

NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AGENCY
TEN-DAY AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN
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SUMMARY

During the third dekad of May 2014, as a result of rain bearing meteorological phenomena had strength over western parts of the country that made to receive better rainfall in amount and distribution. In line with this Tigray, Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambela, much of Oromia, SNNPR, Dire Dawa, Harrari and north Somalia exhibited light to heavy rainfall. This might have favored ongoing seasonal agricultural activities such as land preparation and sowing of long cycle crops like sorghum, maize and other, fulfill water requirement for perennial plants and availability of drinking water and pastor particularly over pastoral and agro-pastoral areas. In addition to this, some stations like; Chewaka, Nekemte, Arijo Gimbi, Mankush, Dangila, Jimma, Limugent, Chira, Gore, Algae, Hawassa, Hossaina, Gambella, Adet, Jijiga and Ambo reported heavy rainfall ranging from 40.0 to 61.3 mm in one rainy day. This situation might have negative impact on Belg crops that are already ripe and ready to harvest , on the other hand it favored pasture and drinking water availability especially in pastoral and agro pastoral areas, water harvest if any, and fulfill water need of late sown crops in general. While, below normal rainfall experienced over the rest parts of the country might have favored harvest of ripe Belg crops.

During the first dekade of June 2014, Kiremt rainfall activities strengthened over western half and expanded to central, southern and south eastern parts of the country. As a result of this, western and central Tigray, much of Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella, Much of Oromia, SNNPR, and north Somali received 5 to 124 mm of rainfall for 2 to 9 days. Heavy fall 30.4 to 65.0mm was reported over Chagni, Dangila, Algae, Gore, Masha and Adet in one rainy day.

In general, western Amhara, north Benishangul-Gumuz, southern high lands of Oromia, eastern Gambella and much of SNNPR received normal to above normal. Thus, the situation might have favored the ongoing agricultural activities, water requirement of long cycle Meher crops such as (Maize, millet and Sorghum) which sown during Belg and found at different phases of growth, perennial plants, land preparation, sowing of some Meher grains or pulses crops, availability of pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agro pastoral areas of the country. Whereas, below normal rain fall exhibited over the rest parts of the country might have negative impact on kiremt season agricultural activities particularly Meher growing areas.

