

NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AGENCY
TEN-DAY AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN
P.BOX 1090 ADDIS ABABA TEL 512299 FAX 517066 E-mail nmsa@ethionet.et

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SUMMARY

During the third dekad of May 2009, the rain bearing meteorological phenomena were extended to western and southwestern portions of the country, as a result strong rainfall activities occurred over Amhara, Benshangul-Gumuz, western, central, southern and eastern Oromiya, Arsi and Bale zone, SNNPR and Gambela, northern Somalia and Dire Dawa received little to moderate rainfall. The situation might have favored perennial crops, Belg agricultural activities long cycle crops such as maize and sorghum availability of pasture and drinking water over agro-pastoral areas. On the other hand, the rest parts of the country prevailed dry and sunny weather condition, this situation might have a negative impact on Belg agricultural activities as well as availability of pasture and drinking water over agro-pastoral areas of the country.

During the first dekad of June 2009, rain giving meteorological compartments did not favored the rainfall activities where Kiremt rain normally will start earlier over northwester parts of the country, while northeastern, eastern and southern portions of the country exhibited small amount of rainfall. However some pocket areas of Tigray, western and eastern Amhara, Benshangul- Gumuz, Gambella, western and eastern Oromiya, SNNPR and eastern parts of the country received rainfall, this situation might have favored Kiremt agricultural activities, land preparation and water supply for perennial crops and availability of drinking water and pasture. Some stations over western part of the country reported daily rainfall as high as 41.2, 46.7, 47.8 and 40.0 mm over Arjo, Begi, Chagni and Nejo respectively. On the other hand, dry and sunny conditions were prevailed over northeaster lowlands of the country. The satiation might have caused water stress on perennial crops as well as on pasture and drinking water availability.

1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

1-10 June 2009

RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.1)

Pocket area of western Oromia received 100-200 mm rainfall. Gambela, southern half of Benshangul-Gumuz, parts of western SNNPR, western Oromia and western Amhara received 50-100 mm rainfall. Parts of western and northern SNNPR, western Oromia, northern Benshangul-Gumuz, western Amhara and western Tigray received 25-50 mm rainfall. Parts of southwestern and eastern SNNPR, southern, eastern and western Oromia, southern, western eastern Amhara and western Tigray received 5-25 mm rainfall. The rest parts of the country received little or no rainfall.

