

11-20 July 2014 Vol. 25 No.20

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SUMMARY

During the first ten days of July 20014, gradually strengthen of rain bearing meteorological phenomena, received rainfall widely cover most of kiremt rain benefiting areas of the country. In line with this, Tigray, Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella, much of Oromia, SNNPR, Harari, DireDawa, southern Afar and northern Somali received light to heavy rainfall. As a result of this, Mankush, Negelle, Gida Ayana, Kachise, Masha, Bahir Dar, Arjo, Debra Markos, Limugent, Jimma, Adama, Nekemte, Gimbi, Algae, Chewaka and Adewa received heavy falls raging from 32 to 59.3 mm in one rainy day. Moreover, rainfall following normal trend was expanded over refit valley and eastern parts of Kiremt rain benefiting areas. In general, Tigray, Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, eastern Gambella central, western and including pocket areas southern high lands of Oromia, SNNPR and few place of eastern parts of the country received normal to above normal rainfall, while, the rest parts of the country, experienced below normal rainfall. The situation favored long cycle, meher crops perennial plant, land preparation, sowing of cereals (Teff, wheat and barley etc.), pulse (beans, peas and haricot beans) and oil crops (linseed and Nug or Niger seed etc.), improve pasture and drinking water availability in postural agro pastoral areas of the country. On the other hand, below normal rainfall experienced over some kiremt rain benefiting areas, might have negative impact on seasonal agricultural activities.

During the second ten days of July 20014, rain bearing meteorological phenomena was strengthen in amount and distribution over most kiremt rain benefiting areas of the country. In line with this, Tigray, Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella, much of Oromia, SNNPR, Harari, DireDawa, Afar and northern Somali received light to heavy rainfall ranging from 36.5-191.3 mm. Some station reported heavy fall ranging from 30.0 – 59.8 mm of rainfall in one rainy day over Laybire, Kachise, Kore, Pawe, Sholagebeya, Adewa, Motta, Gidoayana, Chewaka, Gudomeskel, Hosahna, Gambela and Nekemt. The situation favored long cycle, Meher crops perennial plant, land preparation, sowing of cereals (Teff, wheat and barley etc.), pulse (beans, peas and haricot beans) and oil crops (linseed and Nug or Niger seed etc.), improve pasture and drinking water availability in postural agro pastoral areas of the country. On the other hand, below normal rainfall experienced over some kiremt rain benefiting areas, might have negative impact on seasonal agricultural activities.