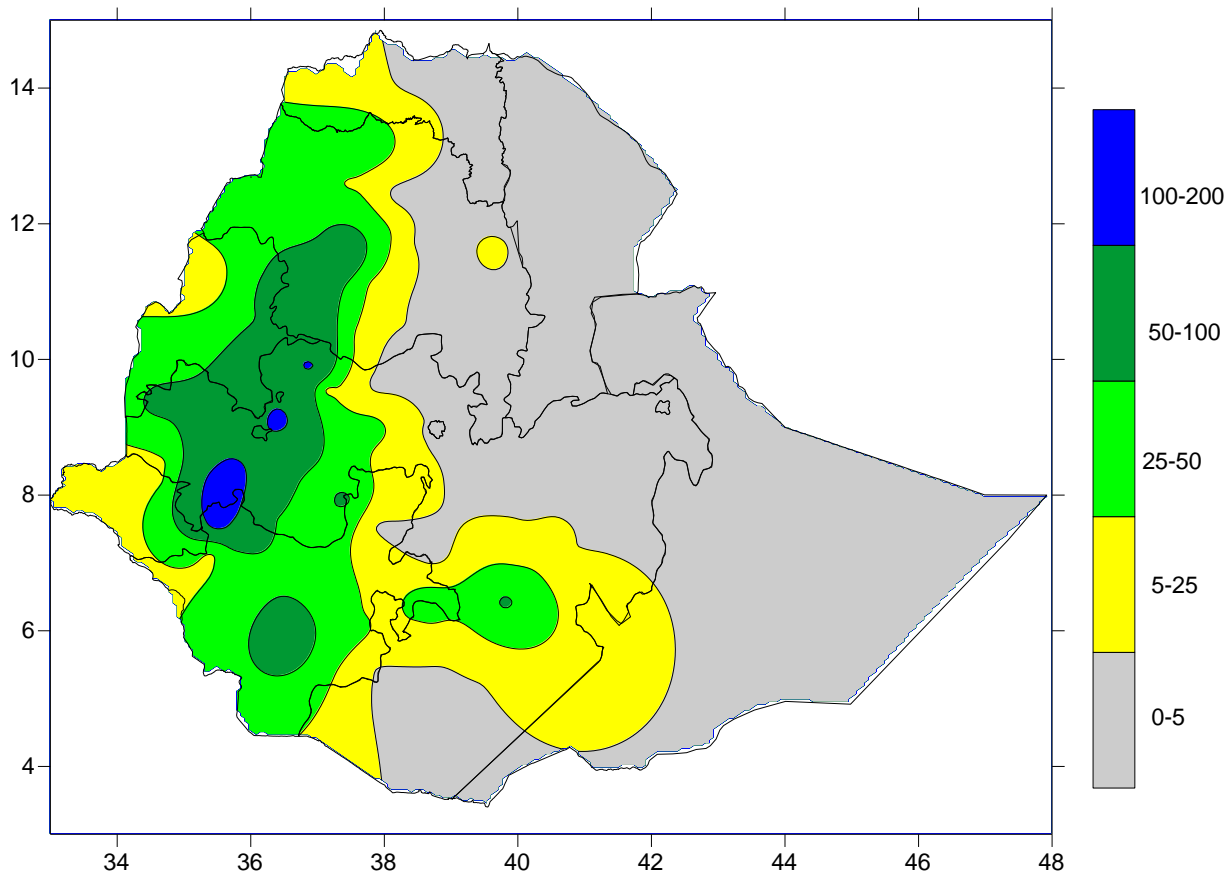


Fig. 1. Rainfall distribution in mm (1-10 June 2014)

1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

1.1 RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.1)

Pocket areas of southwestern and central Oromia exhibited 100-200mm of rainfall. Southern Amhara, eastern Bensahgul-Ggumuz, southern SNNPR and much of southwestern Oromia received 50-100mm of rainfall. Much of southern and western Amhara, Bensahgul-Ggumuz, western, southwestern and southern Oromia, SNNPR , eastern Gambela and pocket areas of southwestern Tigray experienced 25-50 mm of rainfall. Much of western Tigray, central Amhara, western Bensahgul-Ggumuz, Gambela, southern and southeastern Oromia received 5-25mm of rainfall. The rest parts of the country exhibited little or no rainfall.

