



KMD

# AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

## KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

26th Dekad, 11th to 20th September 2008

Issue No. 26/2008,      Season: ASO

### HIGHLIGHTS

- *During the 26th Dekad i.e. 11th to 20th September 2008 moderate to heavy rainfall was experienced over the Western, Nyanza, and parts Central Rift Valley provinces, with Kakamega, Kisii, Kisumu, Kitale, Eldoret, Eldoret Airport, Nakuru, Kericho, Nyahururu Narok recording a Dekadal total of 106.9, 35.0, 53.5, 58.0, 84.4, 105.4, 58.0, 123.8, 50.0, 23.0 mm respectively. Central province, Nairobi area, its environ, parts of Eastern province bordering Mt, Kenya experienced light rainfall with Nyeri, Dagoretti, Wilson Airport, Kabete recording 3.7, 12.6, 76.9, 61.6, 52.8mm respectively. The Coast province experienced light rainfall with Mtwapa, Malindi and Mombasa recording 6.4, 6.5 and 2.2mm respectively during the Dekad. The rest of the country remained generally dry.*
- *Day time temperatures were relatively warm over most parts of the country. Night temperatures were moderately warm except for some parts of Central Highlands, Nairobi Area and its environs, Central Rift Valley which experienced cool weather conditions, with Nyahururu recording a minimum mean of 7.6 deg Celsius and a Dekadal minimum mean of 9.0 deg Celsius, and Nairobi, Mombasa and Malindi recording a Dekadal mean of 18.4, 24.8, 24.2 deg Celsius (Fig 2)*
- *The pastoral regions and game parks of Northern Rift Valley, Southern Rift Valley, North Eastern and South Eastern lowlands, experienced light or no rains at all resulting in inadequate pastures and water for livestock and wildlife. Incidences of wildlife and human conflict have been reported in areas bordering game parks and game reserves. (Figs. 1, 2 & 3).*
- *Hunger and other drought related impacts are being experienced in some regions of Central, Eastern and Northeastern Provinces, Northern and Southern Rift Valley Province which received inadequate rainfall during the growing season.*

## **CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW** **(1st to 10th September 2008)**

### **Central Province and Nairobi area:**

Light rainfall was experienced over several parts of Central province, Nairobi area and its environs. In the high ground areas harvesting of maize crop is complete with below normal yields being reported. Land preparations in readiness the Short Rains Season is in progress. For the low lying areas, of Nyeri North, Kirinyaga, Muranga, Kiambu, Thika and Maragua Districts famine is being experienced, but food distribution is already in place for the most vulnerable households in in this districts. (Figs.1, 2, & 3).

### **Eastern Province:**

Light rainfall was experienced in parts Embu and Meru districts bordering Mt. Kenya. Maize crop harvesting is complete with below normal yields being reported. In the lowland areas of Mbeere District, the maize crop hunger is looming and food distribution is taking place for the most vulnerable households. (Figs.1, 2, & 3).

In the Southern Lowlands (Machakos, Makueni, Mwingi and Kitui districts) light or no rains was experienced, but hot and dry conditions dominated this region. Land preparation is taking place in readiness for the Short Rains Season. Famine and its related impacts is being experienced in most parts in these regions and food distribution is highly required to avert the current food situation.

Pastures and water for livestock and wildlife is inadequate and animal human conflict may arise especially for the areas bordering the game parks/reserves. Loss of livestock through death is also likely. (Figs.1, 2, & 3).

### **Coast Province:**

Light rainfall was received in this region during the review period. Maize crop is at the maturity stage and harvesting is commencing with above normal yields being reported. (Figs.1, 2)

### **North Eastern Province:**

Light or no rains at all was experienced during the dekad resulting in inadequate pastures and water for for livestock, wildlife and human use. Hunger is looming and malnutrition levels are on the rise among children, therefore urgent measures are required to save the situation. Death of livestock is on the increase has been reported in some areas within the province. (Figs.1, 2, & 3).

**Western Province:**

Light to moderate rainfall were received in several places in this region (Kakamega, Bungoma, Busia, Eldoret and Kitale). Maize crop is at maturity stages and is corresponding to normal growth with normal yields expected. The only adverse effect reported at Kakamega was Hailstone on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2008 which caused serious damage to the bean which was at the emergence stage. (Figs.1 & 2).

