

NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY

TEN DAY AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULETIN

P.O.Box 1090 ADDIS ABABA Tel. 661-57-79 Fax: 251-11-66625292 E-mail:nmsa@ethionet.et

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SUMMARY

During the first dekad of November 2008 heavy and unseasonal rainfall might have a negative and a positive impact on different parts of the country. Regarding heavy fall, from central Oromia (Zway & Adami Tulu), eastern Oromia (Alemaya & Jijiga), western Oromia (Alge) and southern Oromia (Dolo Mena) observed within the range of 62-143 mm. in one rainy day. The situation has a positive impact for early sown crops which were at different phonological stages. On the other hand, the aforementioned heavy fall might have a negative impact on Meher crops which were at ripening and full ripening stages. In relation to crop phonological report, some station observed crop damage due to heavy fall. Bati, Hosanna, Majete reported damage on Teff, Alge reported damage on Nug and Teff, Shambu reported damage on Teff, Maize & Pea crops and Wegel Tena reported damage on wheat, Barely and Beans which were at full ripeness stage. Besides, the exhibited heavy fall within the range of (20-40 mm) in some areas of Afar would have significant contribution for the availability of pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agropastoral areas.

During the second dekad of November 2008, dry, windy and sunny weather condition observed over the most parts of country. This situation could have a positive impact for Meher harvesting and post harvesting activities. However, was an increase in mid night and early morning coldness over most of the country caused frost over northeastern, central & eastern parts of the country. The situation might have a negative impact on crops not yet attained full maturity and perennial crops. Some stations recorded extreme minimum temperature below 5° C over northern and western Shoa, western Hararghi, Arsi and Bale high lands. In relation to phonological report, slightly crop damaged was observed due to frost over Fitch.

1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

1.1 11-20 NOVEMBER 2008

1.1.1 RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.1)

Pocket areas of western Oromia and pocket areas of southern SNNPR received 5-25 mm of rainfall. The rest parts and most parts of the country experienced little or no rainfall.

