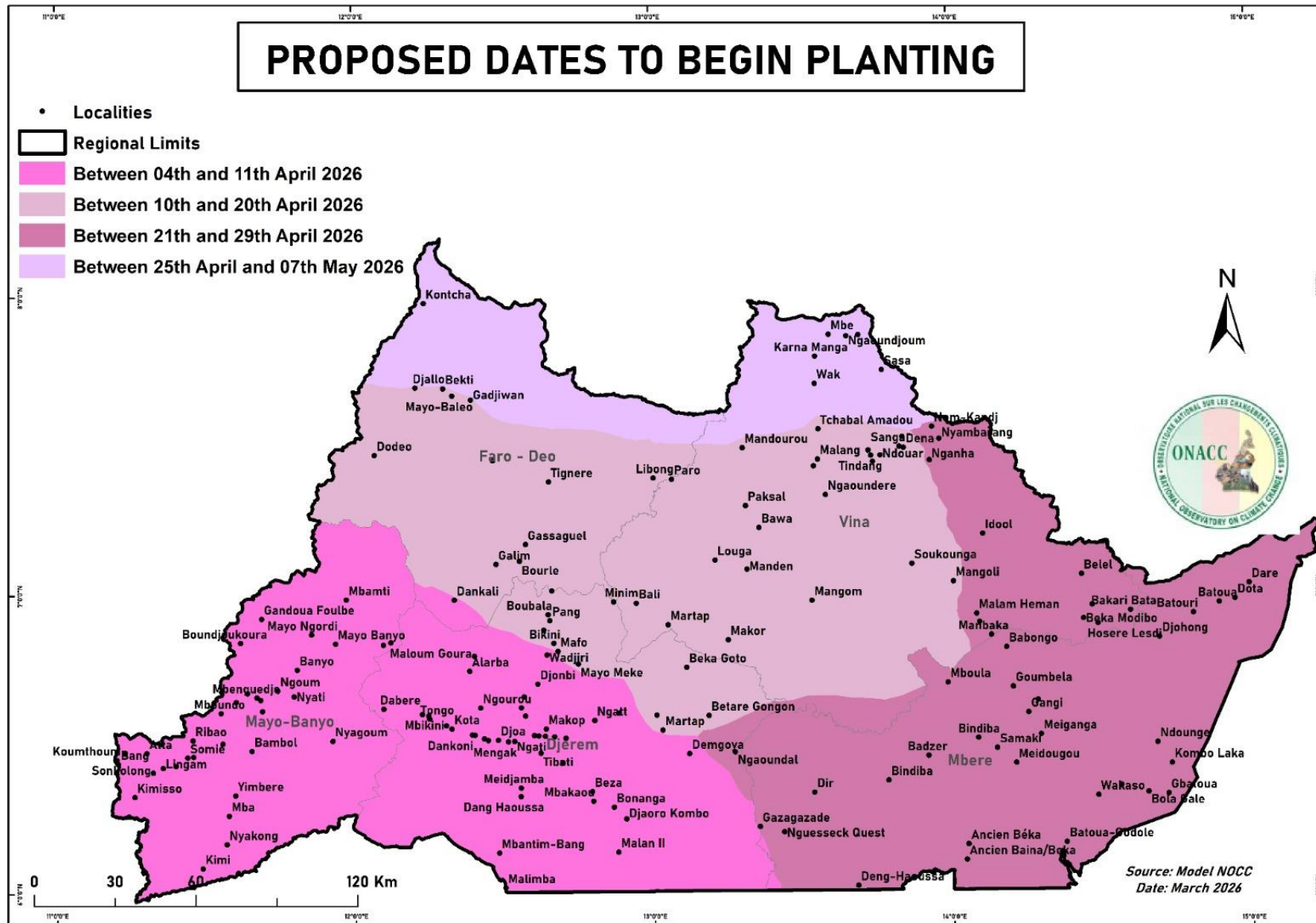


Figure 3: Proposed dates to begin planting for the Guinea High Savannah zone

3. THE MAIN AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE AREAS OF INTEREST

This agricultural calendar proposes a chronogram to facilitate producers' planning, management, and monitoring of agricultural operations to adjust to climate disruptions and optimise crop yields.

Activity Schedule

The main agricultural operations considered in this calendar are:

- a) **Land preparation:** It usually starts before the presumed date for the final planting of crops (sowing or planting).
- b) **Clearing and cleaning:** This is the clearing and cleaning of a site. It is the natural or human destruction of a wooded area, forest or "wasteland", when the aim is to put an end to the wooded state, generally to cultivate the land or transform it into pasture.
- c) **Labour:** it refers to any action related to the exploitation of agricultural land, generally using manual agricultural tools (spade, hoe, plough, etc.) or mechanised tools (power tillers, tractors, etc.).
- d) **Sowing:** It consists of planting seeds after ploughing and/or ridging. There are two sowing methods: direct and nursery sowing.
- e) **Maintenance:** This activity includes fertilizer application, weeding, hoeing, pruning, etc.
- f) **Phytosanitary treatment:** This involves applying plant protection products to prevent or fight against various plant attacks or diseases.
- g) **Harvesting:** All the agricultural work involved in collecting the useful parts of cultivated plants (fruit, seeds, stems and fibres, leaves, roots, bulbs, etc.).

Crops	Cultivation Operations	Dry season									Rainy season															Dry season														
		January			February			March			April			May			June			July			August			September			October			November			December					
		D1	D2	D3	D1	D2	D3	D1	D2	D3	D1	D2	D3	D1	D2	D3	D1	D2	D3	D1	D2	D3	D1	D2	D3	D1	D2	D3	D1	D2	D3	D1	D2	D3	D1	D2	D3			
Lemon, Tangerine, Orange, Pomelo trees	Fertilization																																							

D1, D2, D3 = Dekads (10 days for each dekad)

APPENDIX: PRODUCTION TEAM

General supervision

H.E Mr. MBAIROBE Gabriel, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER);

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