



KMD

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

15th Dekad, 21st to 31st May, 2009

Issue No. 15/2009, Season: AMJ

HIGHLIGHTS

- *During the 15th Dekad i.e. 21st – 31st May 2009, most parts of the country experienced significant reduction in total Dekadal rainfall amounts, although 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 63.9, 79.6, 20.9, 31.2, 44.9, 20.1, 22.1 and 21.5 mm respectively. Nairobi Area and its environs experienced moderately heavy rainfall with Dagoretti, JKIA, Wilson Airport and Kabete recording a Dekadal rainfall total of 63.4, 103.8, 62.2 and 83.3 mm respectively. Central, Eastern and Coast Provinces experienced insignificant light rainfall with Thika, Embu, Mwea, Nyeri, Katumani and Mtwapa recording a Dekadal rainfall total of 6.4, 5.0, 3.7, 3.5, 11.2 and 3.6 mm respectively. The rest of the Country experienced mainly sunny conditions and light rains over few places. (Fig 1)*
- *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, 36.2, 35.8, 34.4, 34.7, 24.7, 28.8, 26.4, 29.2, 23.5 and 29.8 deg Celsius respectively. (Fig 2)*
- *Night temperatures were relatively lower over Western and Central Rift Valley due to the wet conditions during the Dekad with Nyahururu, Narok, and Eldoret Airport recording a Dekadal mean minimum of 8.8, 13.2, and 11.6 deg Celsius respectively. (Figs 1, 2)*
- *The pastoral regions and game parks of Southern Rift Valley, North Eastern, South Eastern Lowlands and the Coastal regions, experienced mainly sunny conditions during the Dekad. Despite the rains during*

the previous Dekad and previous severe drought, pasture regeneration and animal's health conditions remains generally poor but are both improving gradually. (Figs. 1- 4)

- *The current “Long Rains” Season has improved in fodder for Livestock and hence an increase in milk production and also availability of fresh vegetables in the market.*
- *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 **(21st to 31st May, 2009)**

Central Province and Nairobi Area:

Light rainfall was experienced over most places in Central province, but Nairobi area and its environs experienced moderate to heavy during the Dekad. Generally most crops (cash and food crops) are doing well and corresponding to normal growth. The maize crop is at flowering stage, while the bean crop is at the maturity stage and both are doing well. (Fig1&2).

Eastern Province:

Light 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 flowering stage, while the bean crop is at the maturity stage and both are doing well. (Fig1&2).

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 are experiencing water stress due to insufficient rainfall. (Fig1&2).

Coast Province:

Heavy rainfall was experienced over several places during the Dekad (Lamu, Malindi, Kwale and Voi). Maize and beans crops are at emergence stages and are experiencing water stress and are withering due to insufficient rainfall. Famine is still being experienced in the province. (Figs.1-3)

North Eastern Province:

Sunny and dry conditions dominated the region (Mandera, Moyale, Wajir and Garissa) during the Dekad, with light over few places. Pastures regeneration and the animals health conditions remained generally poor, due insufficient rainfall and 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. The maize crop is at shooting stages, while the bean crop is at the flowering stage and both are doing well and corresponding to normal growth. In areas around Eldoret and Kitale the maize crop is stunted due to insufficient rainfall during the early stages. (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. The maize, bean and sorghum are at the flowering stages and are doing well and corresponding to normal growth with normal yields being expected. (Figs.1-3).

In areas around Kisii maize crop is at the flowering stage while the and bean crop is at maturity stage and both are doing well and corresponding to normal growth with normal yields being expected. (Figs.1-3).

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 inadequate pastures 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) experienced light rainfall, which boosted water sources for livestock, wildlife and human use. however, in the pastoral areas pastures regeneration and animals health are gradually improving.

For the farming community, wheat and maize crops are doing well and corresponding to normal growth.