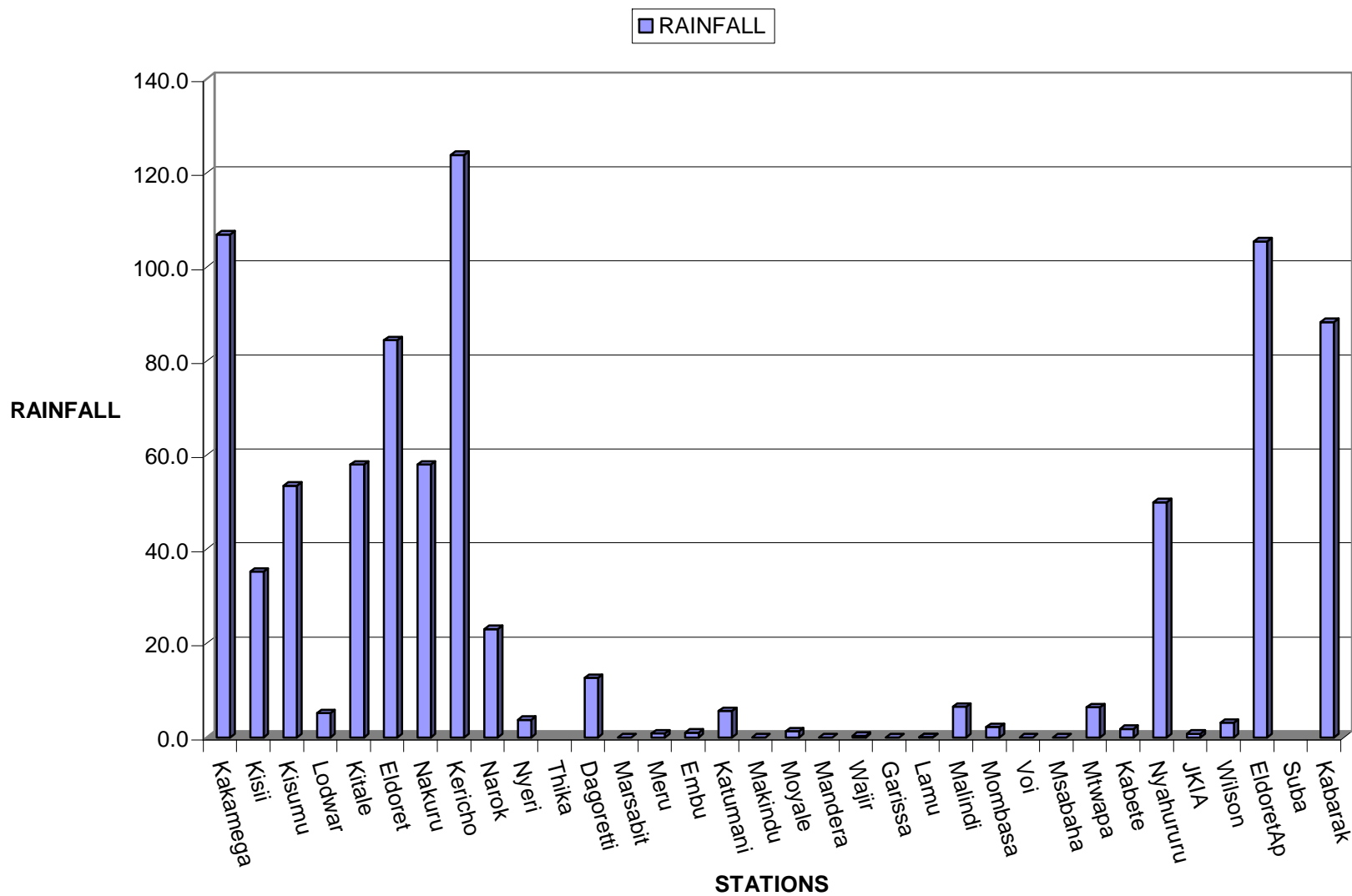
**Nyanza and Central Rift Valley:**

Light to moderate rainfall was received in this region. In Nyanza land preparation in readiness for the short rain season is in progress. For Central Rift Valley crops are doing well and corresponding to normal growth with normal yeilds being expected. In areas around Kisii several farmers have planted and the maize and beans are at the emergenc stages. (Figs 1 & 2)

