



KMD

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

11th Dekad, 11th to 20th April, 2009

Issue No. 11/2009, Season: MAM

HIGHLIGHTS

- *During the 11th Dekad i.e. 11th – 20th April 2009, most parts of the country experienced significant rainfall. Moderate to heavy rainfall was experienced over western and Nyanza Provinces and Central Rift Valley, with Kakamega, Kisii, Kisumu, Kericho, Kitale, Eldoret, Nakuru, and Narok recording 93.7, 137.5, 161.5, 144.1, 90.4, 71.1, 41.0 and 62.6mm respectively. Central Province, areas bordering Mt Kenya, Nairobi Area and its environs experienced light to moderate rainfall with Nyeri-2.2 mm Embu-23.4mm, Meru-32.1mm, Thika- 2.7mm, Dagoretti-20.8mm and Kabete-10.4mm. The Southeastern Lowlands of Eastern Province received light to moderate rainfall Katumani and Makindu recording 55.3 and 15.0mm. The Coast region experienced light to moderate rainfall with Mombasa, Mtwapa and Mshabaha recording, 7.3, 11.8 and 31.1mm respectively. Northeastern experienced dry and sunny conditions with light rains over few places, except Moyale which recorded a Dekadal total of 36.2mm. (Fig 1)*
- *Day time temperatures were relatively lower over most parts of the country, due to the wet and cool conditions and also the increase in cloud cover during the Dekad with Lodwar, Mandera, Wajir, Garissa, Makindu, Dagoretti and Mombasa recording a Dekadal Mean day Maximum of, 37.1, 38.2, 35.8, 37.5, 32.6, 26.4 and 31.8 deg Celsius respectively . (Fig1, 2, 3)*
- *Night temperatures were relatively warmer over western and Central Rift Valley due also to the increase in cloud cover during the Dekad with Nyahururu, Narok, and Eldoret Airport recording a Dekadal mean minimum of 7.2, 13.5 and 10.9 deg Celsius respectively. (Fig1, 2&3).*

- *In pastoral regions and game parks of Northern Rift Valley, Southern Rift Valley, North Eastern, South Eastern Lowlands and the Coastal regions, experienced light to moderate rainfall which was a relief to the previous acute water shortages for both human and animal use. Despite the rains pastures remained poor resulting in a rise of death of livestock and wildlife death. (Figs. 1- 3)*
- *Incidences of human/wildlife conflict over food and water have been reported to be on the rise, due the recent drought facing the country. (Figs. 1- 3)*
- *Famine and hunger was and is still being experienced in many parts of the Country. Malnutrition levels are high, especially among young children and the elderly in Eastern, Central, Coast, Northeastern, Nyanza and Northern and Southern Rift Valley Provinces. (Figs. 1- 4).*
- *Some activities of concern such as chacoal burning as a source of income and use of wildroots and wild fruits as an alternative source of food are causing health concern as some of these wild roots and fruits are poisonous. Roots remaval poses further land degradation by damaging the regeneration materials thereby exposing the soil to wind and water erosion.*

CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW (11th to 20th April 2009)

Central Province and Nairobi Area:

Moderate to heavy rainfall was experienced over most places in Central province, Nairobi area and its environs during the Dekad. Maize and beans are at emergence stages and are doing well. Famine/hunger is still being experienced in many parts of Muranga, Maragua, Thika, Nyeri- North, Kiambu and Kirinyaga Districts and famine relief efforts are still in place to improve the food situation. (Figs.1-4).

Eastern Province:

Light to moderate rainfall were experienced over most places bordering Mt. Kenya during the Dekad. Maize and beans are at emergence stages and are doing well. Famine/hunger is still being experienced in many parts of Moyale, Isiolo, Tharaka, and Mbeere Districts. (Figs.1-3).

