

**NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AGENCY**  
**TEN-DAY AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN**  
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### **SUMMARY**

During the third dekad of March 2009, rainfall activities extended over most Belg growing areas of central and eastern Tigray, much of Amhara, Oromiya, Gambela, SNNPR, Dire Dawa and northern Somali. The situation might have favored the on going Belg agricultural activities on crops that are found at early vegetative stage, perennial crops and land preparation and sowing of long cycle crops. Moreover the observed rainfall might have favored the development of pasture and water availability over pastoral and agro pastoral areas.

During the first dekad of April, 2009 Belg rain benefiting areas of SNNPR, much of Oromiya, eastern and southern Tigray, much of Amhara, Afar, Gambela and northern Somali received Belg rain that might have benefited Belg agricultural activities, sowing of long cycle crops and pulses. The condition might have positive impact on availability of pasture and water over pastoral and agro pastoral areas. Moreover, north western portions of the county which were dry also received rainfall which also favored perennial crops and planting of long cycle crops. On the other hand heavy fall reported over some areas of eastern Amhara, western and southern Oromiya and northern SNNPR. Among reporting stations Gore, Bati, Bilate, Ginir, Hossaina and Moyale recorded 38.0, 48.0, 42.6, 37.0, 33.3 and 37.5 mm in one rainy day respectively.

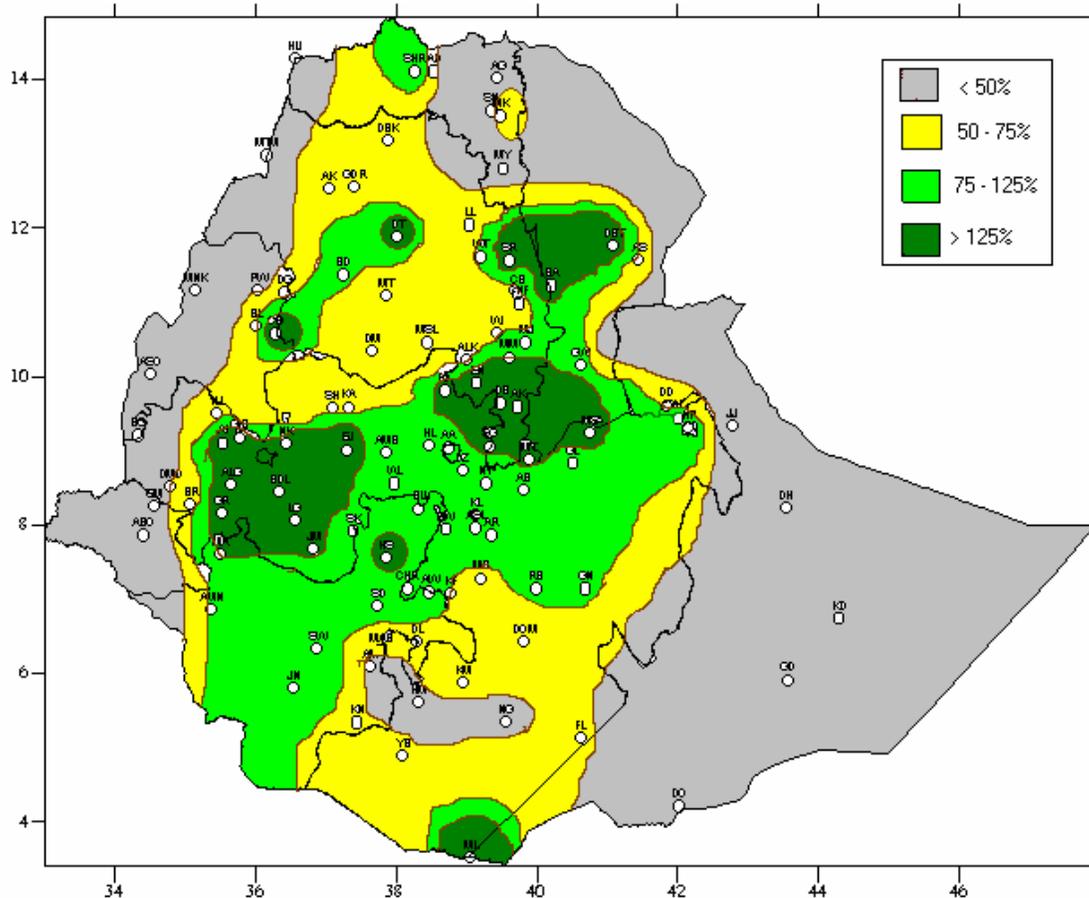
## **1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT**

### **1.1 1-10 April 2009**

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

Pocket areas of western, northern, and eastern Oromia, eastern Amahara and western Afar, central and northern SNNPR received 50-100 mm of rainfall. Much of Oromia and SNNPR, few areas of eastern Amahara, western Afar and western Somali experience 25-25 mm of rainfall. Much of Amahara, some parts of western Afar, pocket areas of south Tigray, pocket areas western margin of SNNPR and pocket areas of northern Somali exhibited 5-25 mm of rainfall. The rest parts of the country received little or no rainfall.