**Northern and Southern Rift Valley:**

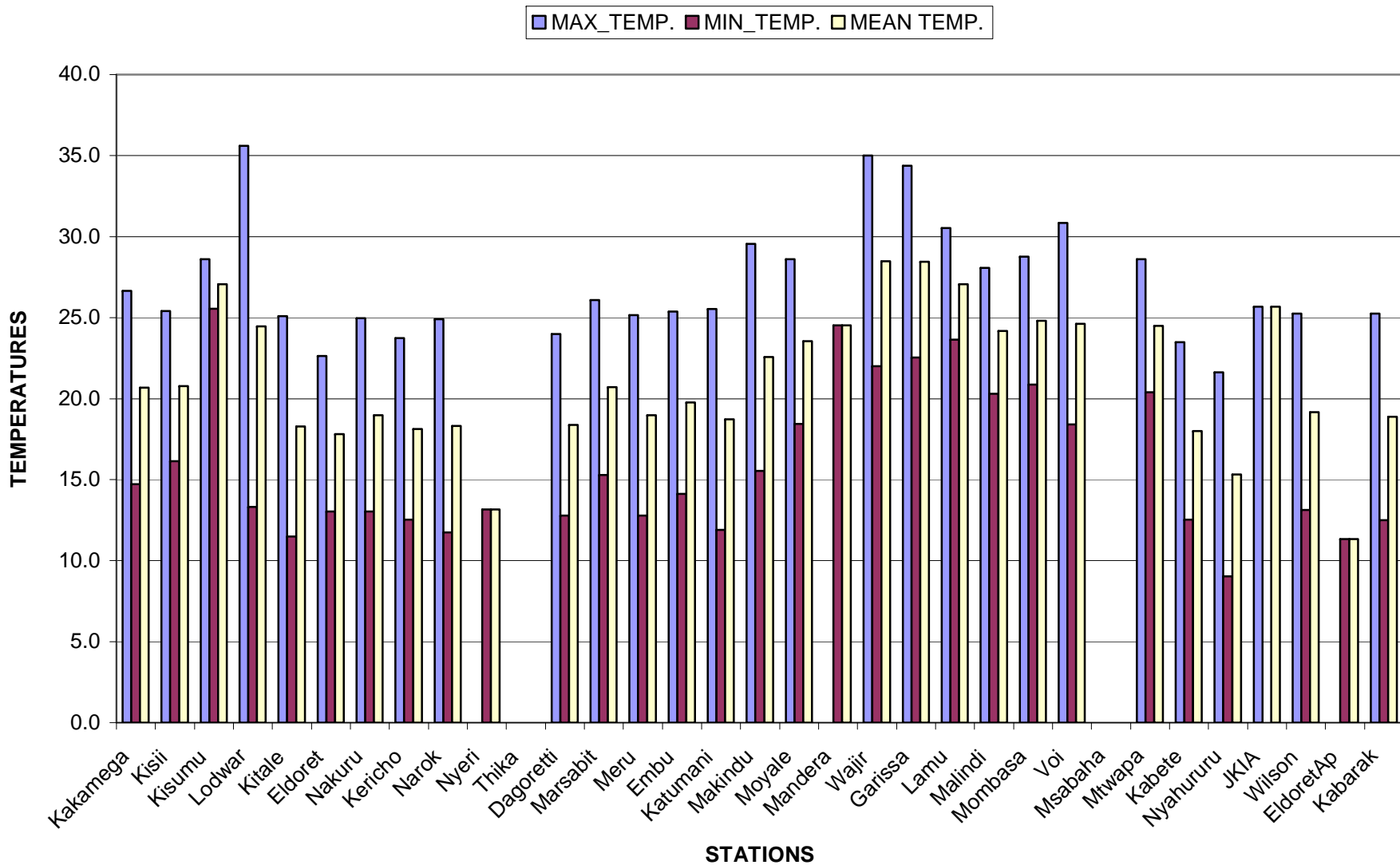
Light or no rain were reported in the Northern Rift and North Western regions during the dekad. Hot and dry conditions dominated these regions resulting in inadequate pastures and water sources for both domestic and livestock. For the game parks/reserves, indequate pasture, browse and water may cause animal /human conflict while migrating in search of food and water. Hunger is looming and malnutrition levels are on the rise among children and therefore urgent measures are required to save the situation. Loss of livestock through starvation is also likely. (Figs.1-3).