In the Southern Lowlands of the Eastern Province (Machakos, Makueni, Mwingi and Kitui districts), dry and sunny conditions dominated the better part of the Dekad with light rains over few places. Land preparation/planting is taking place. Famine/hunger and its related impacts is being experienced and

malnutrition levels are still high, especially among young children and the elderly. Famine relief efforts are in place to avert loss of human lives

Coast Province:

Light to moderate rainfall was experienced over most places during the Dekad. Land preparation/planting is taking place. Famine/hunger and its related impacts is being experienced and malnutrition levels are still high, especially among young children and the elderly. Famine relief efforts are in place to avert loss of human lives (Figs.1-3)

North Eastern Province:

Sunny and dry conditions dominated the Dekad with light rains being reported over few places. There was a sigh of relief to water sources for livestock, wildlife and human use. Despite the the light rains pastures remained poor and death of livestock and wildlife has been reported in several areas of this region due to the recent severe drought.

Famine/hunger is being experienced in most places. Malnutrition levels are high, especially among young children and the elderly. Food distribution/ vitamin supplements has been taking place. (Figs.1, 2, 3 & 4).

Western Province:

Moderate to heavy rainfall were experienced over several places, during the Dekad over most places of this region (Kakamega, Bungoma, Busia, Eldoret and Kitale). Maize and beans are at emergence stages and are corresponding to normal growth. (Figs.1-3).

Nyanza and Central Rift Valley:

Moderate to heavy rainfall were experienced over several places, during the Dekad over several places in this regions. Maize and beans are at emergence stages and are doing well and corresponding to normal growth. In areas around Kisii maize and bean crops are at the emergence stage and weeding is taking place. (Figs 1-4)

Northern and Southern Rift Valley:

Northern Rift Valley experienced generally sunny and dry conditions with light rains over few places during the dekad this has resulted in pastures and inadequate water sources for livestock, wildlife and human use. This has led to death of livestock and wildlife. (Figs.1-4).

Famine/hunger and its related impacts is being experienced and malnutrition levels are still high, especially among young children and the elderly. Famine reliefs efforts are in place to avert lose of human lives.

Southern Rift Valley experinced light to moderate rainfall, which was a sigh of relief to water sources for livestock, wildlife and human use. Land preparation/panting are complete in most places. Maize and beans are at the emergence stages and are doing well and corresponding to normal growth.

