



KMD

# AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

## KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

13th Dekad, 1st to 10th May, 2009

Issue No. 13/2009, Season: AMJ

### HIGHLIGHTS

- *During the 13th Dekad i.e. 1st – 10th May 2009, most parts of the country experienced some rainfall. Light to moderate rainfall was experienced over western and Nyanza Provinces and Central Rift Valley, with Kakamega, Kisii, Kisumu, Kericho, Kitale, Nakuru, and Narok recording 23.2, 40.9, 33.3, 14.2, 28.3, 18.1, , and 2.4 mm respectively. Central Province, areas bordering Mt Kenya, Nairobi Area and its environs, except for Embu which recorded the highest Dekadal rainfall of 119.3mm with 96.8mm falling on 10th May 2009, most of region experienced light to moderate rainfall with the following Dekadal totals; Nyeri-12.4mm, Embu-119.3mm, Meru-47.9mm, Mwea- 38.2, Thika- 8.4, JKIA-26.4mm, Dagoretti-28.2mm and Kabete-49.2mm. The Southeastern Lowlands of Eastern Province experienced light rainfall with Katumani and Makindu recording 15.0 and 13.1mm respectively. The Coastal region experienced light rainfall with Mombasa, Mtwapa, Mshabaha, Malindi and Lamu recording, 12.2, 40.0, 20.2, 16.7 and 12.4mm respectively. Northeastern Province experienced mainly sunny condition with light rainfall over few places with Mandera, Wajir, Garissa, and Moyale recording Dekadal total of 4.1, 11.4, 9.8 and 7.1mm respectively. Northwestern region remained sunny and dry. (Fig 1)*
- *The current Long Rains has brought about improvements in both fodder for animals and hence an increase in milk production and also availability of fresh vegetables to many households.*
- *Day time temperatures were relatively higher due to reduced cloud cover over most parts of the country, except for Western, Central Rift Valley, Central Highlands with Lodwar, Mandera, Wajir, Garissa,*

*Kakamega, Kisumu, Mwea, Makindu, Dagoretti and Mombasa recording a Dekadal Mean day Maximum of, 37.1, 36.6, 35.5, 36.1, 28.7, 29.8, 30.8, 24.0 and 31.2 deg Celsius respectively. (Fig1, 2, 3.)*

- *Night temperatures were relatively warm over western and Central Rift Valley due also to increase in cloud cover during the Dekad with Nyahururu, Narok, and Eldoret Airport recording a Dekadal mean minimum of 8.3, 12.8, and 13.1 deg Celsius respectively. (Fig1, 2&3).*
- *The pastoral regions and game parks of 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 pasture regeneration and animals health conditions remained generally poor. (Figs. 1- 3)*
- *Famine and hunger was and is still being experienced in many parts of the Country mainly in Eastern, Central, Coast, Northeastern, Nyanza and Northern and Southern Rift Valley Provinces. (Figs. 1- 4).*

## **CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW**

**(1st to 10th May 2009)**

### **Central Province and Nairobi Area:**

Light to moderate rainfall was experienced over most places in Central province, Nairobi area and its environs during the Dekad. Generally most crops (cash and food crops) are doing well and corresponding to normal growth. The maize crop is at emergence stages, while the bean crop is at the flowering stage and both are doing well. Famine/hunger is still being experienced in fewer parts of Muranga, Maragua, Thika, Nyeri- North, Kiambu and Kirinyaga Districts and famine relief mechanism are still in place to cope with the situation. (Figs.1-4).

### **Eastern Province:**

Light to moderate rainfall was experienced over most places bordering Mt. Kenya (Embu, Runyenjes, Chogoria, Chuka and Meru) during the Dekad. Most crops (cash and food crops) are doing well and corresponding to normal growth. The maize crop is at emergence stages, while the bean crop is at the flowering stage and both 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), sunny conditions with light rainfall was experienced over most places during the Dekad. Most crops planted earlier before the onset of the long rain season had withered, due to insufficient rainfall in the early stages and

replanting had been carried out. The maize and beans crops planted late or re-planted are at emergence stages and are doing well.

### **Coast Province:**

Light rainfall was experienced over few places during the Dekad (Lamu, Malindi, Kwale and Voi). Late planted maize and beans crops are at emergence stages and are doing well. (Figs.1-3)

### **North Eastern Province:**

Sunny and dry conditions dominated the region (Mandera, Moyale, Wajir and Garissa) during 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 light rains pastures regeneration and the animals health conditions remained generally poor, due to the recent severe drought. (Figs.1, 2, 3 & 4)

Famine/hunger is still being experienced in most places.