RAINFALL CHART DEK 15

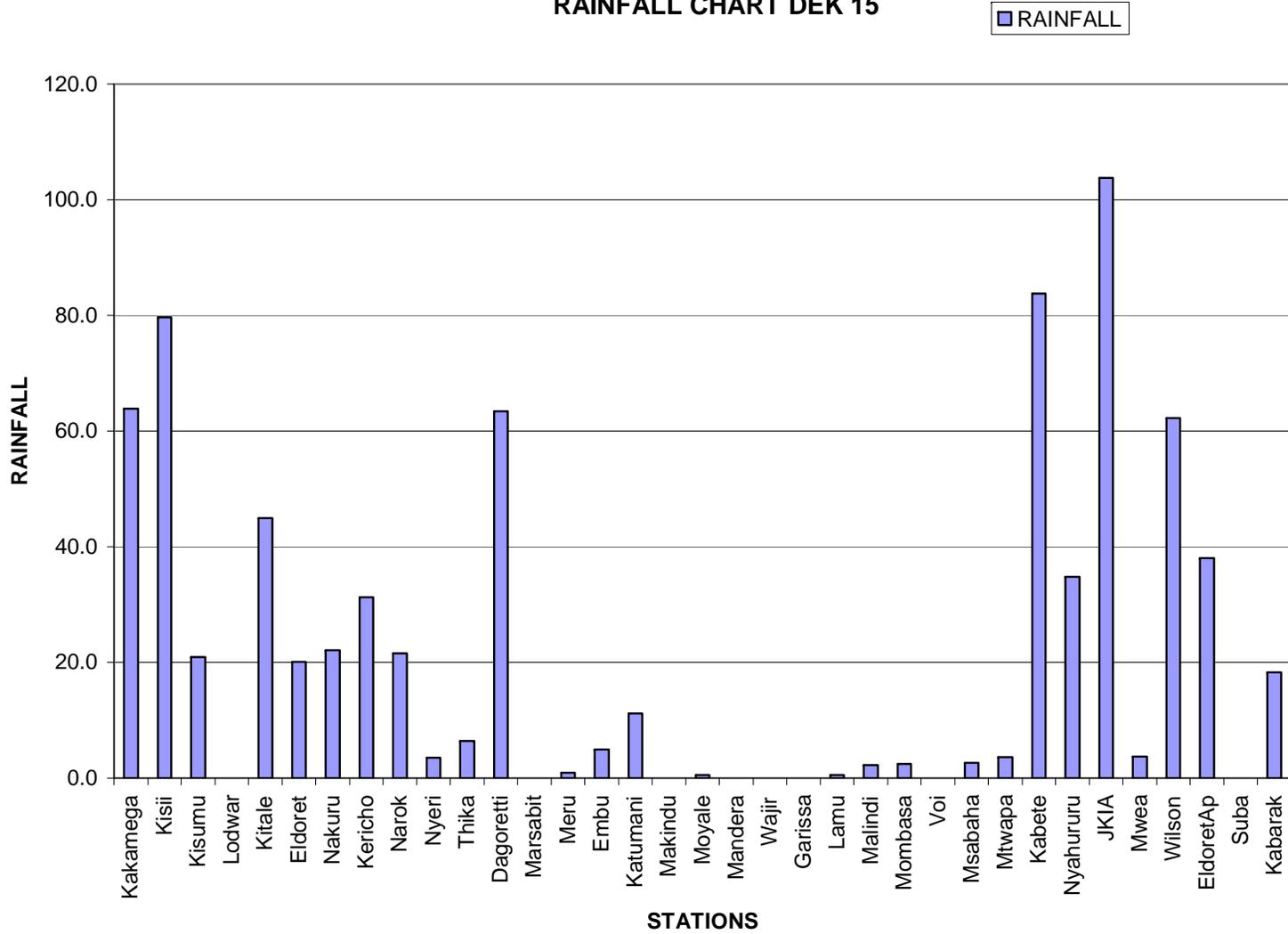


Fig. 1: Actual Rainfall (21st to 31st May, 2009) in mm