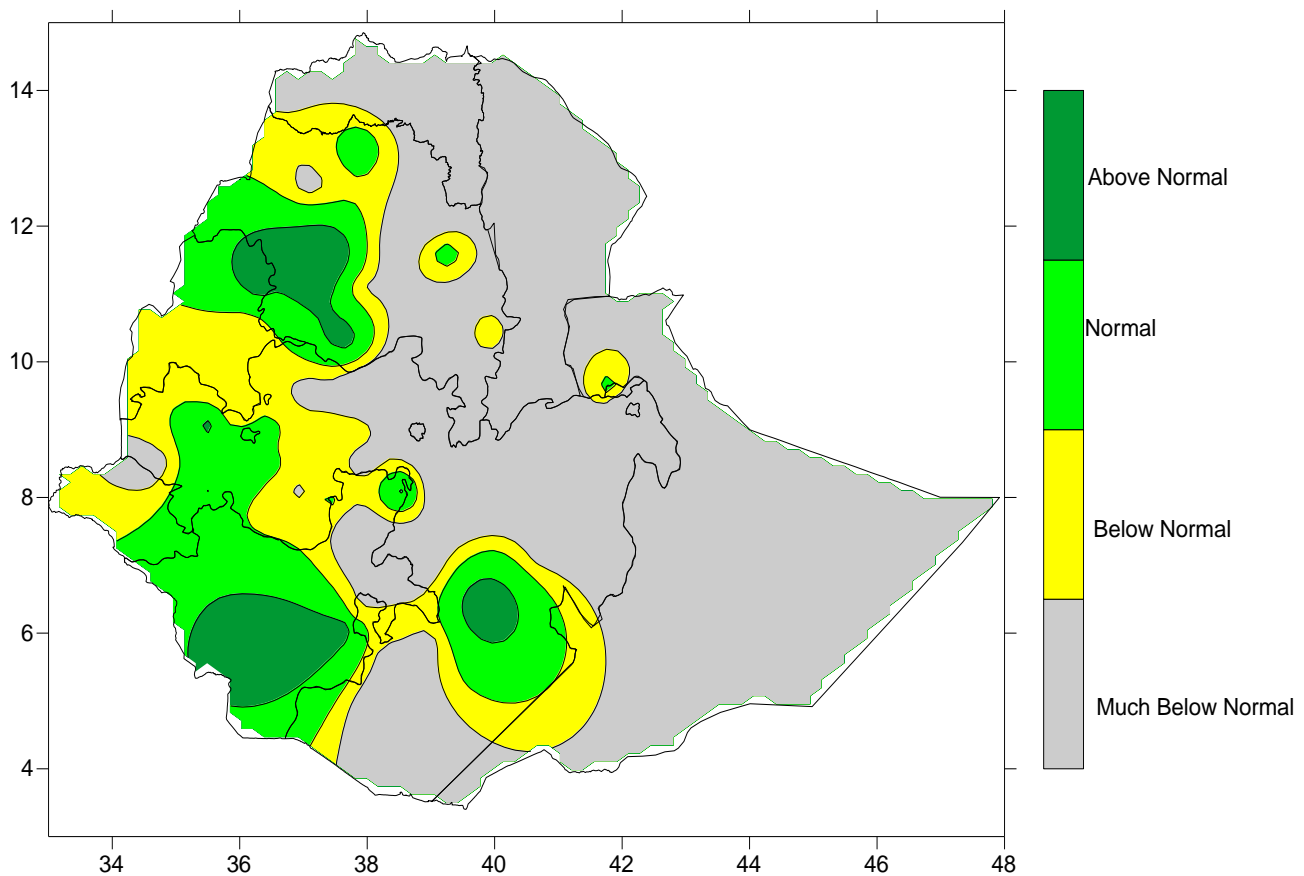


Fig2. Percent of normal rainfall distribution (1-10 June 2014)

Explanatory notes for the legend:

- < 50 -- Much below normal**
- 50—75% -- below normal**
- 75—125% --- Normal**
- >125% ---- Above normal**

1.2 RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.2)

Much of southwestern Amhara, SNNPR, eastern Bensahgul-Ggumuz, southwestern and southeastern Oromia and pocket areas of eastern Oromia and eastern and northern Amahra exhibited normal to above normal rainfall, while the rest parts of the country experienced below normal to much below normal rainfall.

1.3. TEMPERATURE ANOMALY

Some stations in the low lands of the country reported extreme maximum temperature greater than 35°C. Among the reporting stations: Dire Dawa, Gode, Metehara, Awash Arba, Ayisha, Dubti, Elidar, Gambella, Gewane, Mankush, Mieso, Mille Mytseberi, Nura Era, Quara, Semera, and recorded 38.6, 37.5, 40.0, 40.0, 41.0, 44.0, 44.2, 35.6, 42.6, 35.0, 36.5, 42.5, 36.6, 36.2, 39.0 and 44.1°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

The decade under view June 2014, Kiremt rainfall activities strengthened over western half and expanded to central, southern and south eastern parts of the country. As a result of this, western and central Tigray, much of Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella, Much of Oromia, SNNPR, and north Somali received 5 to 124 mm of rainfall for 2 to 9 days. Heavy fall 30.4 to 65.0mm was reported over Chagni, Dangila, Algae, Gore, Masha and Adet in one rainy day.