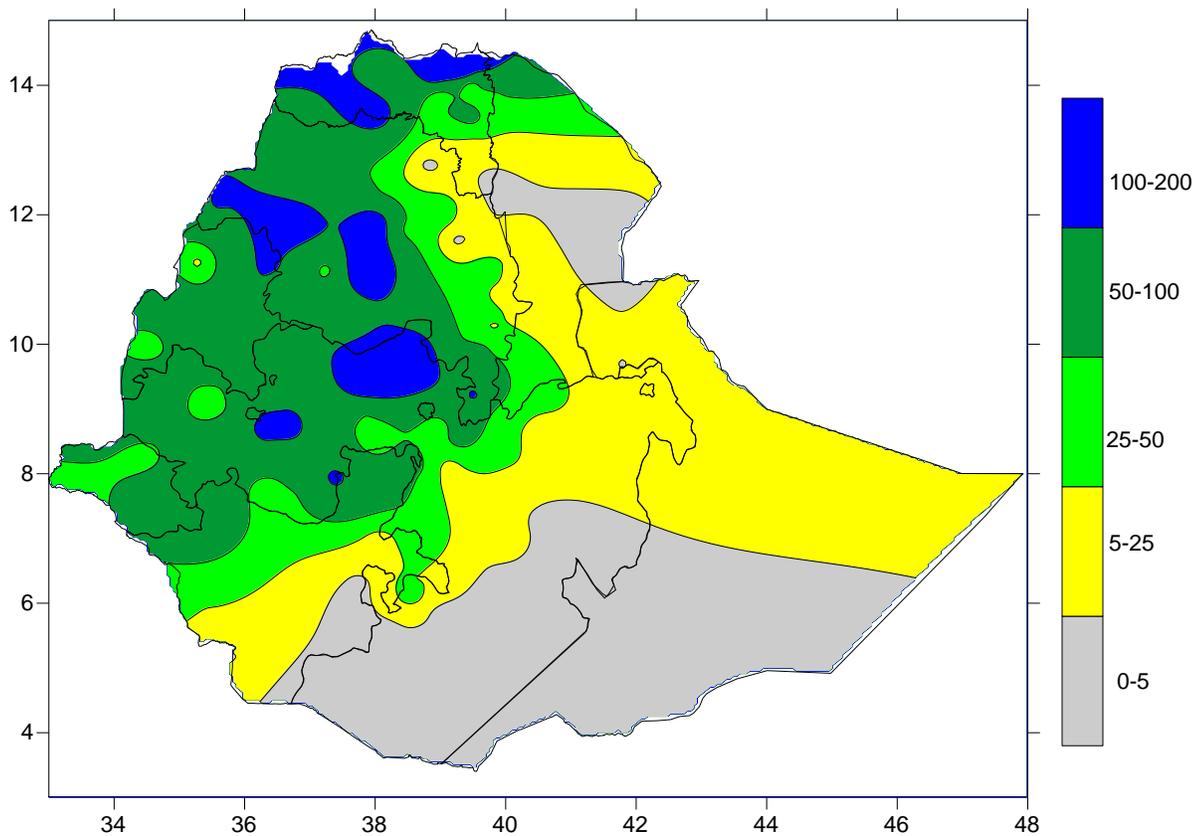


Fig. 1. Rainfall distribution in mm (11-20 July 2014)

1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

1.1 RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.1)

Some parts of western and northern Tigray, western and central Amhara and northern and pocket areas of western Oromia received 100-200 mm of rainfall. Most parts of Tigray, western, southern and central Amhara, Benshangul-Gumuze, Gambela, western and southwestern Oromia and northern and northwestern SNNPR and northern Afar experienced 50-100 mm of rainfall. Northern and southern Afar, Amhara, eastern and southwestern Oromia, southern and southwestern SNNPR exhibited 25-50 mm of rainfall. Southern and central Afar, eastern Amhara, eastern and southeastern Oromia, eastern and southeastern SNNPR and much of Somalia received 5-25 mm of rainfall. The rest parts of the country experienced little or no rainfall.

