

NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AGENCY

TEN-DAY AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

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SUMMARY

During the first ten days of September 2014, Kiremt rain bearing meteorological phenomenon continued in similar strengthen of previous decade which result in rainfall widely cover most of kiremt rain benefiting areas of the country. As a result of this, Tigray, Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella, SNNPR, much of Oromia, Harari, DireDawa, Afar and northern Somali received light to heavy rainfall. Besides this, the cessation of the season is regular and follow normal trend. Hence, the situation favored water requirement of crops particularly late sown (Teff) due to dry spell prevailed at critical time of sowing over some places and not fully attend normal growth phase, perennial plants, pasture and drinking water availability over pastoral and agro pastoral parts of the country. Moreover, sunny condition in interval of time is good for photosynthetic and weeding activities. The sunny condition in interval of time, is also supported convective cloud development that resulted in heavy falls ranging from 30.5 to 96.0mm over Mieso, Bullen, Shaura, Bedelle, Matsyimier, J ijiga, Mash, Nedjo, Aman, Mankush, Ejaji, Limugent, Jimma, Gambella, Harari, Bore, Mirab Abaya, Nefasmewucha, Kachisie, Enewary, Abomsa and Nura-Era. The heavy falls with thunder storm, hail and strong wind caused damage to sorghum crop in the field at Bati and Elidar as report received from stations indicated. In addition to this, flash flood and river over flow and water logging might have caused minor negative impact on seasonal agricultural activities and life of livestock. Contrary to these, heavy falls might have favored water harvesting and conservation in areas where this practice is inhabited.

During the second dekad of September, 2014, rain bearing meteorological phenomenon showed relative increase in amount and distribution over all Kerimt rain benefiting areas of the country. More over much of Tigray, Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella, SNNPR, Oromia, Afar, Dire Dawa, Hararri and north Somali received light to heavy rainfall ranging from 5 to 196 mm of rainfall for 2 to 10 days. The situation favored water requirement of Meher crops that was found at different phonological phases and perennial plants. Moreover the rainfall received over some parts of south and south eastern low lands of pastoral and agro pastoral parts of the country might have favored of the improvement of drinking water available and pasture. On the other hand, heavy falls ranging from 32.2 to 86.9 mm experienced over Bahir Dare, Atsibi, Aykel, Dangla, Bullen, Gidoayana, Nejo, Gore and Addis Ababa in one rainy day this might have a negative impact on going agricultural activities.

