



KMD

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

14th Dekad, 10th to 20th May, 2009

Issue No. 14/2009, Season: AMJ

HIGHLIGHTS

- *During the 13th Dekad i.e. 11th – 20th May 2009, most parts of the country experienced some 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 121.7, 70.6, 184.5, 81.8, 68.6, 140.1, 144.0, and 83.8 mm respectively. Central Province, areas bordering Mt Kenya, Nairobi Area and its environs experienced moderate rainfall with the following Dekadal totals; Nyeri-90.8mm, Embu-38.6mm, Meru-51.7mm, Mwea- 70.2, Thika- 26.9, Dagoretti-66.5mm and Kabete-35.3mm. The Southeastern Lowlands of Eastern Province experienced insignificant light rainfall with Katumani recording a Dekadal rainfall total of 3.5. The Coastal region experienced moderate to heavy rainfall with Mombasa, Mtwapa, Mshabaha, Malindi and Lamu recording, 52.6, 127.5, 140.6, 107.4 and 97mm respectively. Northeastern Province and Northwestern Districts, except for Moyale which recorded the highest Dekadal rainfall of 80.0 mm, the rest experienced mainly sunny conditions and light rainfall over few places with Mandera, Wajir, and Lodwar recorded a Dekadal total of 6.6, 10.4, and 30mm respectively. (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 lower due to increased cloud cover over most parts of the country, with Lodwar, Mandera, Wajir, Garissa, Kakamega, Kisumu, Mwea, Makindu, Dagoretti and Mombasa*

recording a Dekadal Mean day Maximum of, 34.4, 36.4, 35.0, 35.0, 26.1, 28.1, 27.8 30.6, 23.6 and 30.1 deg Celsius respectively. (Fig1, 2, 3.)

- *Night temperatures were relatively warm over most parts of the country due also to increase in cloud cover during the Dekad with Nyahururu, Narok, and Eldoret Airport recording a Dekadal mean minimum of 9.6, 14.2, and 11.8 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 moderate to heavy rainfall which was a relief to water sources for both human and animal use. Despite the rains pasture regeneration and animals health conditions is gradually improving. (Figs. 1- 3)*
- *The acute famine and hunger and the associated impacts previously experienced in many parts of the Country especially in Eastern, Central, Coast, Northeastern, Nyanza and Northern and Southern Rift Valley Provinces are gradually getting eroded with time, due to improvement in both food and milk availability. (Figs. 1- 4).*

CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW **(11th to 20th May 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 enhancing the soil moisture status. Generally most crops (cash and food crops) are doing well and corresponding to normal growth. Weeding and topdressing is taking place but, has been completed in most places. The maize crop is at emergence stages, while the bean crop is at the flowering stage and both are doing well. (Figs.1-4).

Eastern Province:

Moderate rainfall was experienced over most places bordering Mt. Kenya (Embu, Runyenjes, Chogoria, Chuka and Meru) during the Dekad sustaining the soil moisture status. Most crops (cash and food crops) are doing well and corresponding to normal growth. Weeding and topdressing is taking place but has been completed in most places. The maize crop is at emergence stages, while the bean crop is at the flowering stage and both are doing well. (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. The maize and beans crops

planted late or re-planted are at emergence and flowering stages respectively are doing well and corresponding to normal growth. Weeding and topdressing is taking place in most places.

Coast Province:

Heavy rainfall was experienced over several places during the Dekad (Lamu, Malindi, Kwale and Voi). Late planted maize and beans crops are at emergence stages and are doing well and corresponding to normal growth. Weeding and topdressing is taking place in most places. (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 over most places of this region (Kakamega, Bungoma, Busia) during the Dekad. Generally most crops (cash and food crops) are doing well and corresponding to normal growth. Weeding and topdressing is taking place. 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 in this regions (Kisumu, Nyamira, Kisii, Eldoret, Kitale, Kericho) during the Dekad. Most crops (cash and food crops) are doing well and corresponding to normal growth. Weeding and topdressing has taken place in most areas. 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 and maturity stages respectively and are doing well and corresponding to normal growth with normal yields being expected.