TEMPS CHART DEK 15

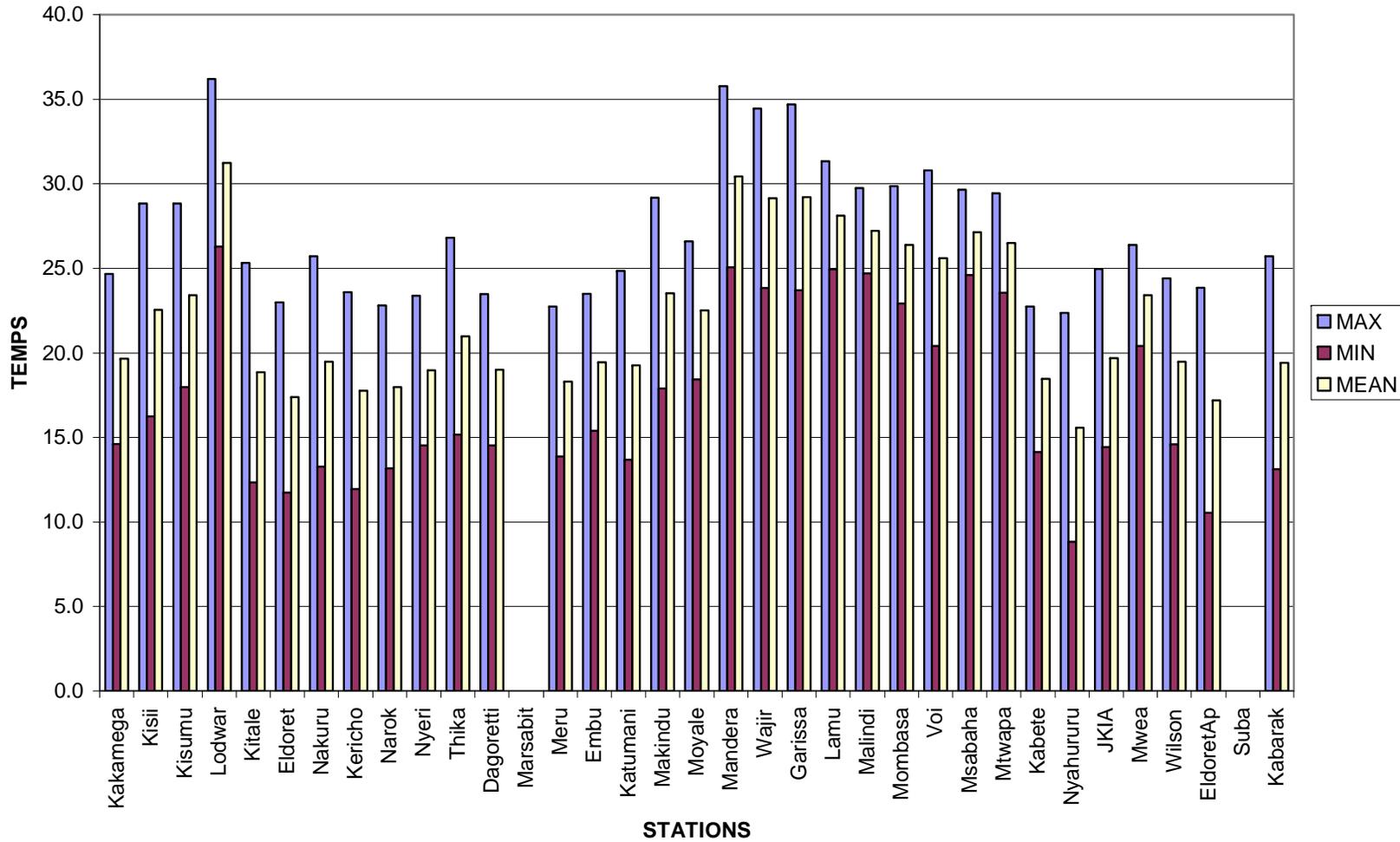


Fig 2: Mean Temperatures (21st to 31st May, 2009) deg. Celsius

