

## SUMMARY

During the third dekad of May 2007, normal to above normal rainfall was exhibited over much of Tigray, few areas of north western Amhara, much of western half of the country, some areas of south and south eastern parts of the country, SNNPR and pocket areas of southern and northern Somali. This Rainfall situation had a significant contribution for early sown crops which were at early vegetative stage, in Belg growing areas like south and SNNPR and central Ethiopia. Moreover, it would also have a positive impact for Meher agricultural activities (land preparation, sowing activities) in western half of the country and for long cycle crops like maize and sorghum as well. However, heavy rainfall with the range of (30-106.6) mm was observed over the aforementioned areas. To mention some of them Jijiga, Bore, Nejo, Arba Minch, Shire, Gimbi, and Awassa recorded 43.4, 43.8, 44.5, 44.9, 48.9, 54.3 and 57.1 mm of rainfall in one rainy day respectively. As a result, Aykel reported damage on trees and chira reported damage on fruits (Avocado) and crops (Maize) due to heavy fall.

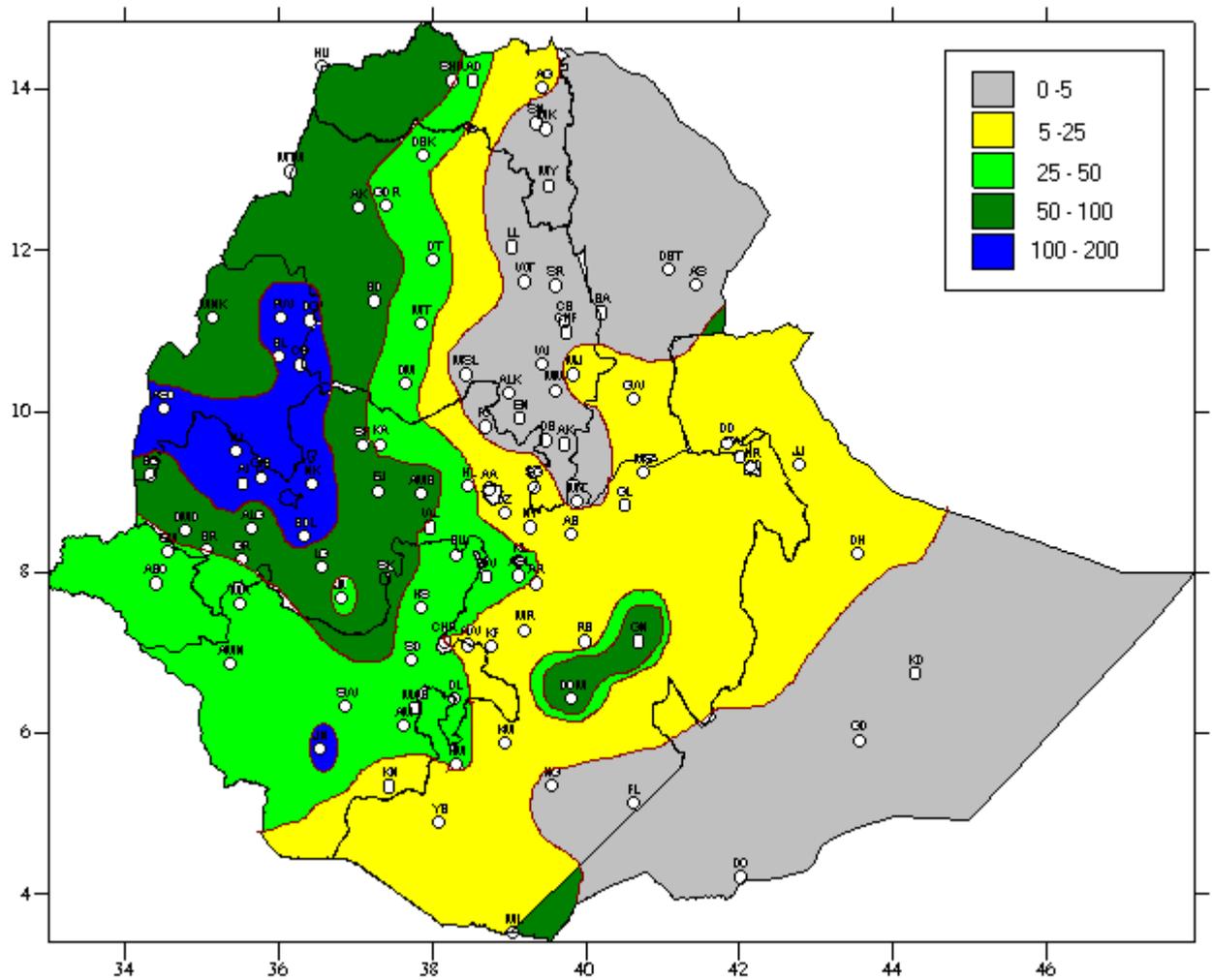
During the first dekad of June, normal to above normal rainfall has been observed over most parts of Tigray, Benshangul-Gumuz, Gambala, and SNNPR much of Oromia and Northern Somali. Eastern and central Amhara and the rest parts south and central and southern Somali and Afar have been exhibited below normal rain fall. The Intensification of rainfall distribution was very strong over some areas of Benshangul-Gumuz, western Oromia and SNNPR compare to the rest parts of the country. As a result, most part of western parts of the country exhibited heavy rainfall within the range of (30-82.6) mm in one rainy days. To mention some station observed above 40 mm of rainfall Chagni, Shre, Assosa, and Aira recorded 82.6, 56.0, 50.0 and 45.0 mm in one rainy days respectively. This situation has a positive contribution for the ongoing season's Agricultural activities like land preparation and sowing activities and the crops, which were at early vegetative stage. Regarding to adverse condition, Bedele, reported Crop (sorghum) damage Pawe and Shaura reported Perennial crops (Tree) damage and Aykel reported damage on crops (maize) and vegetable (potato) lands due to heavy fall. Besides, the observed extreme maximum temperature over some areas of Afar, Dubti, Semera and Assayta could have a negative Impact on livestock. With regard to extreme maximum temperature Semera, Assayta, Dubti, Elidar, Gambela, Methera Metema, ShewaRobit, DireDawa, Cheffa, Mytesemrie, Mankush, Meisso, and Gode exhibited extreme maximum temperature as high as 47.0, 44.6, 45.0, 44.5, 38.5, 38.5, 38.3, 38.2, 37.4, 36.0, 35.5, 35.3, 35.2 and 35.0 °C respectively. Thus this situation would have a negative impact for normal growth and development of plants.