R/FALL DEKADAL 11 GRAGHS

R/FALL

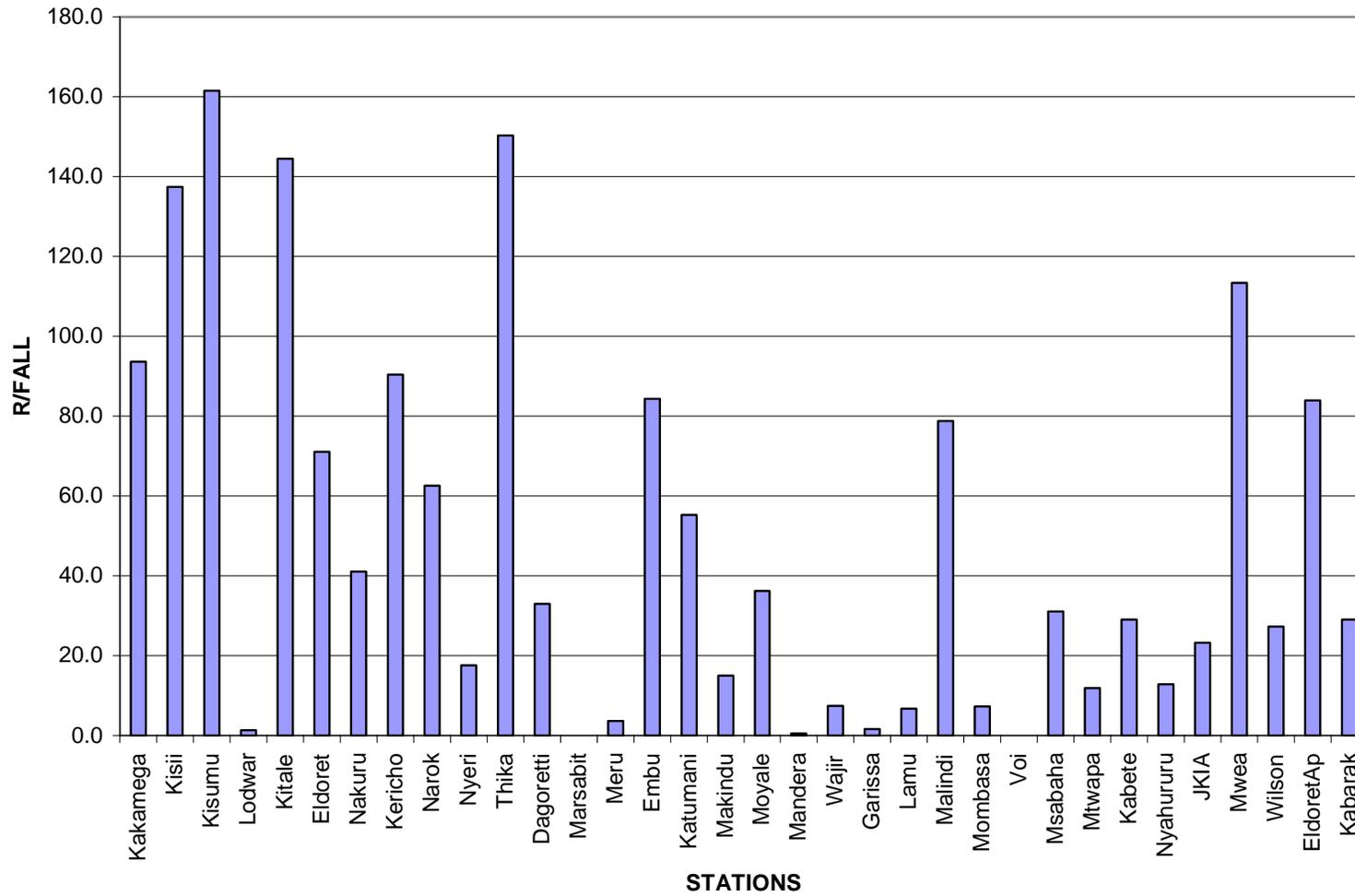


Fig. 1: Actual Rainfall (11th to 20th April, 2009) in mm