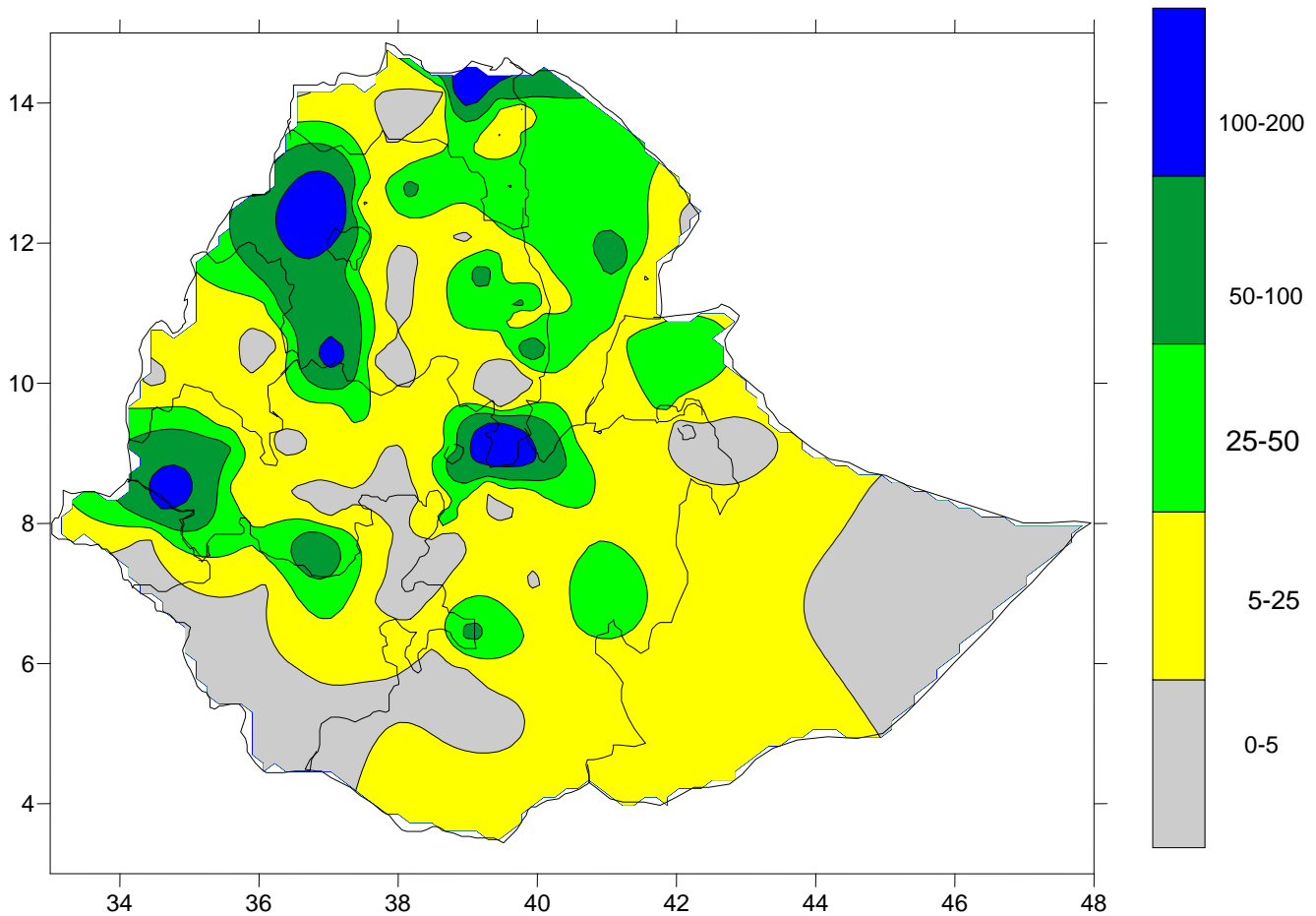


Fig 1. Rainfall distribution in mm (11-20 September 2014)

1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

11-20 September 2014

1.1 RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.1)

Some parts of northern tip of Tigray, western and southwestern Amhara, central and western Oromia received 100-200 mm of rainfall. Northern Tigray, northern and central Afar, much of southwestern and pocket areas of central Amhara, northeastern Benshangul- Gumuz, much of western, central and pocket areas of northern and southwestern Oromia received 50-100 mm of rainfall. Much of Afar, southern and central Tigray, northern, central and southeastern Amhara, northern and northeastern Benshangul;-Gumuz, some parts of western, southeastern, central and some places of south and southeastern Oromia and northern parts of Somalia experienced 25-50 mm of rainfall. Much of western, northern and some places of eastern Tigray, central and eastern Amhara, Benshangul Gumuz, Oromia, Somalia and western Gambela exhibited 5-25 mm of rainfall. The rest parts of the country experienced little or no rainfall.