**Fig2. Percent of normal rainfall distribution (1-10 April, 2009)**

**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 in the low lands and western border of the country recorded extreme maximum temperature greater than 35 °C, to mention some of them Dire Dawa, Gode, Metehara, Aisha, Assayita, Dubti, Gambela, Humera, Mankush, Maytsemria, Metema, Mille, Pawe, Semera and Sirba Abaya recorded 36.0, 37.9, 35.8, 35.5, 36.6, 39.5, 41.0, 43.4, 40.5, 36.5, 41.5, 39.0, 38.7, 39.3 and 39.0 °C, respectively. The situation might have a negative impact on the normal growth and development of plants and livestock.

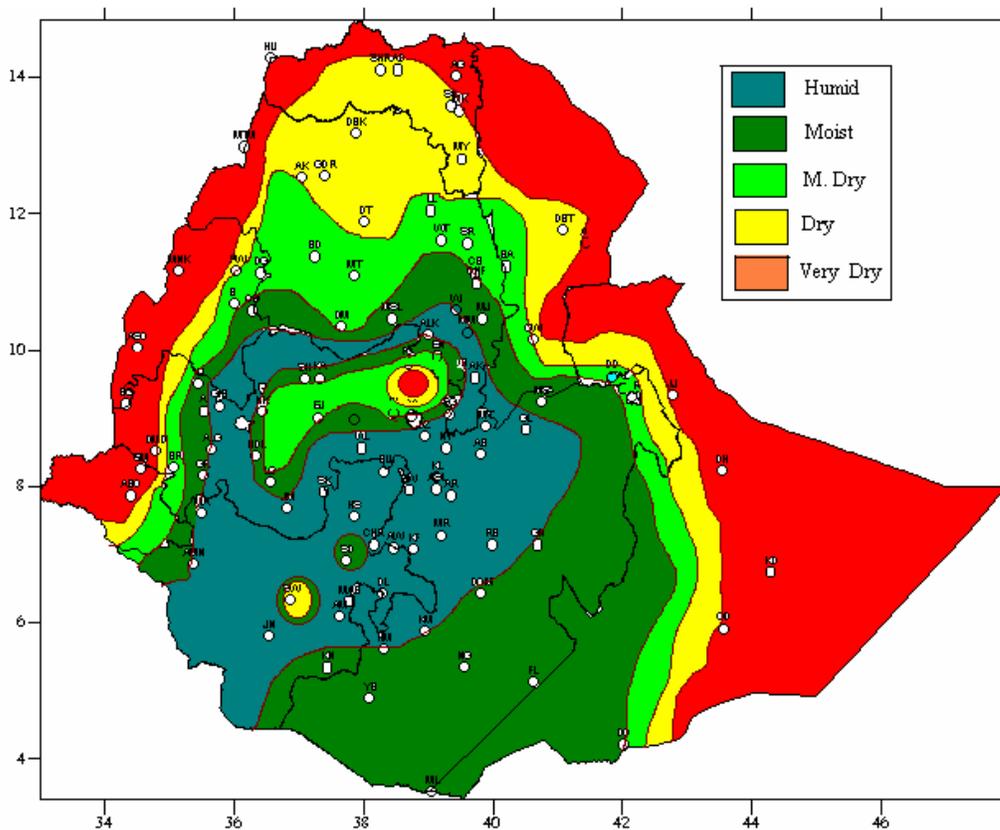
## 2. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

### 2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

Belg rain benefiting areas of SNNPR, much of Oromiya, eastern and southern Tigray, much of Amhara, Afar, Gambela and northern Somali received Belg rain that might have benefited Belg agricultural activities, sowing of long cycle crops and pulses. The condition might have positive impact on availability of pasture and water over pastoral and agro pastoral areas. Moreover, north western portions of the county which were dry also received rainfall which also favored perennial crops and planting of long cycle crops.

**Fig.3 Moisture Status for (1-10 April, 2009)**

As indicated on the moisture map below, SNNPR, much Oromiya and southwestern Somalia observed humid to moist condition, while southern half of Amhara, exhibited moderately dry condition thus, the situation might have favored Belg agricultural activities, availability of pasture & drinking water.



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

In the coming ten days Belg rain bearing meteorological phenomenon expected to increase over southern portions of the country. SNNPR, much of Oromiya, Gambela, central and eastern portions of the country and northern Somalia will receive normal to above normal rainfall; hence, the situation will favor Belg agricultural activities. On the other hand, eastern and southern Tigray, eastern and central Amhara southern Afar and southern portions of Somalia expected to have near normal rainfall and western Tigray, Amhara, Benshangul-Gumuz will expect to get rain from the cloud coverage. This situation will have a positive impact on Belg agricultural activities, availability of pasture and water.