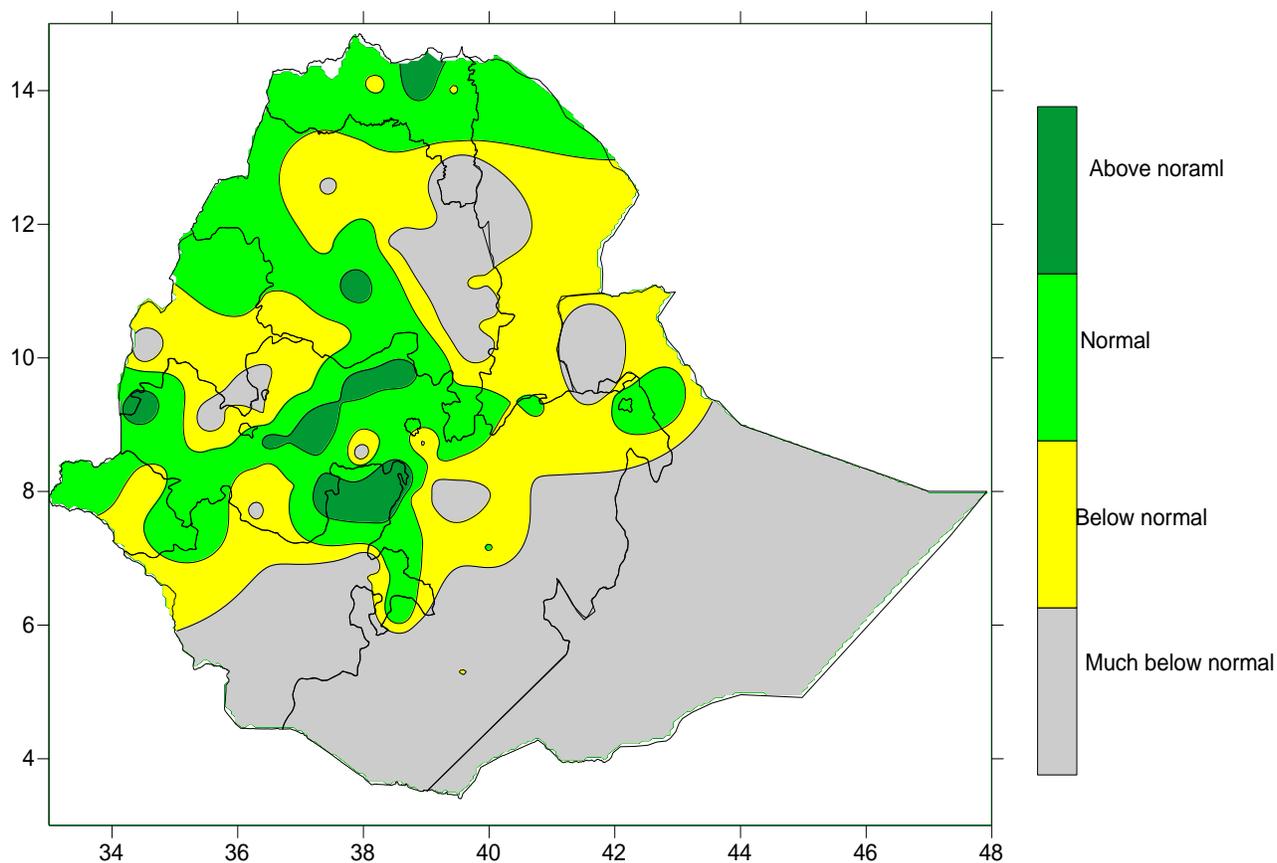


Fig2. Percent of normal rainfall distribution (11-20 July 2014)

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)

Most parts of Tigray, western and southern Amhara, southwestern and central Oromia, northern and SNNPR, parts of northern Benshangul-Gumuze, western and eastern Gambela, northern and pocket areas of southern Afar exhibited normal to above normal rainfall. 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: Metehara, Gode, Dire Dawa, Awash Arba, Cheffa, Chifra, Elidar, Gewane, Meiso, Semera and Tsitsika recorded 38.5, 35.5, 37.5, 39.5, 36.4, 35.6, 43.8, 42.6, 35.6, 44.1 , and 36.1 °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 second ten days of July 20014, rain bearing meteorological phenomena was strengthen in amount and distribution over most kiremt rain benefiting areas of the country. In line with this, Tigray, Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella, much of Oromia, SNNPR, Harari, DireDawa, Afar and northern Somali received light to heavy rainfall ranging from 36.5-191.3 mm. Some station reported heavy fall ranging from 30.0 – 59.8 mm of rainfall in one rainy day over Laybire, Kachise, Kore, Pawe, Sholagebeya, Adewa, Motta, Gidoayana, Chewaka, Gudomeskel, Hosahina, Gambela and Nekemt. The situation favored long cycle, Meher crops perennial plant, land preparation, sowing of cereals (Teff, wheat and barley etc.), pulse(bears, peas and haricot beans) and oil crops(linseed and Nug or Niger seed etc.), improve pasture and drinking water availability in postural agro pastoral areas of the country. On the other hand, below normal rainfall experienced over some Kiremt rain benefitting areas, might have negative impact on seasonal agricultural activities.