### **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). Generally most crops (cash and food crops) are doing well and corresponding to normal growth. The maize crop is at emergence stages, while the bean crop is at the flowering stage and both are doing well. The only adverse effects reported on crops was insufficient rainfall and crops are wilting areas around Eldoret( Kapsoya). (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 (Kisumu, Nyamira, Kisii, Kericho) . Most crops (cash and food crops) are doing well and corresponding to normal growth. The maize, bean and sorghum are at the flowering stages and are doing well and corresponding to normal growth with normal yields being expected. In areas around Kisii maize and bean crops are at the flowering stages and are doing well and corresponding to normal growth with normal yields being expected. (Figs 1-4)

## **Northern and Southern Rift Valley:**

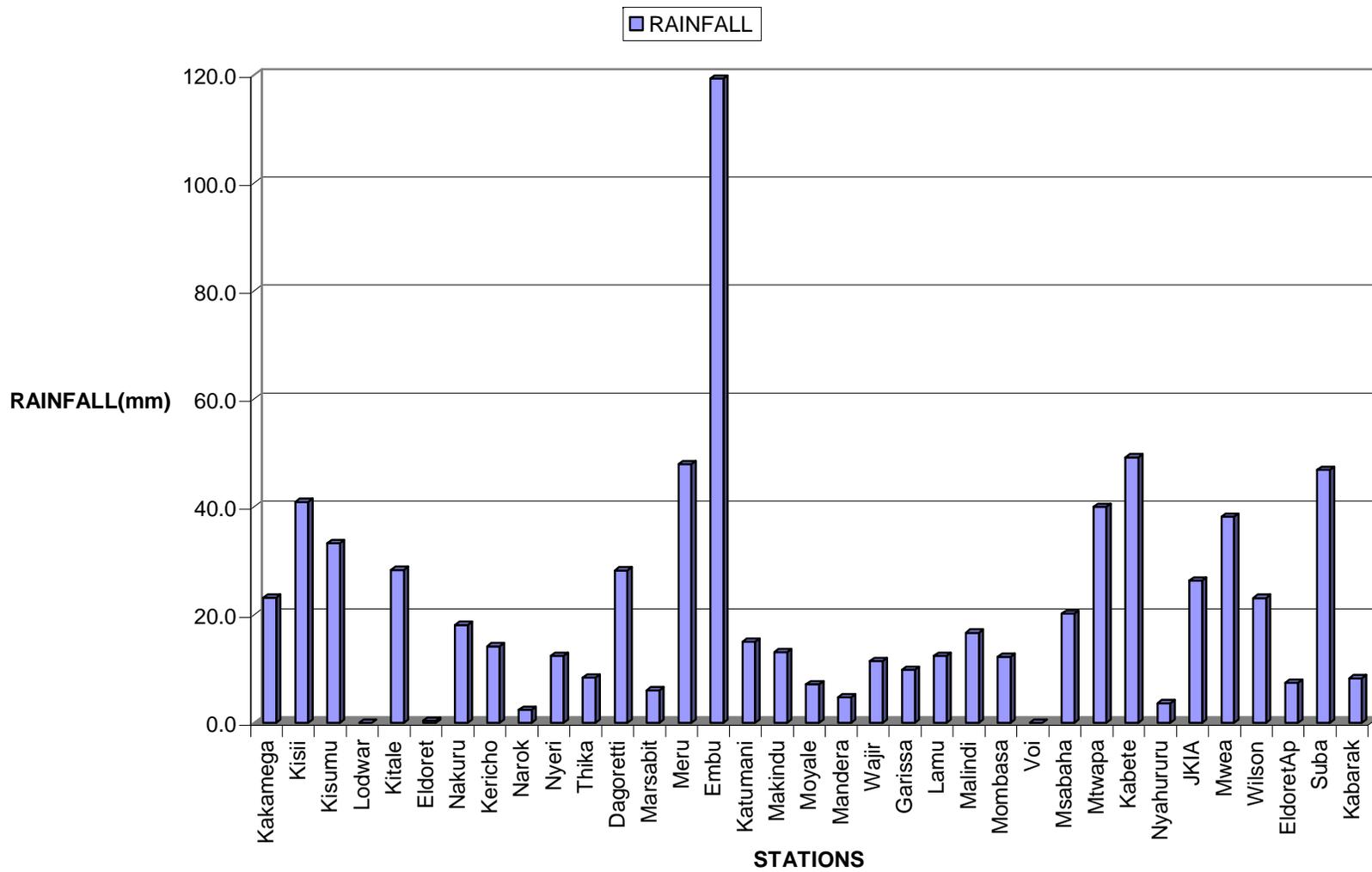
Northern Rift Valley (Lodwar, Lokitang) experienced generally sunny and dry conditions with light rains over few places during the Dekad. This has resulted in poor pastures regeneration and inadequate water sources for livestock, wildlife and human use leading to death of livestock and wildlife. (Figs.1-4).