The only adverse effects reported on crops around Eldoret(Kapsoya) was insufficient rainfall in the initial stages and crops which survived are stunted with poor yields being expected. (Figs 1-4)

Northern and Southern Rift Valley:

Northerwestern 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 still being experienced and malnutrition levels are still high

Southern Rift Valley(Narok, Kajiado, Mara) experinced light to moderate rainfall, which was a sigh of relief to water sources for livestock, wildlife and human use. In the pastoral areas pastures regeneration and animals health are gradually improving.

For the farming community, 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 weeding and top dressing is taking place.

RAINFALL DEK 14

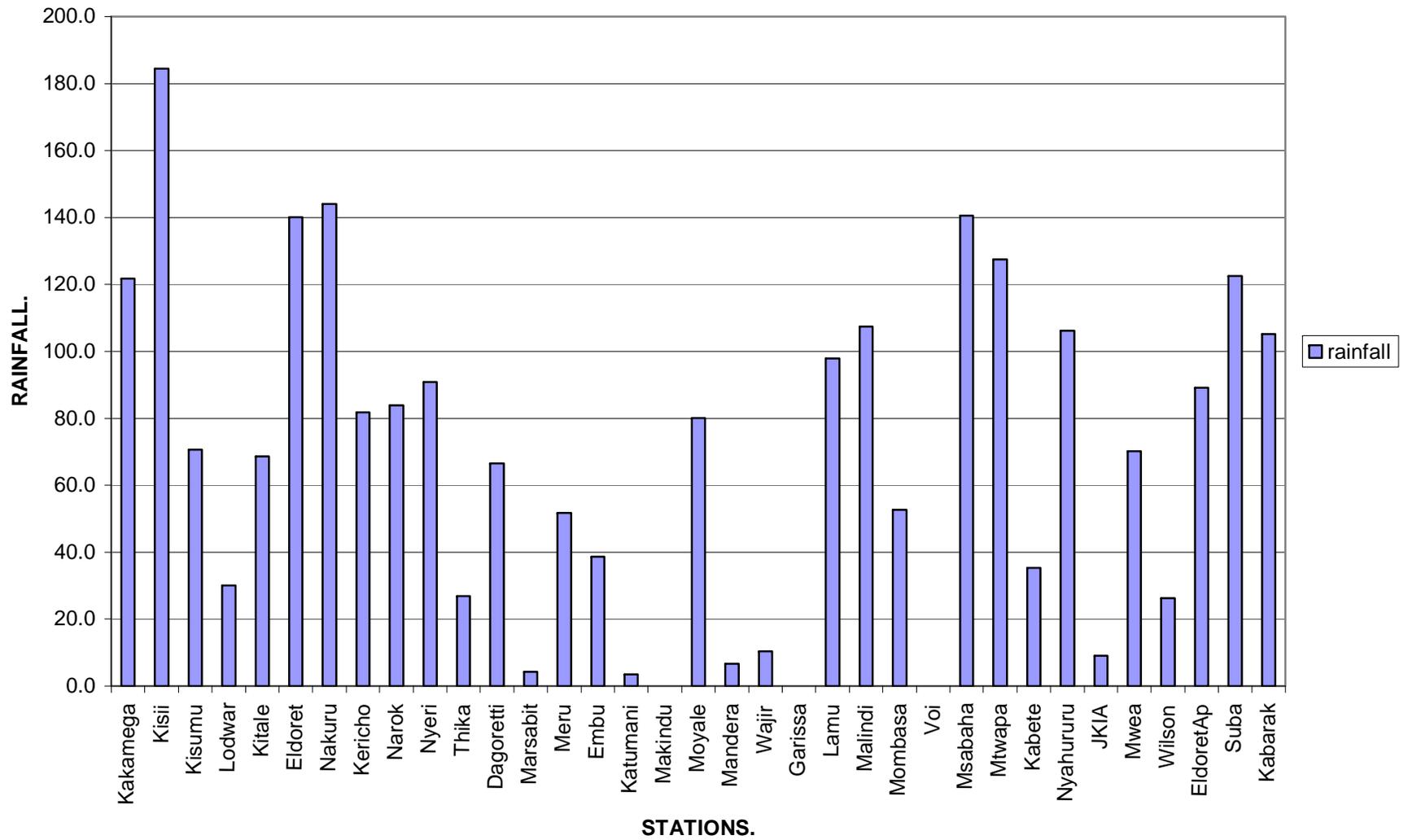


Fig. 1: Actual Rainfall (11th to 20th May, 2009) in mm

TEMPS GRAGHS DEKAD 14

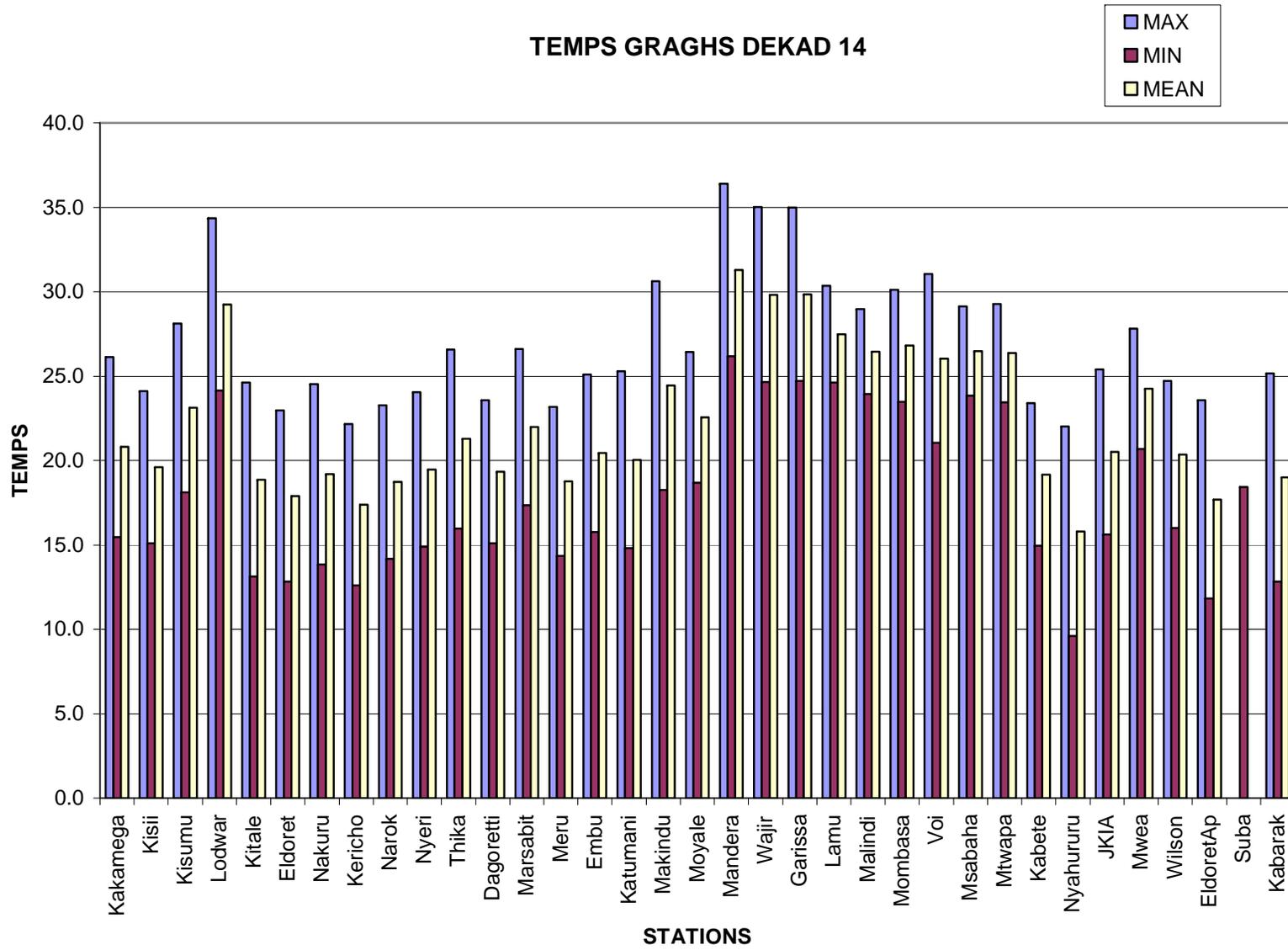


Fig 2: Mean Temperatures (11th to 20th May, 2009) deg. Celsius

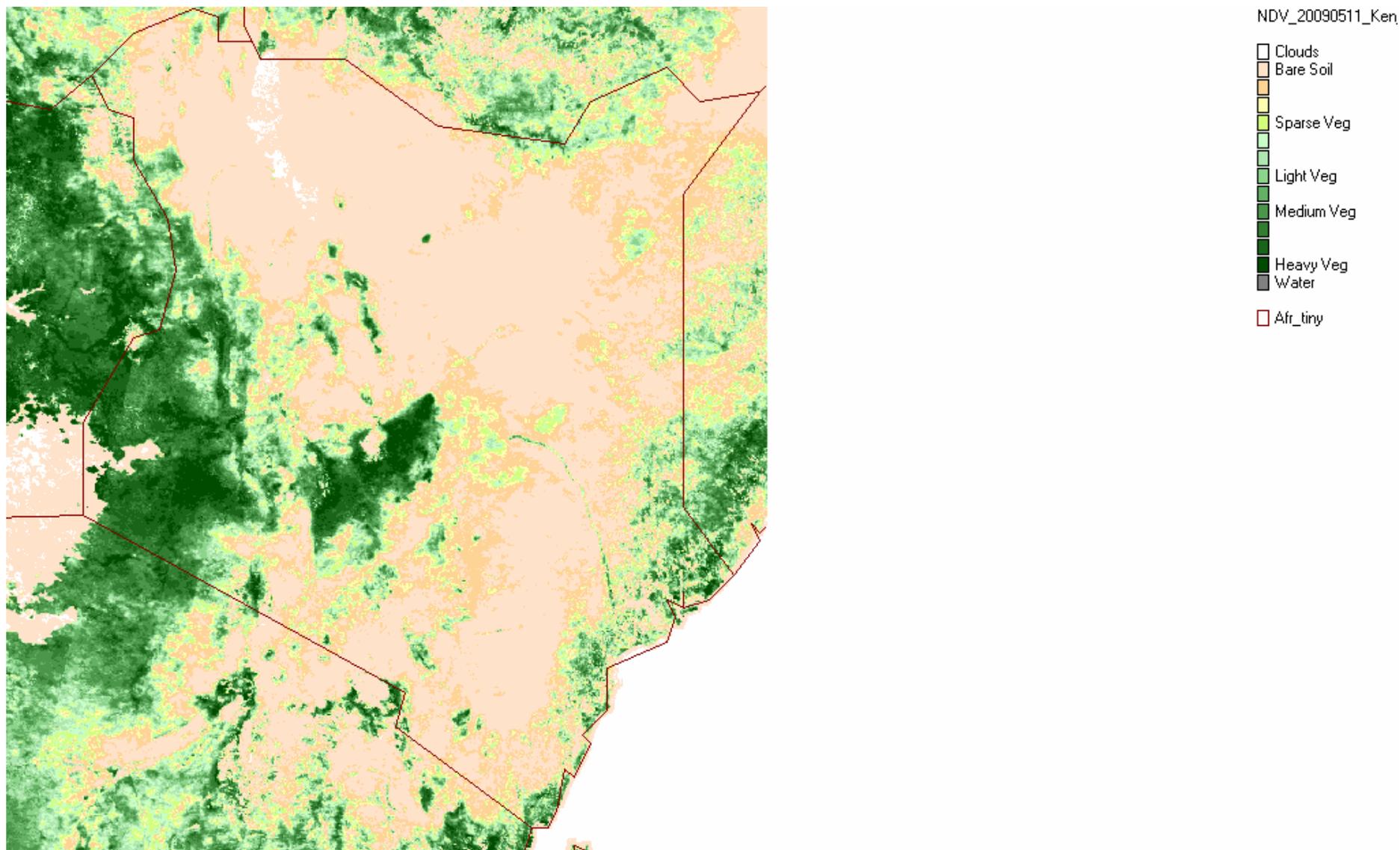


Fig. 3: DEKAD 14 Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (11th to 20th May, 2009)