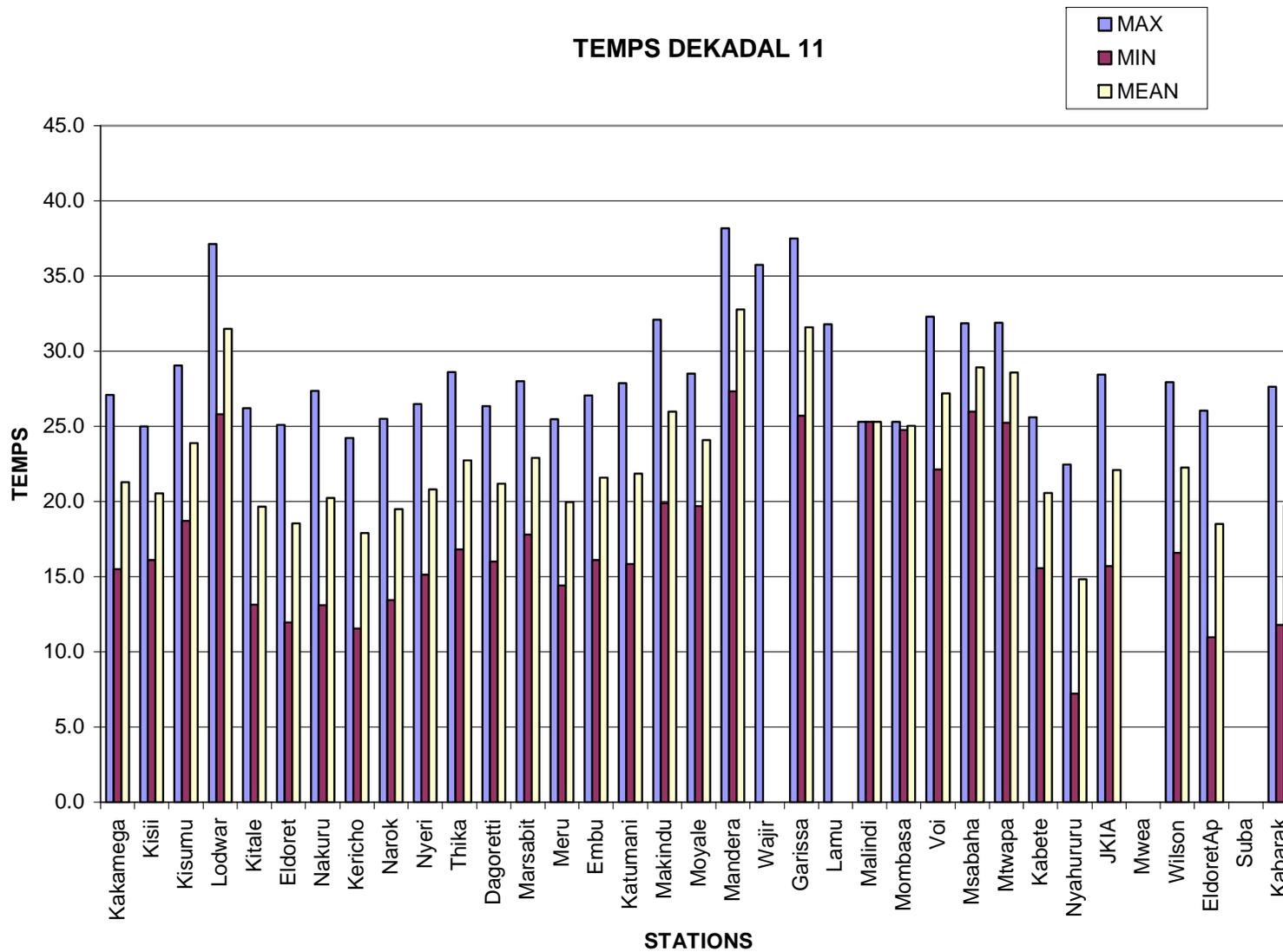


Fig 2: Mean Temperatures (11th to 20th April, 2009) deg. Celsius