Famine/hunger and its related impacts is being experienced and malnutrition levels are still high

Southern Rift Valley( Narok, Kajiado) experienced light to moderate rainfall, which was a sign of relief to water sources for livestock, wildlife and human use. Pastures regeneration in the pastoral areas remains poor due to the late onset of the rains.

For the farming community, planting is complete in most places. Generally most crops (cash and food crops) are doing well and corresponding to normal growth. Wheat, maize and bean crops are at the emergence stages and are doing well and corresponding to normal growth.

### DEKADAL 13 RAINFALL



**Fig. 1: Actual Rainfall (1st to 10th May, 2009) in mm**

DEKAD 13 TEMP.

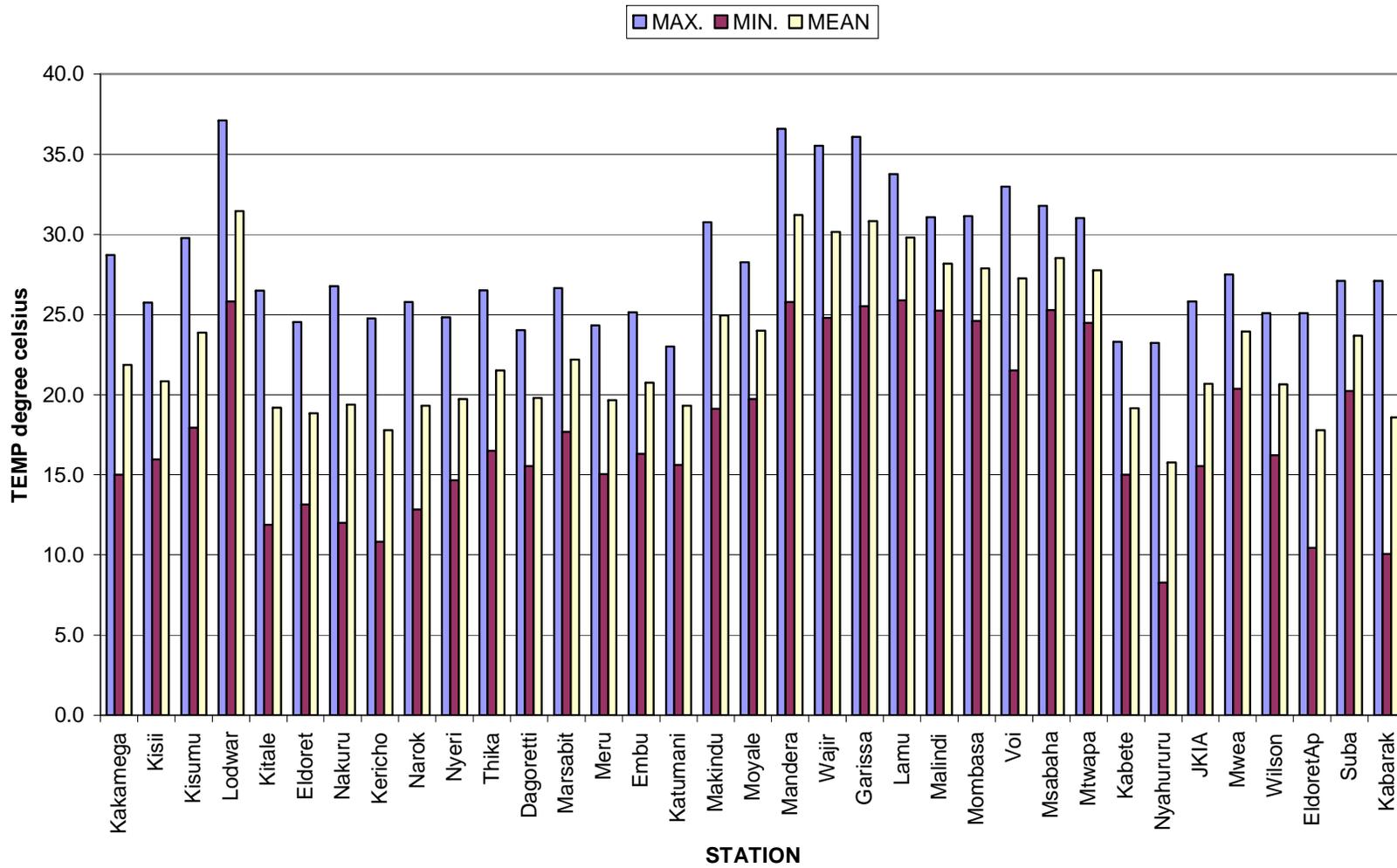


Fig 2: Mean Temperatures (1st to 10th May, 2009) deg. Celsius

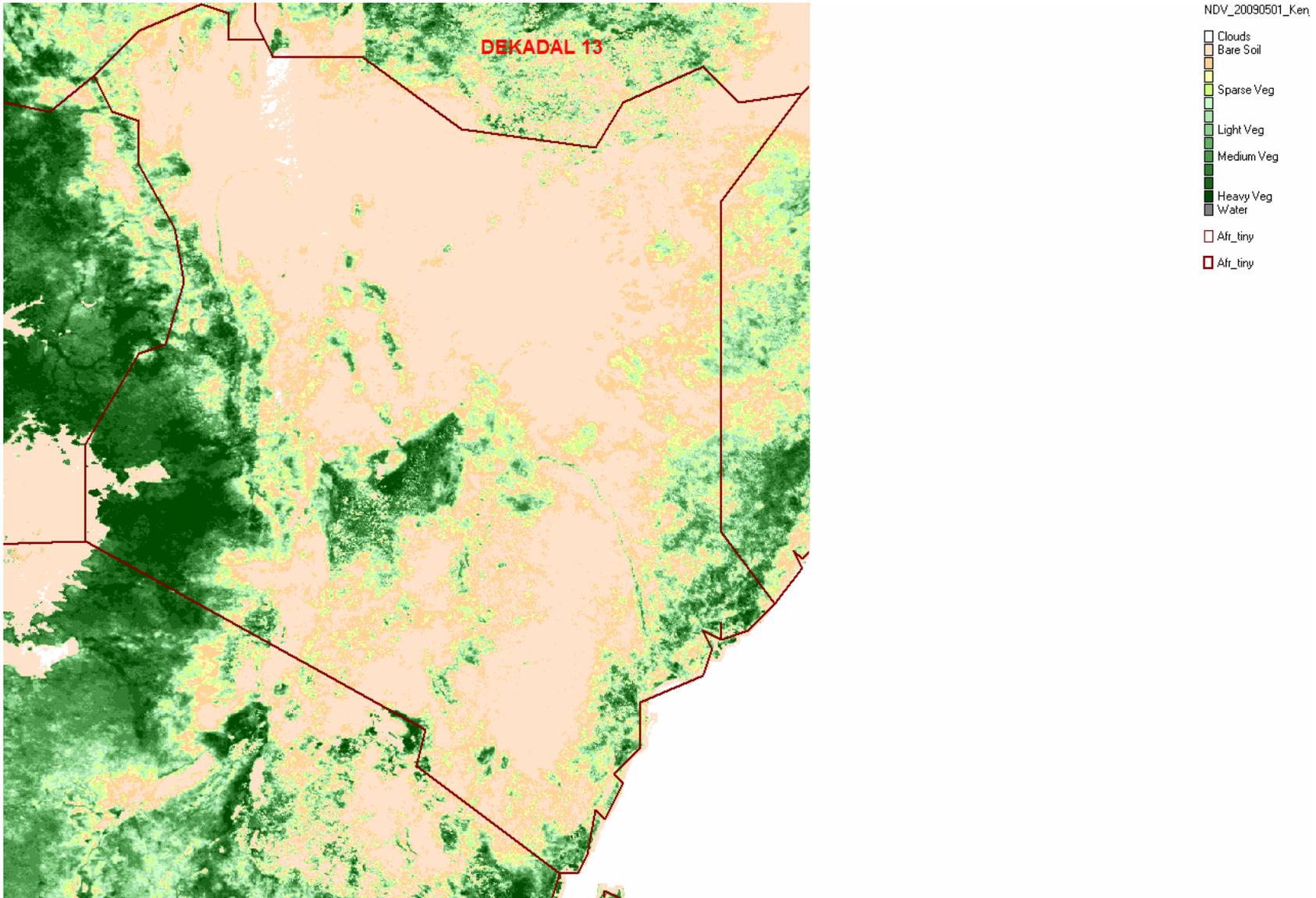


Fig. 3: Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (1st to 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2009)