### 1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

#### 1.1 June1-10, 2007

##### 1.1.1 RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.1)

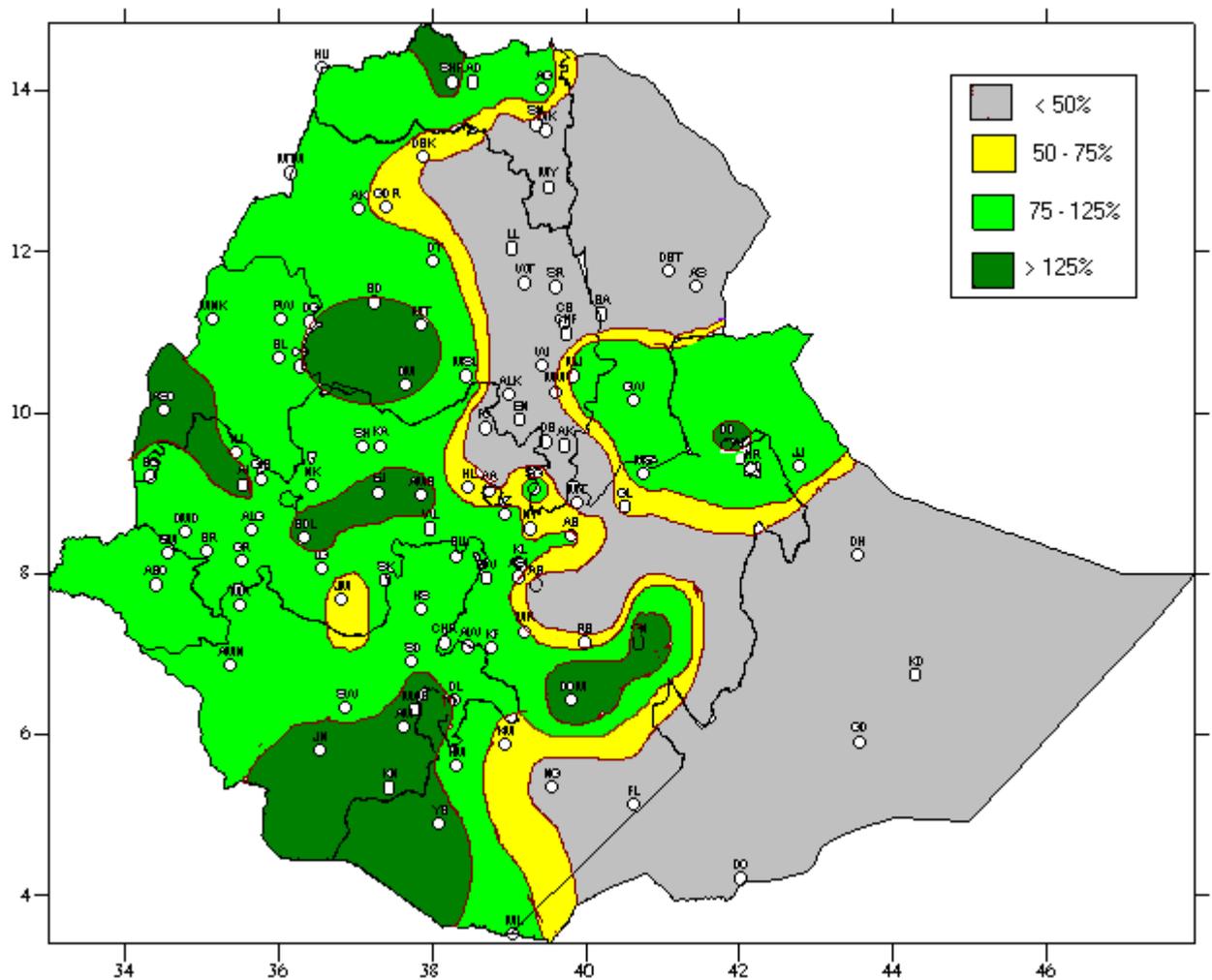
Some parts of eastern and southern Beshangul-Gumuz, western Oromia and pocket area of southern SNNPR received 100-200mm rainfall. Some parts of western Oromia, northern and western Beshangul-Gumuz, western and southern Amhara, northern and western Tigray and tip of northern SNNPR exhibited 50-100mm rainfall. All part of Gambela, most part of SNNPR, some part of western and pocket area of southern Oromia, merge of south- northern Amhara and merge of south-northern Tigray experienced 25-50mm rainfall. Most part of eastern, some parts of central and southern pocket area of western Oromia, some parts of western, northern and northeastern Somali, southern SNNPR, northern Afar, merge of south northern and tip of eastern Amhara and southern and northern Tigray received 5-25mm rainfall. The rest parts of the country exhibited little or no rainfall.