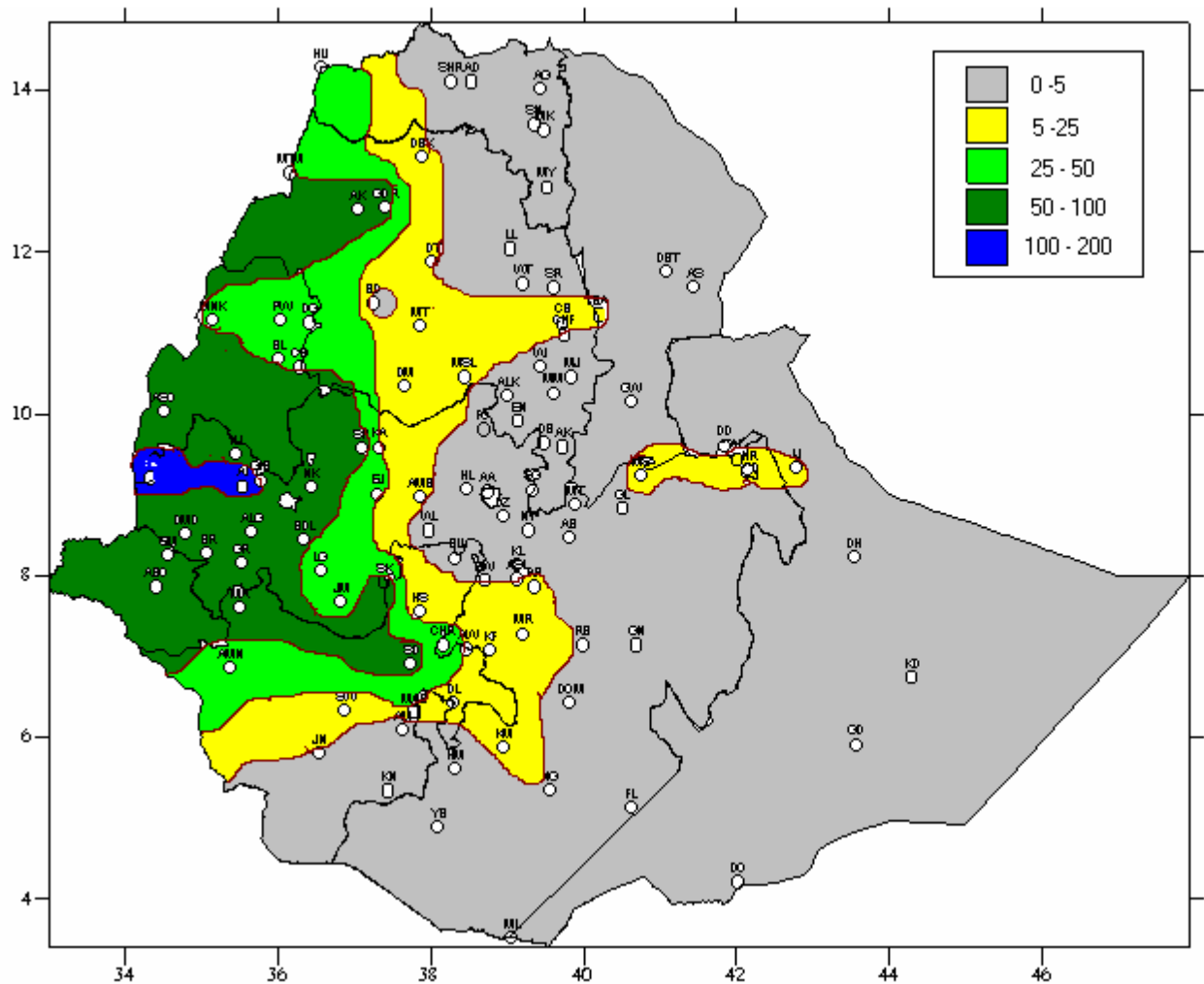


Fig 1 Rainfall distribution in mm (1-10 June 2009)

1.1.2 RAINFALL ANOMALY (Fig. 2)

Gambela, southern half of Benshangul-Gumuz, parts of western Oromia, southern and western Amhara and western Tigray and tip of western SNNPR received normal to above normal rainfall. The rest parts of the country experienced below normal to much below normal rainfall.