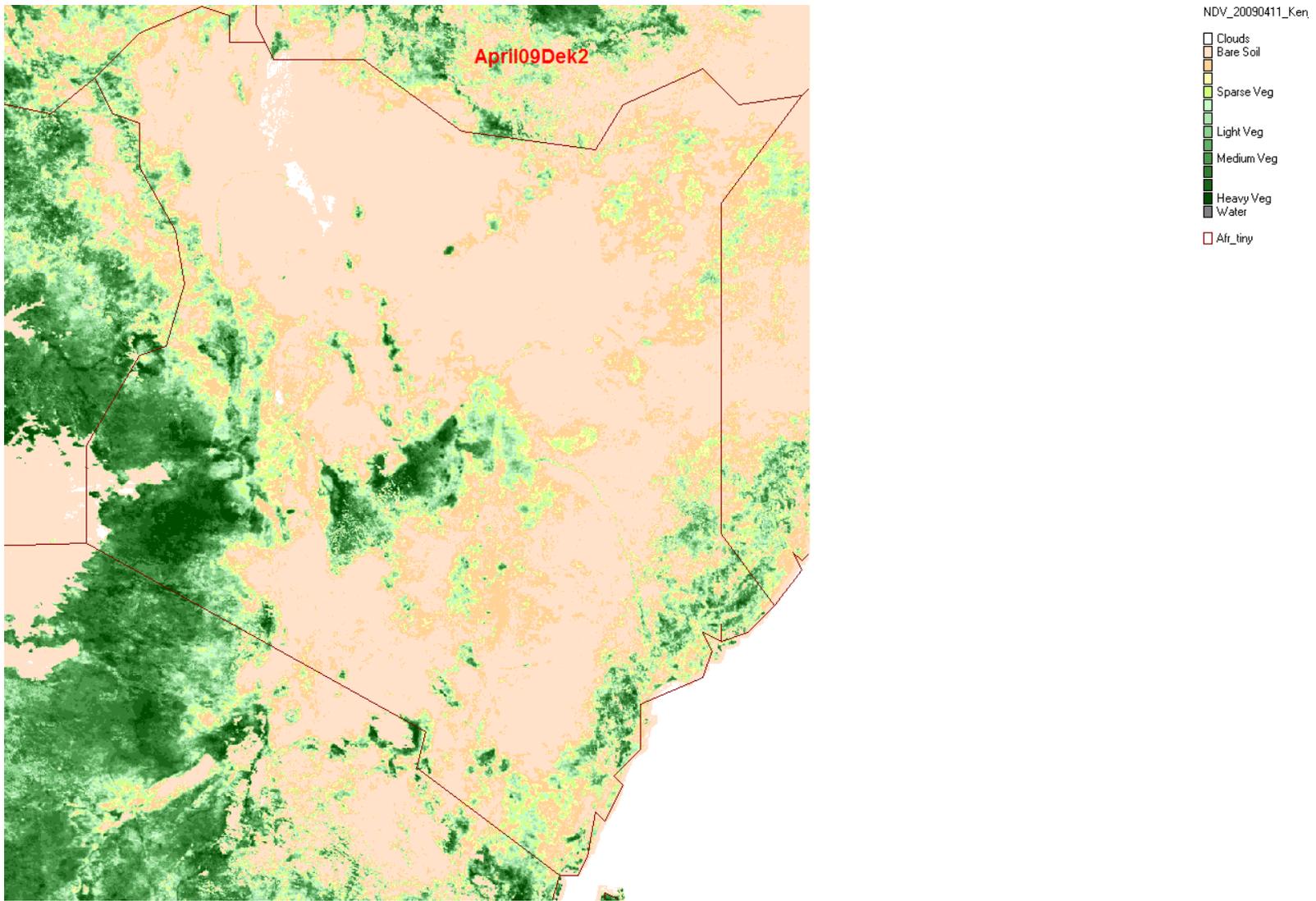


Fig. 3: Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (11th to 20th April, 2009)