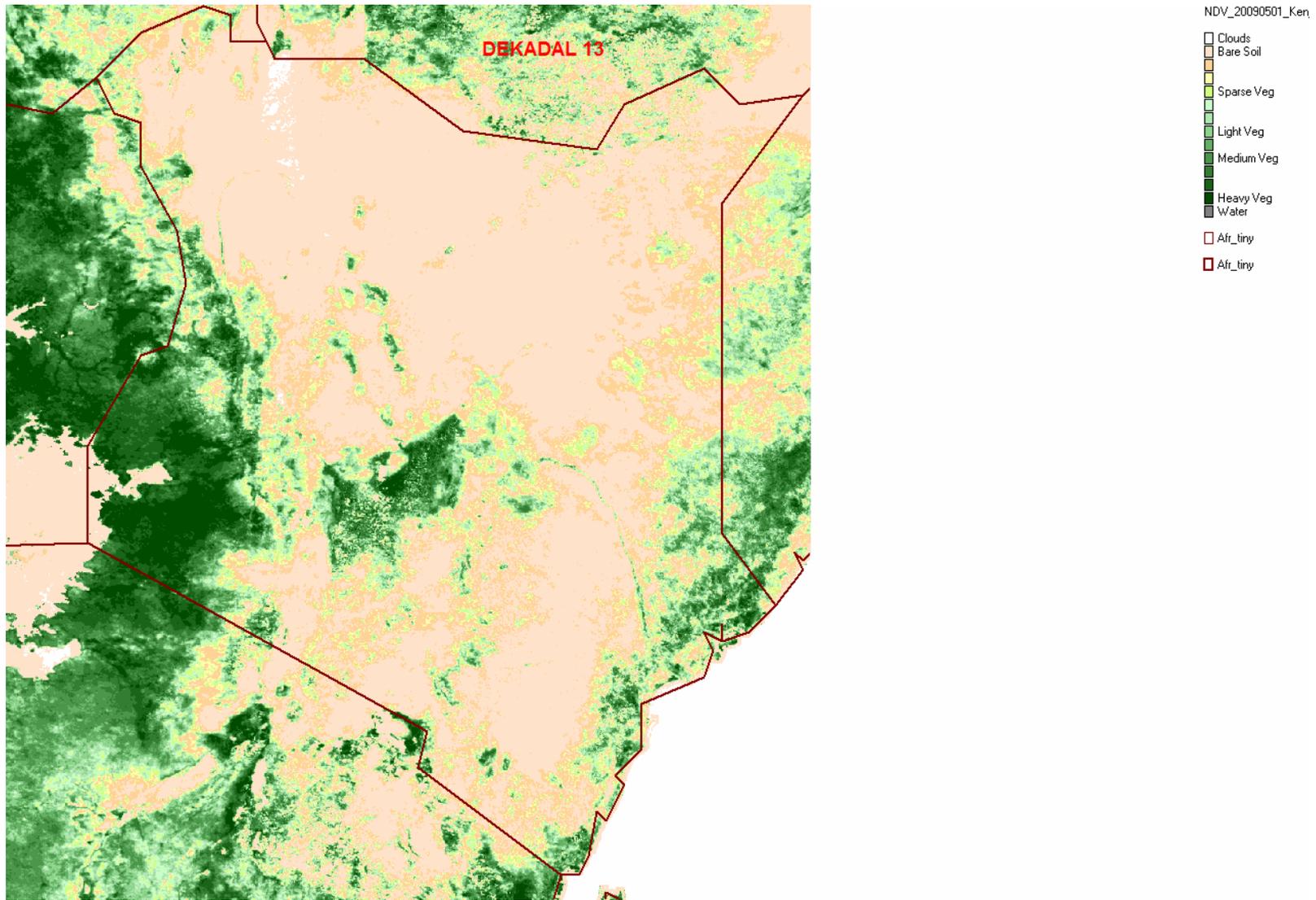


Fig. 4: DEKAD 13 Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (1st to 10th May, 2009)

EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS (21st –31st May 2009).

During the next 10 days (21st – 31st 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 with normal yields being expected. However, excessive rainfall may cause damage to crops especially in the low lying areas, due to water logging.

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. The beans is expected to reach the maturity stages and with normal yields being expected.

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. The beans is expected to reach the maturity stages and with normal yields being expected.

In South-Eastern lowlands, generally sunny conditions with light rains over few places are expected. Poor crop performances are expected due to insufficient rainfall during past Dekad.

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. Southern Rift Valley is expected to experience light to moderate rainfall which will boost the water sources and improve pastures regeneration and food production. Animal's health both (livestock and game) is expected to gradually improve as the pastures conditions gradually improve.

In summary, wet conditions are expected over several places of the country during the next ten days. 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 for a while 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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