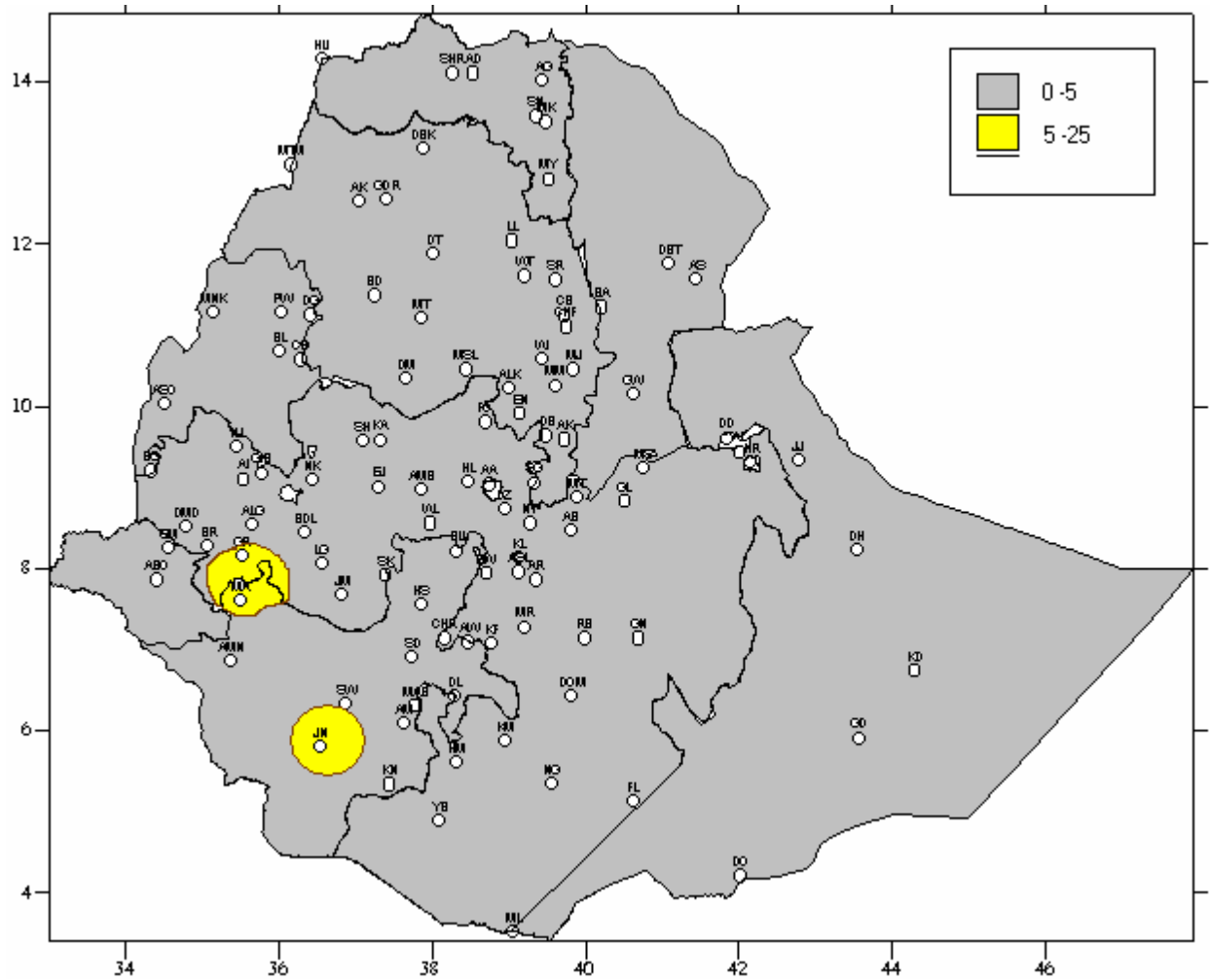


Fig 1 . Rainfall distribution in mm (11- 20 November 2008)

1.1.2 RAINFALL ANOMALY (Fig. 2)

All parts of the country observed below normal to much below normal rainfall.

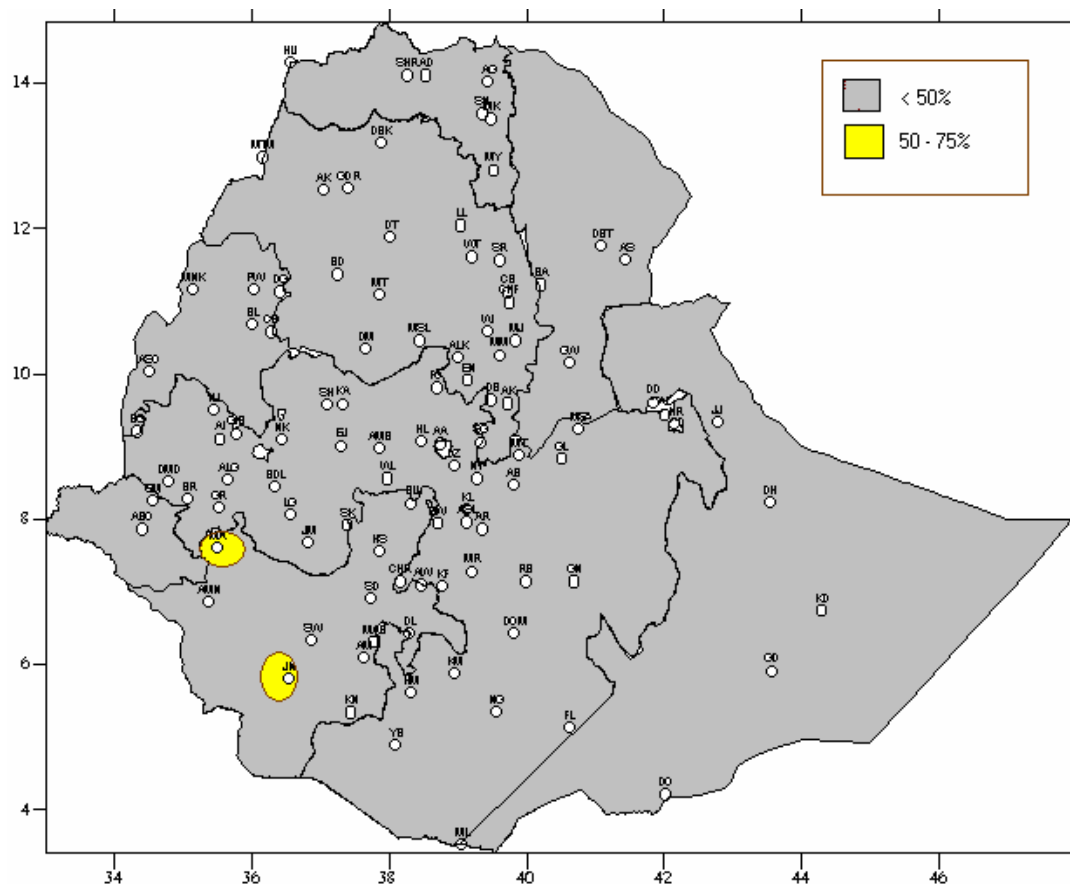


Fig.2 Percent of normal rainfall (11-20 November 2008)

Explanatory notes for the legend:

<50 -- Much below normal

50—75% -- below normal

75—125% --- Normal

> 125% ---- Above normal

1.1.3 TEMPERATURE ANOMALY

Some stations recorded extreme maximum temperature 35° C. Among reporting stations Semera, Humera, Dubti, Assyta, Gode, Gewan, metema and Gambella recorded extreme maximum temperature as high as 39.5, 40.0, 36.0, 35.5 ,36.5, 36.6, 37.7, and 36.0 ° C respectively.