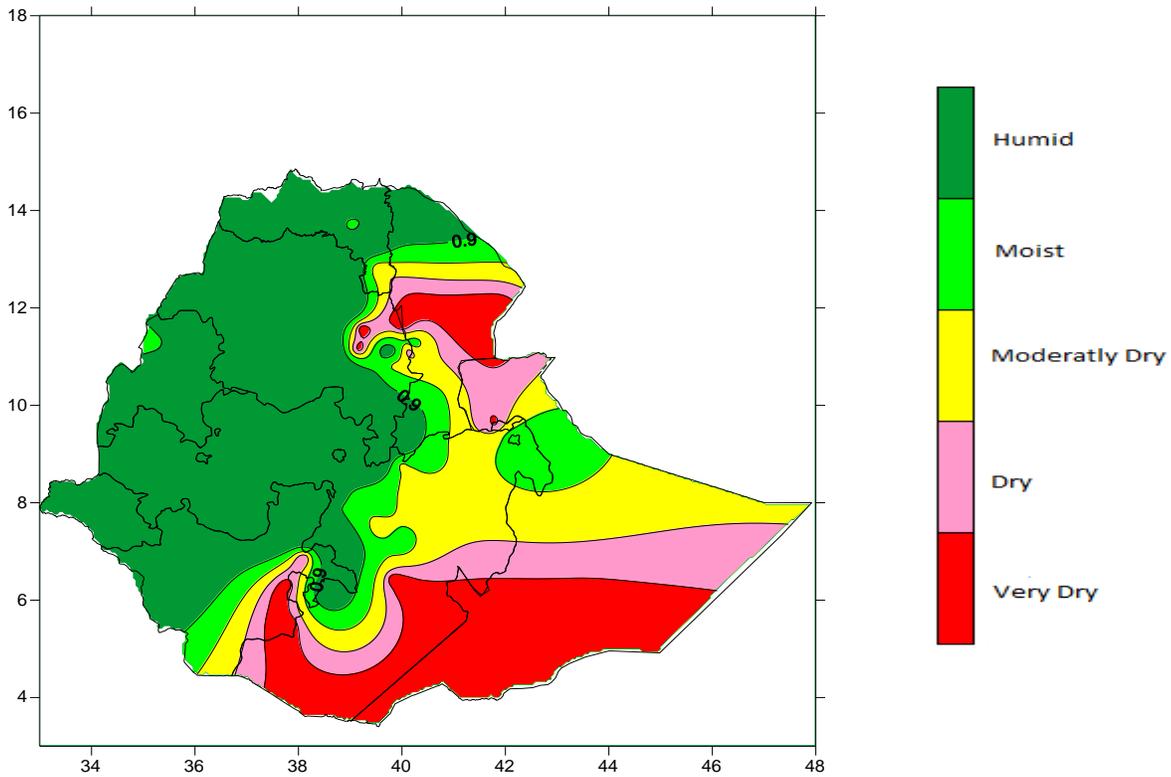


Fig.3 Moisture Status for (11-20 July 2014)

As indicated the moisture map above, much of Tigray, Amhara, Benishangul- Gumuz, Gambella, western SNNPR, western half Oromia, northern Afar and parts of northern Somali experienced moist to humid moisture condition. Much of north Somali, parts of north and southern Afar, parts of eastern and southern Oromia Southern SNNPR, and central Somali exhibited moderately dry moist condition. The situation is conducive for ongoing Mehre agricultural activities and abalibility of pasture. While, the rest parts of the country experienced dry to very dry moisture condition.

2.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DEKAD

In the coming third dekade of July 2014, Kiremt rain bearing meteorological phenomenon was strengthen over most kiremt rain benefitting areas of the country. Much of Tigray, western and central Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella western and central Oromia, northern portion of SNNPR will expect to receive normal to above normal rain fall. On the other hand, , eastern Amhara, Afar, eastern Oromia, Harari, Dire dawa, northern Somali and southern portion of SNNPR and the high lands of southern Oromia will expect to exhibit near normal rainfall while in some aforementioned areas will anticipated below normal rainfall. The situation will expect to favor ongoing agricultural activities like sowing of short cycle Meher crops particularly Teff which need saturated soil moisture condition, water requirement of long cycle meher crops, perennial plants, improve pasture and drinking water availability in postural agro pastoral areas of the country. Besides, heavy fall will expect over some place may have cause flash flood that result in soil and crops erosion and water logging over river banks and flood prone in the aforementioned areas of the country. We recommended row planting, furrow and channel making, terracing and planting moisture tolerant crops. In areas where below normal rainfall was expected farmers and the concerned bodies must take close attention to use the limited amount of moisture and farmer are advised to sow or plant their crops as soon as possible to reduce moisture stress may will occur during critical stage of growth at end of the season. In some cases, limited early plant of some crops may give chance of double cropping where temperature is favorable to do so.