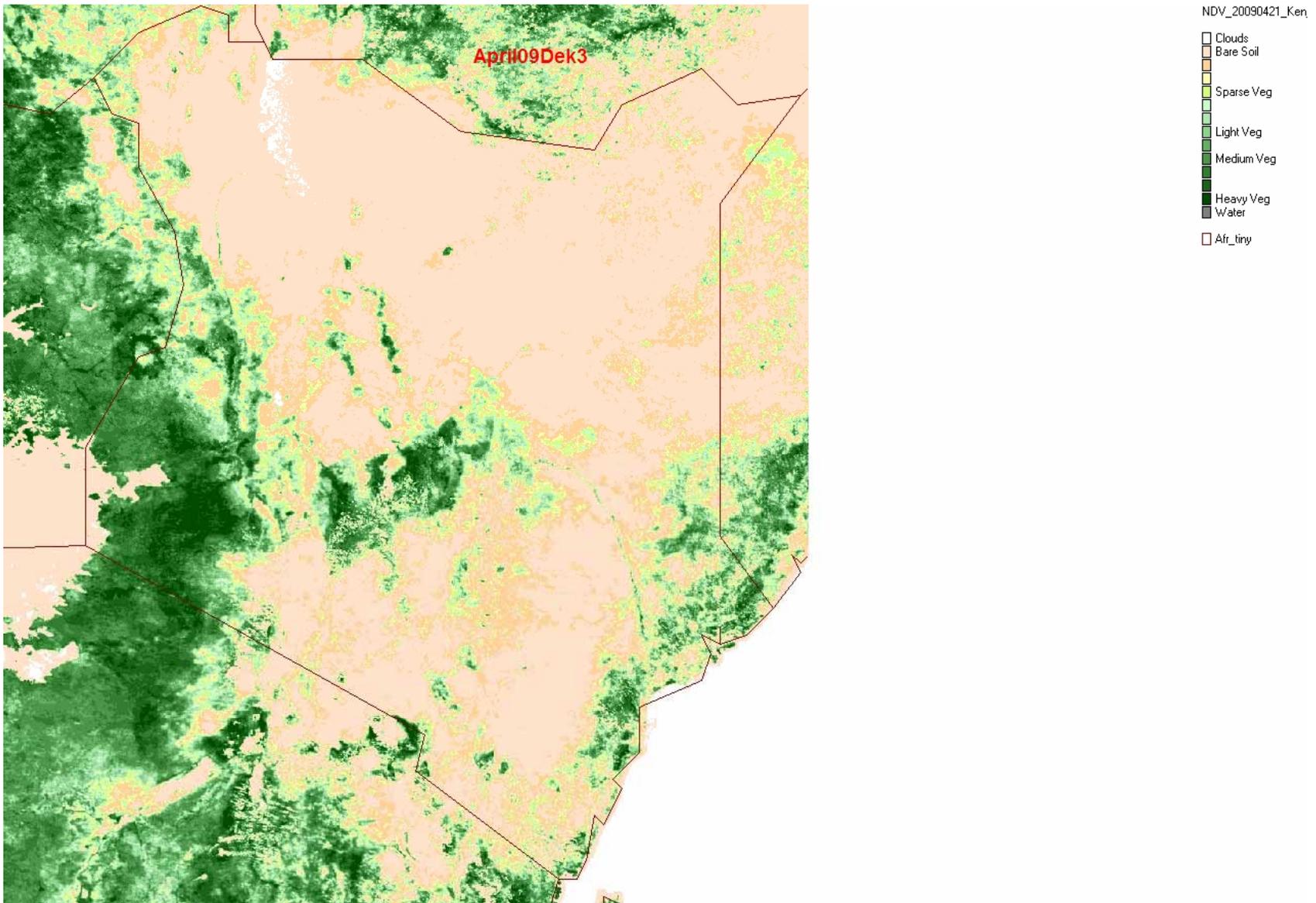


Fig. 4: Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (21st to 30th April, 2009)

## **EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS (11th –20th May 2009).**

During the next 10 days (11th – 20th May) 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 moderate to heavy 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 moderate to heavy rainfall in several places and crops are expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth.

In South-Eastern lowlands, light to moderate rainfall are expected over several places of this region. Poor crop performance are expected due to insufficient rainfall during initial stages.

The Coastal region is expected to experience moderate to heavy rainfall during the Dekad. Poor crop performance is are expected due to insufficient rainfall during early stages.

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 are expected. Fewer deaths of livestock and game are expected as the pastures conditions gradually improve. Southern Rift Valley is expected to experience light to moderate rainfall which will boost the water sources and improve pastures regeneration and food production.

In summary, wet conditions are expected over several places of the country. Crops are expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth in most regions of the country. Despite the onset of the rainy season, drought impacts are expected to persist and famine relief efforts expected to continue in the affected areas.

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

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