On the other hand, some stations recorded extreme minimum temperature below 5° C for 2-5 days. Kofelle, Wegeltina, alemaya, Fitch, Debre Brhan and Mehal Meda, recorded extreme minimum temperature as low as 0.4, -1.5, -1.5, 0.5, -2.5 and 0.1 ° C respectively. The situation might slightly affect the normal performances of cereals over the aforementioned areas.

3. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

3.1 VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

The dry, windy and sunny weather condition observed over most parts of country. This situation could have a positive impact for Meher harvesting and post harvesting activities. However, was an increase in mid night and early morning coldness over most of the country caused frost over northeastern, central & eastern parts of the country. The situation might have a negative impact on crops not yet attained full maturity and perennial crops. Some stations recorded extreme minimum temperature below 5° C over northern and western Shoa, western Hararghi, Arsi and Bale high lands. In relation to phonological report, slightly crop damaged was observed due to frost over Fitch.

3.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DEKAD

In the coming dekad of 21-30 November 2008, the dry and windy Bega's weather condition will be expected to continue in similar manner with the privies ten days, however, in the last days of the dekad rain bearing cloud expected to enter to our territories day to day. Based on this up to mid of the dekad dry, windy and sunny weather will be dominant. Although the mid night and early morning coldness will be expect over northeastern, central, southern and southwestern arid area. The situation will cause frost over the aforementioned areas, in line with this may cause damage on not yet fully matured Meher and perennial crops. However, the dry windy and sunny weather condition will favor harvest and post-harvest activities.

On other hand, on the last days of the dekad, expected cloudy condition and moderate rainfall. Near normal to below normal rainfall expect over right valley, eastern Tigray, eastern Amhara, Afar, central and eastern Orormia, SNNPR, Borena and parts of Somali.. This situation will favor the general agricultural activities, availability of pasture and drinking water. The rest of the country will be under dry weather condition. The situation will have a positive impact for harvest and post-harvest activities.

Table1. Crop Phonological report for 11-20 November 2008

Station name	Region	Zone	Woreda	Three Major Crops of given area			Growth Phases		
				1	2	3	1	2	3
Adet	Amhara	Mirab Gojiam	Yelma & Denas	Maize	Barely	Teff	-	-	H
Aykel	Amhara			Barely	Teff	-	H	Fl	-
chagni				Maize	Millet	Nug	Fr	Ta	Gr
Ale.ketema	Amaha	Semen Shao	Alemketema	Teff	-	-	R	-	-
Chira	Oromia	Jimma	Gera	-	Teff	-	H	H	H
Dollo Mena				Maize	Seaseme	-	Ta	R	-
Fich	Oromia	Semen Shao	Girarjarso	Teff	Wheat	Beans	H	Wr	R
						Teff	H	H	Fl
Hossaina	SNNPR	SNNPR	Lemu	Maize	Wheat	-	H	Wr	-
Kachisie	Oromia	Mirab Shoa	Gend beret	Teff	-	-	Ri	-	-
Meh. Meda	Amahara	Semen Shoa	Gira mider	Wheat	Barely	Beans	Fl	-	R
Nedjo	Oromia	Mb wellega	Nedjo	Maize	Sorghum	Millet	H	H	-
Pawe	Benishagul	Metekal	Pawe Liyu	-	Sorghum	-	H	R	-
Sekoru	Oromia	Jimma	Limukosa	Maize	Teff	-	Fr	H	-
Shambu	Oromia	HoroWolleg	Horo	Teff	Millet	Peas	Fl	Ti	R
Shaura	Amhara	Semen Goner	Alef.T	Maize	Teff	-	Fr	Fr	-
Sirinka	Amhara	Semen Wello	Habru	Teff	Maize	Millet	Fl	H	H
WegelTena	Amhara	Semen Woll	Delenta	Wheat	Barely	Beans	Ea	Fl	H
Woliso	Oromia	DM.Shoa	Woliso	Maize	Nug	Teff	H	H	Fl

Key:

P/S= Plant/Sow
Em= Emerge
TI= Third leaf
Fl= Fifth leaf
Sl= Seventh leaf
Yr= Yellow ripe
Nl= Ninth leaf
El= Elongation
Ta = Tassel
Ti= Tiller
Sh= Shoot
Bs= Berry soft
Bh= Berry hard
Fl= Flower

Ph= Pin heading
Ea= Earing
He= Heading
Bu= Budding R =Ripeness
Cr= Consumer ripeness
Gr= Green ripeness
Wr= Wax ripeness
Ygr= yellow green ripeness
Lgr = light green ripeness
Dr= Dark ripeness
Fr= Full ripeness
H = Harvested
- = Data not available