**Fig 1. Rainfall distribution in mm (1- 10 June, 2007)**

**1.1.2 RAINFALL ANOMALY (Fig. 2)**

Some parts of south eastern Tigray, northern, eastern and southeastern Amhara, eastern and southern Oromia, most parts of Somali and Afar received below normal to much below normal rainfall. The rest parts of the country exhibited normal to above normal rainfall.



**Fig.2 Percent of normal rainfall (1- 10 June, 2007)**

Explanatory notes for the legend:  
 <50 -- Much below normal  
 50—75% -- below normal  
 75—125% --- Normal  
 > 125% ---- Above normal

### 1.1 TEMPERATURE ANOMALY

Some areas recorded extreme maximum temperature within the range of (35-47.0 °C) . Semera, Assayta, Dubti, Elidar, Gambela, Methera Metema, ShewaRobit, DireDawa, Cheffa, Mytesemrie, Mankush, Meisso, and Gode exhibited extreme maximum temperature as high as 47.0, 44.6, 45.0, 44.5, 38.5, 38.5, 38.3, 38.2, 37.4, 36.0, 35.5, 35.3, 35.2 and 35.0 °C respectively.

## **2. WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR THE SECOND DEKAD OF JUNE 2007**

For the coming ten days, Benshangul-Gumuz, Gambala, western Oromia, western section of SNNPR and western Amhara will get close to normal rainfall where as some places will have chance of getting above normal rainfall.

Central and eastern Oromia, Tigray, eastern Amhara, southern Oromia and eastern parts of SNNPR as well as central and southern Somali are anticipated to get near normal rainfall however, below normal rainfall at some places. On the other hand, Afar and the adjoin low lands will be mostly dry.

## **3. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE**

### **3.1 VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE**

Normal to above normal rainfall has been observed over most parts of Tigray, Benshangul-Gumuz, Gambala, and SNNPR much of Oromia and Northern Somali. Eastern and central Amhara and the rest parts south and central and southern Somali and Afar have been exhibited below normal rain fall. The Intensification of rainfall distribution was very strong over some areas of Benshangul-Gumuz, western Oromia and SNNPR compare to the rest parts of the country. As a result, most part of western parts of the country exhibited heavy rainfall within the range of (30-82.6) mm in one rainy days. To mention some station observed above 40 mm of rainfall Chagni, Shire, Assosa, and Aira recorded 82.6, 56.0, 50.0 And 45.0 mm in one rainy days respectively. This situation has a positive contribution for the ongoing season's Agricultural activities like land preparation and sowing activities and the crops, which were at early vegetative stage. Regarding to adverse condition, Bedele, reported Crop (sorghum) damage Pawe and Shaura reported Perennial crops (Tree) damage and Aykel reported damage on crops (maize) and vegetable (potato) lands due to heavy fall. Besides, the observed extreme maximum temperature over some areas of Afar, Dubti, Semera and Assayta could have a negative Impact on livestock.

### **3.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DEKAD**

The anticipated normal to above normal rainfall over some areas of western Tigray and Amhara, western and central Oromia , Beshangul-Gumuz, SNNPR and Gambela, would have a positive impact for Meher agricultural activities. Moreover,, it would also a positive contribution for sowing activities in areas of central (Ziway) south eastern (Dolo Mena) eastern (Meiso). Besides the expected near normal rainfall over some areas of eastern Amhara, eastern and southern Oromia southern half of SNNPR, northern Somali and Hareri would have a positive impact for early sown crops. Besides this near normal rainfall would have a significant impact on the availability of pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agro pastoral areas of in northern Somali. The expected moisture over some Belg growing areas could not create a conducive condition for harvesting of Belg crops. Therefore, farmers are advised to exploit the anticipated dry and sunny condition to harvest their crops on time in order to avoid post harvest losses. Moreover, the post harvest process like collecting grain in the fields and finally putting the dried grain in the storage should be preformed appropriately.