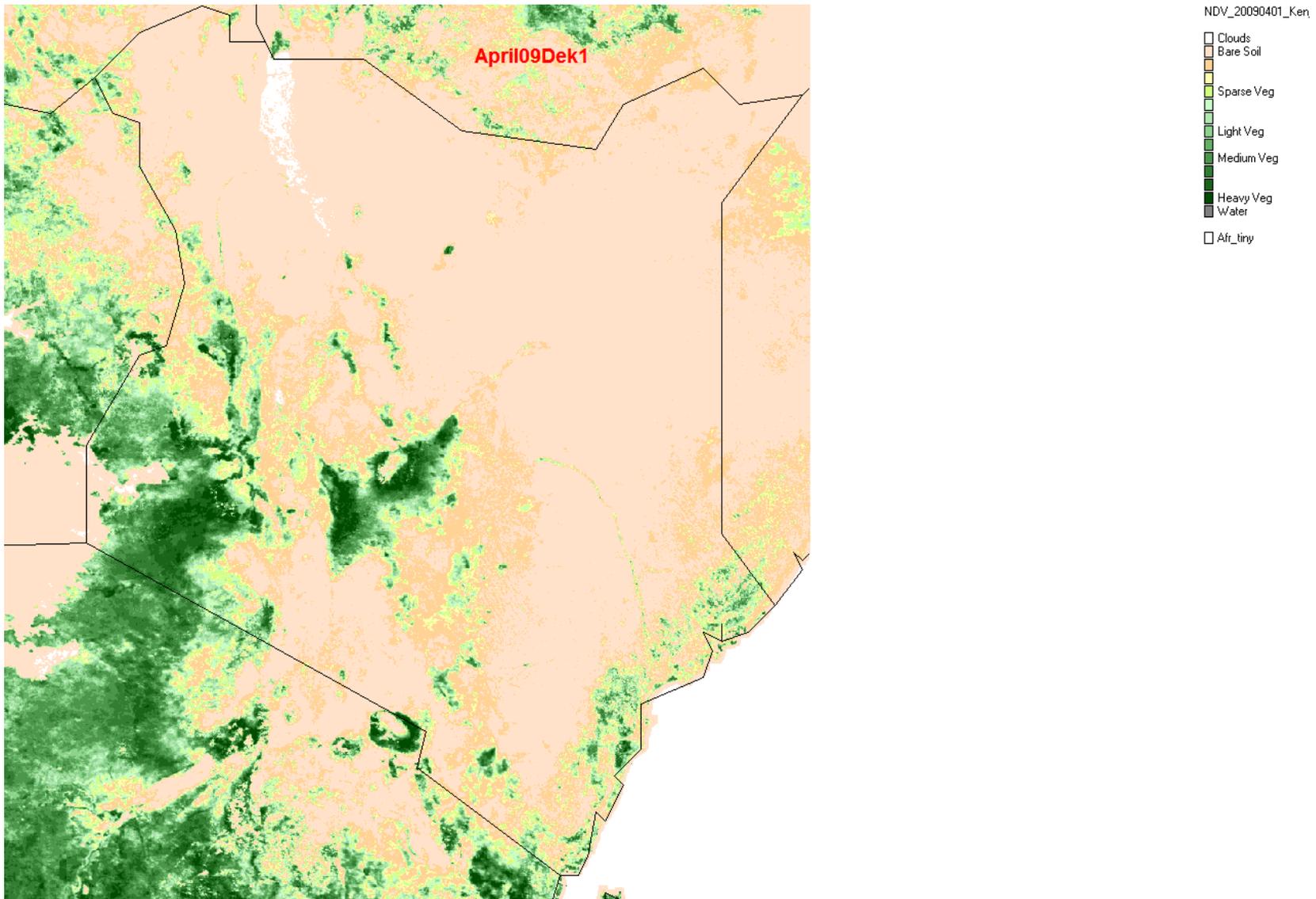


Fig. 4: Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (1st to 10th April, 2009)

EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS (21st –30th April 2009).

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

Central Highlands, Nairobi area and its environs, are expected to experience light to moderate rainfall over several places and crops are expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth.

In Eastern Province regions of Embu and Meru districts, bordering Mt Kenya, are expected to experience light to moderate rainfall in few places and crops are expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth. Famine/hunger and its related impacts is expected to continue.

In South-Eastern lowlands, light to moderate rainfall are expected over several places of this region. Land preparations/planting is expected to be complete in several places.

The Coastal region is expected to experience light to moderate rainfall during the Dekad. Land preparations/planting is expected to be complete in several places. Famine/hunger and its related impacts is expected to continue.

In the pastoral regions and game parks/reserve of Northwestern, Northeastern, Northern Rift Valley districts sunny and dry conditions are expected to prevail, with light rainfall expected over few places. Inadequate pastures and water sources for human and animal/wildlife use is expected to persist. Death of livestock and game is expected to continue. Southern Rift Valley is expected to experience enhanced rainfall which will boost the water sources and improve pastures.

In summary, the long rain season has set and wet conditions are expected over several places of the country. Maize and bean crops are expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth in regions of the country. Famine and hunger is expected to continue despite the onset of the rainy season. Drought impacts are expected to persist and famine relief efforts expected to continue.

This product should be used in conjunction with Kenya Meteorological Department weather forecasts. For more information, Contact

The Kenya Meteorological Department
Agrometeorological Division
Dagoretti Corner, Ngong Road,
P.O. Box 30259, 00100 GPO, Nairobi
Tel: +254 (0)20 3867880-7/3876957/3873682
Fax: +254 (0)20 3876955
E-mail: agromet@meteo.go.ke
Website: www.meteo.go.ke

©2009 The Kenya Meteorological Department