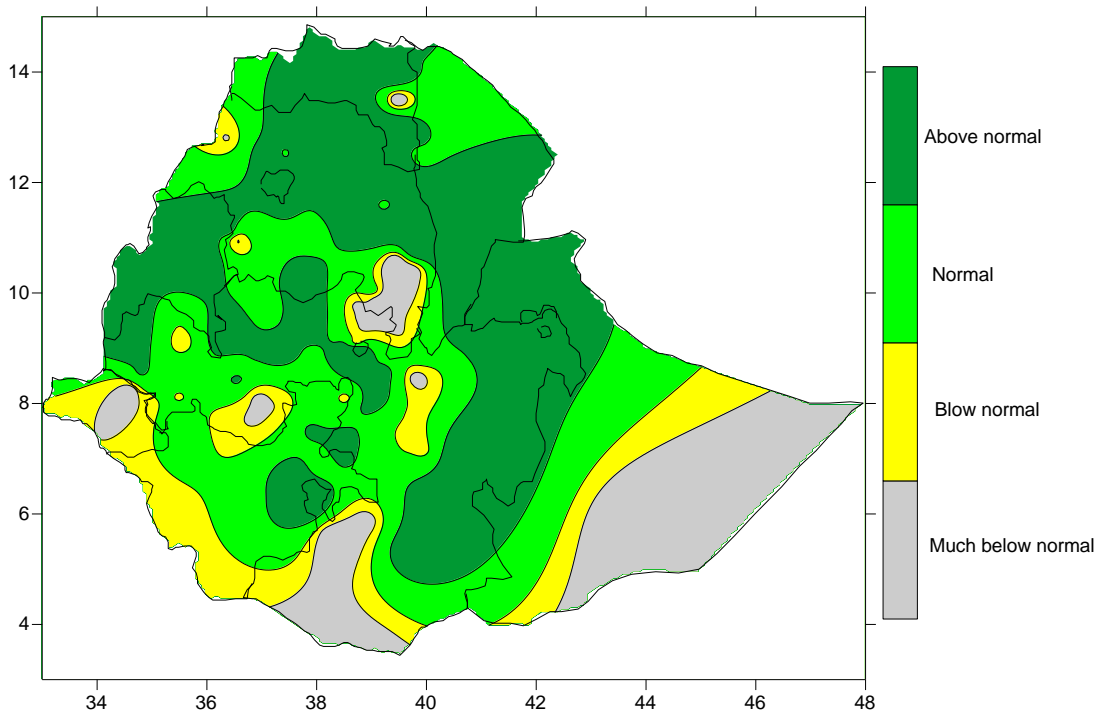


Fig2. Percent of normal rainfall distribution (11-20 September, 2014)

Explanatory notes for the legend:

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

1.2. RAINFALL ANOMALY (Fig. 2)

Most parts of Tigray, Amhara, Afar, Benshangul-Gumuze, Oroamia, Hararri, Dire Dawa, northern and eastern SNNPR, northern and western Somali experienced normal to above normal rainfall. The rest parts of the country exhibited below to much below normal rainfall.

1.3. TEMPERATURE ANOMALY

Some stations over lowlands of the country reported extreme maximum temperature greater than 35°C. Among the reporting stations Semera, Gewan, Elidar, Metehara and Gode reported 41.5, 38.8, 40.0, 35.5 and 37.5° C respectively. The situation might have a negative impact on the normal growth and development of plants and livestock.

2.0 AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

2.1. VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

In the dekade under review September second, 2014 rain bearing meteorological phenomenon showed relative increase in amount and distribution over all Kerimt rain benefiting areas of the country. More over much of Tigray, Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambela, SNNPR, Oromia, Afar, Dire Dawa, Hararri and north Somali received light to heavy rainfall ranging from 5 to 196 mm of rainfall for 2 to 10 days. The situation favored water requirement of Meher crops that was found at different phonological phases and perennial plants. Moreover the rainfall received over some parts of south and south eastern low lands of pastoral and agro pastoral parts of the country might have favored of the improvement of drinking water available and pasture. On the other hand, heavy falls ranging from 32.2 to 86.9 mm experienced over Bahir Dare, Atsibi, Aykel, Dangla, Bullen, Gidoayana, Nejo, Gore and Addis Ababa in one rainy day this might have a negative impact on going agricultural activities.

2.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DEKAD

In the coming ten days of September 2014, the rainfall performance will expected better performance over western and southern parts of the country. As a result the high lands of western, northwester, southwestern and southern of the country perform better Kiremt rainfall. In addition to this the low lands of southern and southeastern parts of the country will perform rainfall for few days. Western Amhara, western Oromia, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambela, SNNPR will expect to receive normal to above normal rainfall while Tigray, eastern Amhara, central and eastern Oromia, Dire Darwa, Hararri and northern Somalia will perform near normal to below normal rainfall. These situations favored ongoing agricultural activities, water requirement for perennial crops and improvement of pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agro pastoral areas of the country. On the other hand northeastern low lands and adjoining areas of the country will expect dry and sunny while some places of northern, central and eastern parts of the country will expect a decrease in amount and distribution of rainfall. Hence would like to advice farmers and the concerned bodies to take appropriate water harvest activities to minimize the risk.