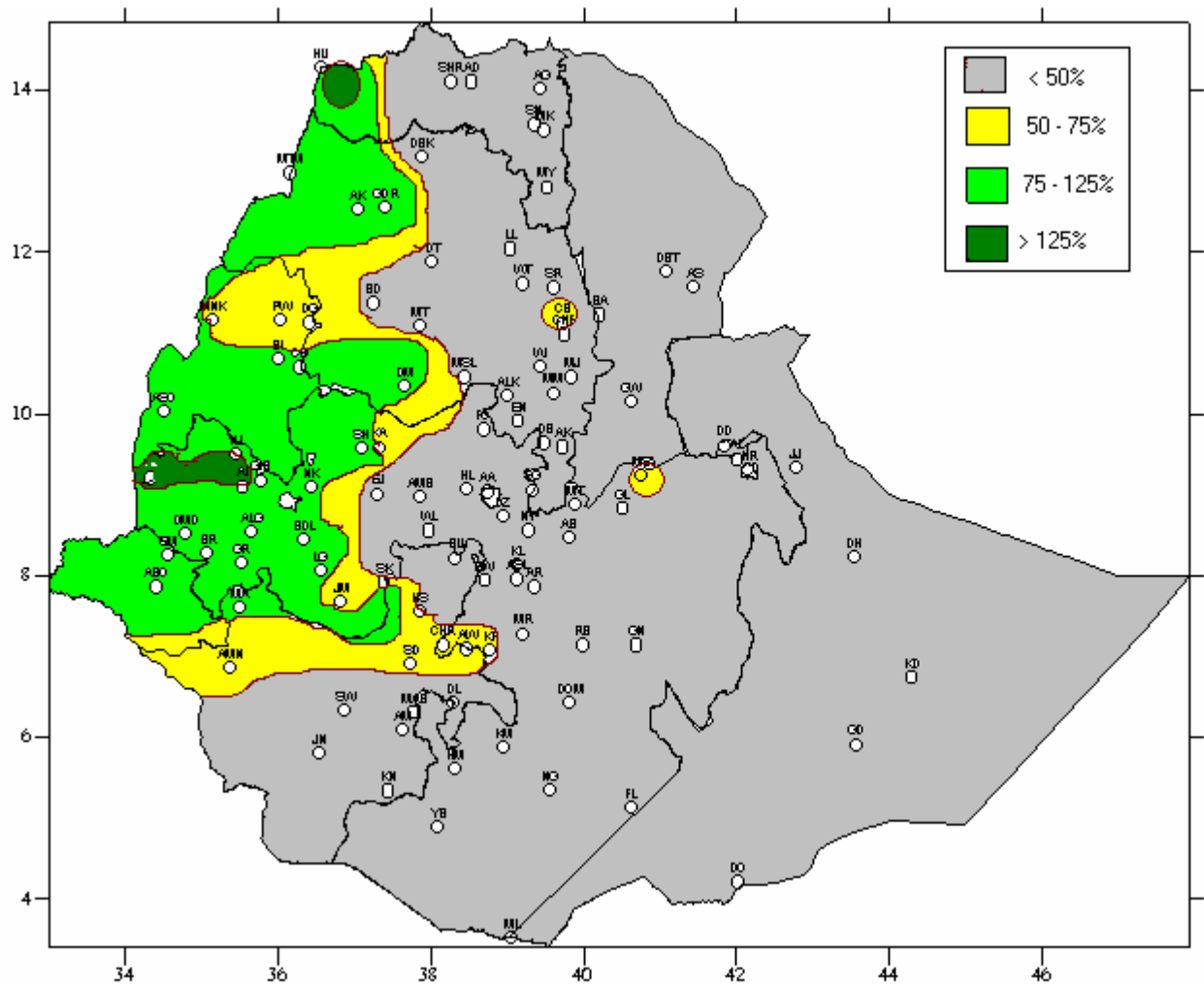


Fig.2 Percent of normal rainfall (1-10 June 2009)

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. Dire dawa, Gode, Metehara, Assyta, Aysha, Dubti, Gambella, Gewane, Humera, Majete, Mankush, Miesso, Metema, Mille, Pawe, Semera and Sirba Abays reported 38.8, 37.8, 40.5, 44.4, 41.7, 45.5, 38.5, 46.6, 40.5, 35.5, 39.0, 39.0, 36.8, 40.5, 43.5, 37.0, 44.0 and 35.8 °C, respectively, this 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

Rain giving meteorological compartments did not favored the rainfall activities where Kiremt rain normally will start earlier over northwester parts of the country, while northeastern, eastern and southern portions of the country exhibited small amount of rainfall. However some pocket areas of Tigray, western and eastern Amhara, Benshangul- Gumuz, Gambella, western and eastern Oromiya, SNNPR and eastern parts of the country received rainfall, this situation might have favored Kiremt agricultural activities, land preparation and water supply for perennial crops and availability of drinking water and pasture. Some stations over western part of the country reported daily rainfall as high as 41.2, 46.7, 47.8 and 40.0 mm over Arjo, Begi, Chagni and Nejo respectively. On the other hand, dry and sunny conditions were prevailed over northeaster lowlands of the country. The satiation might have caused water stress on perennial crops as well as on pasture and drinking water availability.

As indicated on fig. 3 below, most parts of western Oromia, Gambela and western and northwestern SNNPR and western and southwestern Benshangul-Gumuz and pocket areas of eastern Amahara exhibited humid to moist condition, while pocket areas of southern Benshangul-Gumuz, southern SNNPR, central Oromia, northern Tigray and eastern Amhara received moderately dry condition. The situation might have favored Belg agricultural activities as well as availability of drinking water and pasture and perennial crops, while the rest parts of the country observed dry to very dry condition which might have a negative impacts on Belg agricultural activities and availability of drinking water and pasture.