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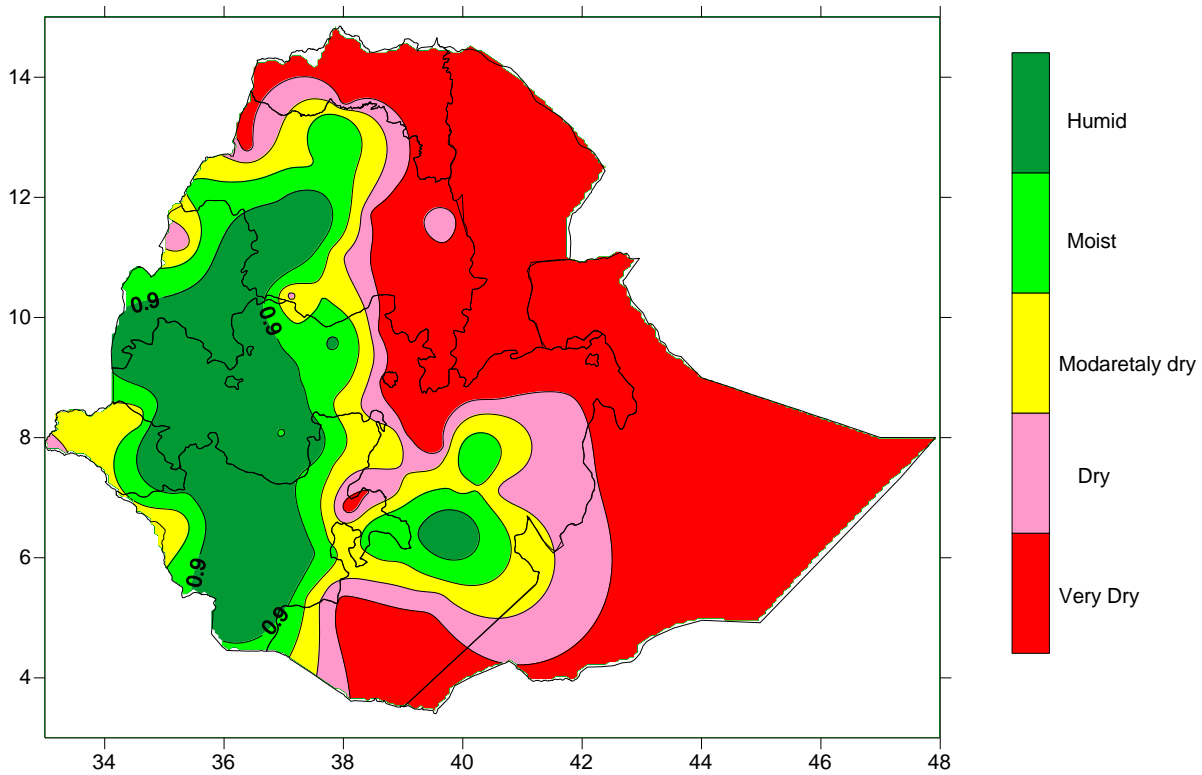


Fig.3 Moisture Status for (1-10 June 2014)

Much of southwestern Amhara, SNNPR, Bensahgul-Ggumuz, southwestern and southeastern Oromia and eastern Gambela experienced humid to moist condition. Some place of central and western Amhara, western Gambela and southeastern Oromia and pocket areas of southwestern Tigray, eastern Amhara, and western Bensahgul-Ggumuz exhibited moderately dry moisture condition. This situation might have favor ongoing agricultural activities. While the rest parts of the country priveiled under dry to very dry condition.

2.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DEKAD

In the coming ten day of June 2014, near normal to above normal rainfall will expect over Gambela, SNNPR, Benishangul-Gumuz, western and central Oromia, western Amhara, western Tigray and western SNNPR. In addition to this, eastern Tigray and Amhara, central, eastern and including southern high lands of Oromia, eastern SNNPR and north Somali will expect near normal to below normal over some places. This situation, with the exception of areas will expect to receive below normal rainfall. The situation will favor the ongoing agricultural activities such as land preparation, sowing of Meher grains, pulses and oil crops, water requirement for long cycle Meher crops and perennial plants. The situation is also conducive for double cropping, inter cropping and green manure and forage crops growing, in areas where length of growing period is long enough and temperature is suitable for double cropping. Hence, we would like to advice farmers and the concerned bodies to practice these farming systems at least on certain limited plot of land. On the other hand, the aforementioned below normal rainfall areas will expect a negative impact on ongoing agricultural activities.