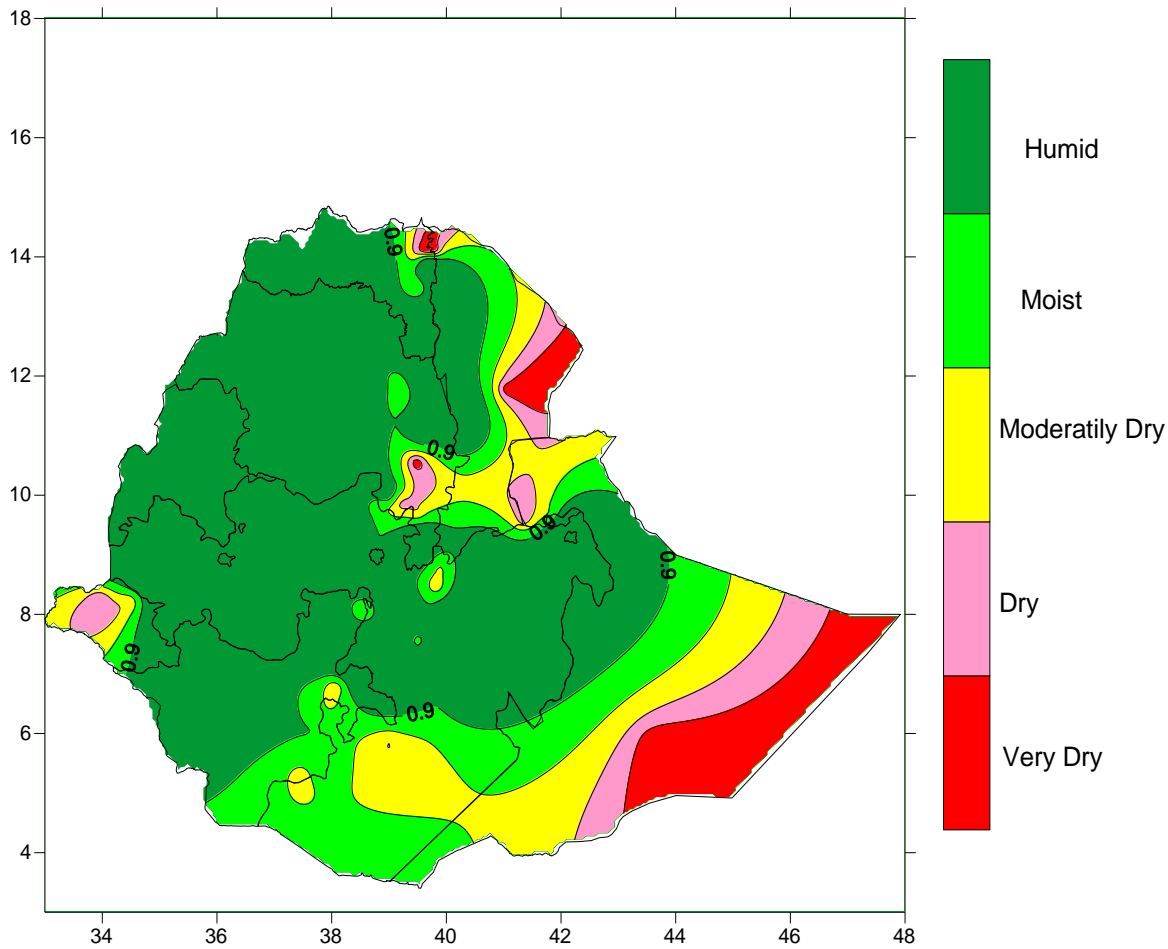


Fig.3 Moisture Status for (11-20 September 2014)

As indicated on moisture map above, much of Tigray, Ahara, Benishangul- Gumuz, SNNPR, Oromia, eastern half of Gambella, western half and parts of southern Afar and parts of north and central Somali experienced moist to humid moisture condition. Parts of eastern Tigray, southern Amhara, central and parts southern Afar, north and central Somali, pocket areas of central and southern Oromia, Southern SNNPR and central and northern margin of Gambella exhibited moderately dry condition. While, the rest parts of the country experienced dry to very dry condition.