## DEKADAL RAINFALL



**Fig. 1: Actual Rainfall (11th to 20th September 2008) in mm**

## DEKADAL TEMERATURES



**Fig 2: Mean Temperatures (11th to 20th September 2008) deg. Celsius**

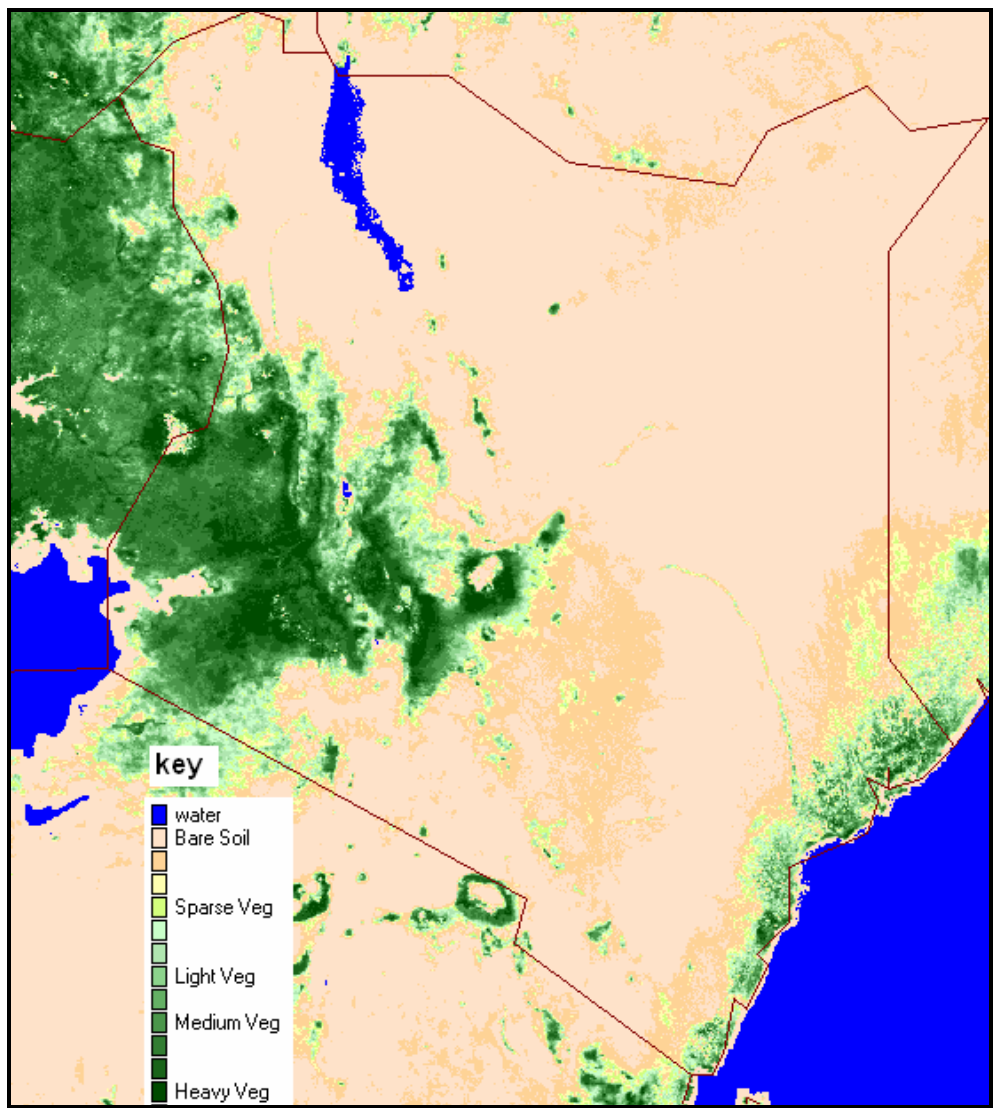


Fig. 3: Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (11th to 20th September 2008)

## **EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS (21st –30th September 2008).**

During the next 10 days (21st –30th September 2008), Western, Nyanza and Central Rift Valley regions are expected to experience light to moderate to heavy rainfall over several places. Crops are expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth with normal yields being expected.

Central Highlands, Nairobi area and its environs, are expected to experience sunny and dry conditions with light rains in few places. Land preparations in readiness for short rain season are expected to continue.

In Eastern Province regions of Embu and Meru districts bordering Mt Kenya are expected to experience sunny and dry conditions with light rains in few places. Land preparations in readiness for short rain season are expected to continue.

In South-Eastern lowlands, dry and hot conditions are expected prevail resulting in inadequate pastures and water for human, livestock and wildlife use. Several livelihoods experiencing the impacts of drought that has hit the region. Land preparations in readiness for short rain season are expected to continue.

The Coastal region is expected to experience sunny and dry conditions with light rains. Harvesting of maize crop is expected to continue.

In the pastoral regions of Northwestern, Northeastern and South Rift Valley districts sunny and dry conditions are expected to prevail, resulting in poor pastures and inadequate drinking water for human and animal/wildlife use. Hunger and death of livestock is likely to be on the increase as has been reported in some parts of Northeastern province.

In summary maize crop is at the maturity stage in most places of Western Kenya and parts of central Rift Valley around Kakamega, Kitale and Eldoret and is corresponding to normal growth with normal yields being expected. Land preparation in readiness for the short rain season is expected to continue in Central, Eastern, Rift valley and Nairobi Provinces.

***This product should be used in conjunction with Kenya Meteorological Department weather forecasts***

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