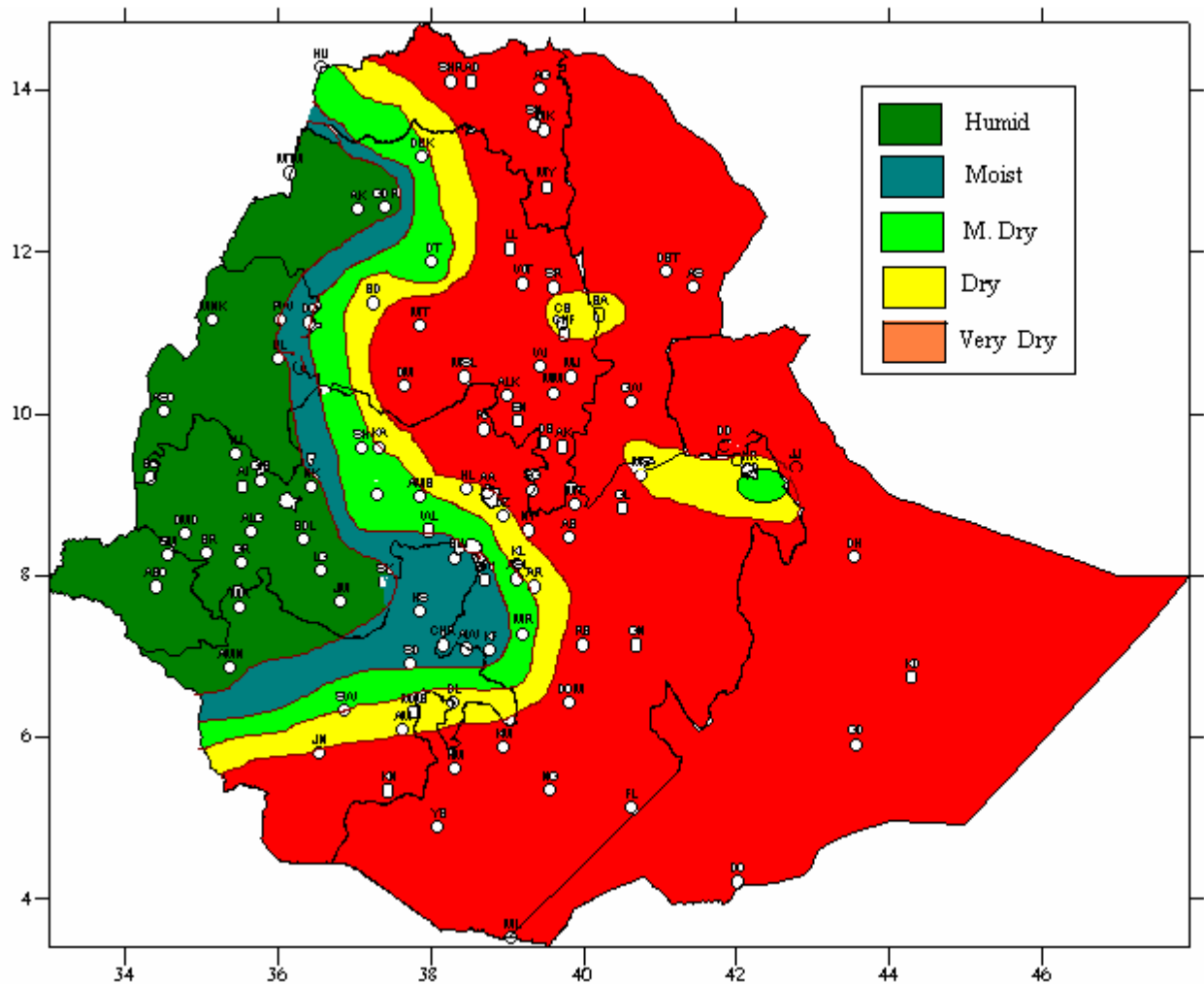


Fig.3 Moisture Status for (1-10 June 2009)

3.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DEKAD

In the coming ten days rain giving meteorological phenomena do not show any significant difference from the pervious dekad. The situation will favor Kerimt agricultural activities land preparation, long cycle crops, cereals, perennial crops as well as pasture and water availability over agro- pastoral areas. While Tigray and eastern Amhara will expect small amount of rainfall from their cloud coverage but dry condition will be expected to prevail in the area. The dry condition will have a negative impact for general agricultural activities and pasture and drinking water availability.

On the other hand, dry and sunny weather condition dominantly expected over Afar and rift valley neighboring lowland areas, the condition will have a negative impact on pasture and drinking water availability over agro- pastoral areas.