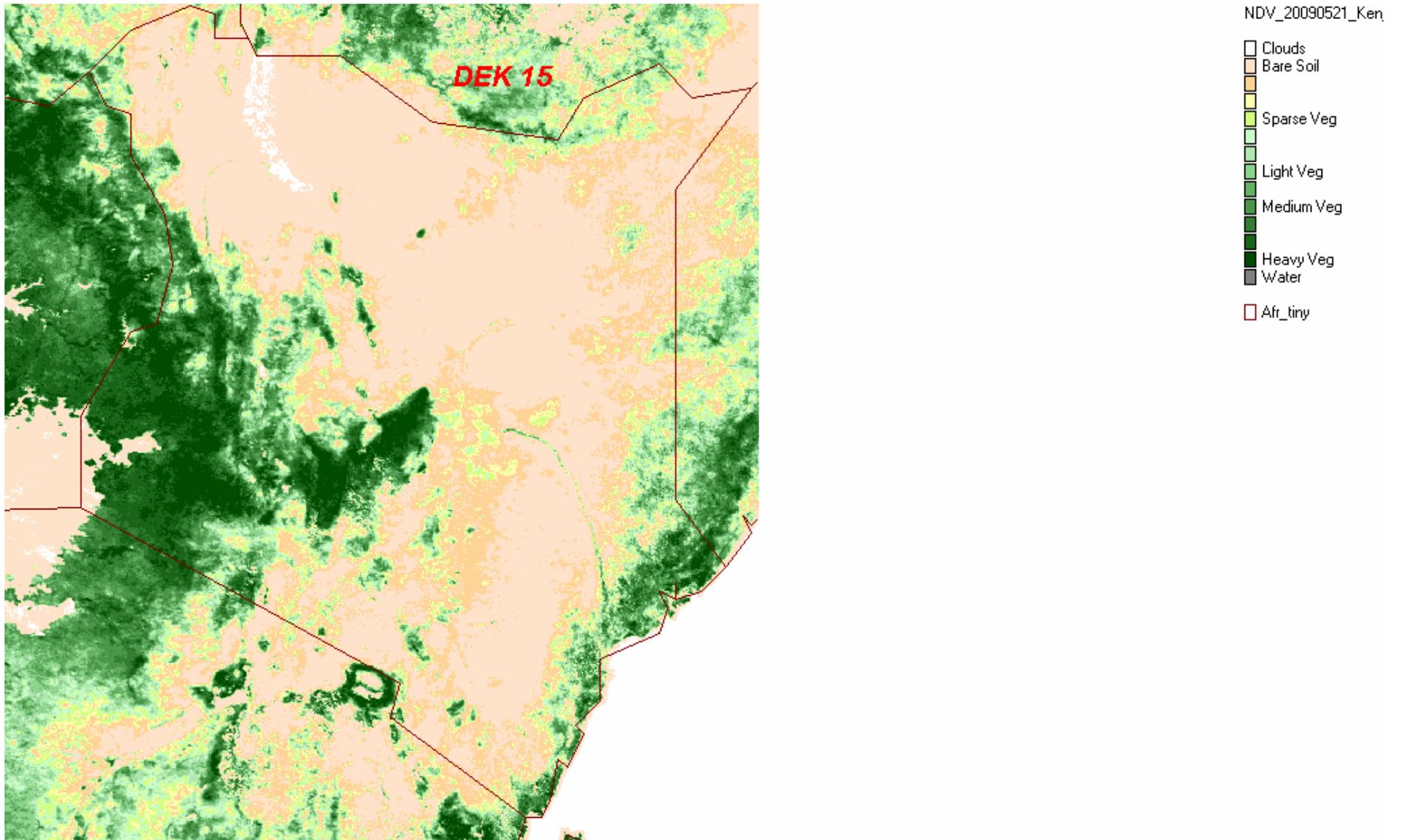


Fig. 3: DEKAD 15 Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (21st to 31st May, 2009)

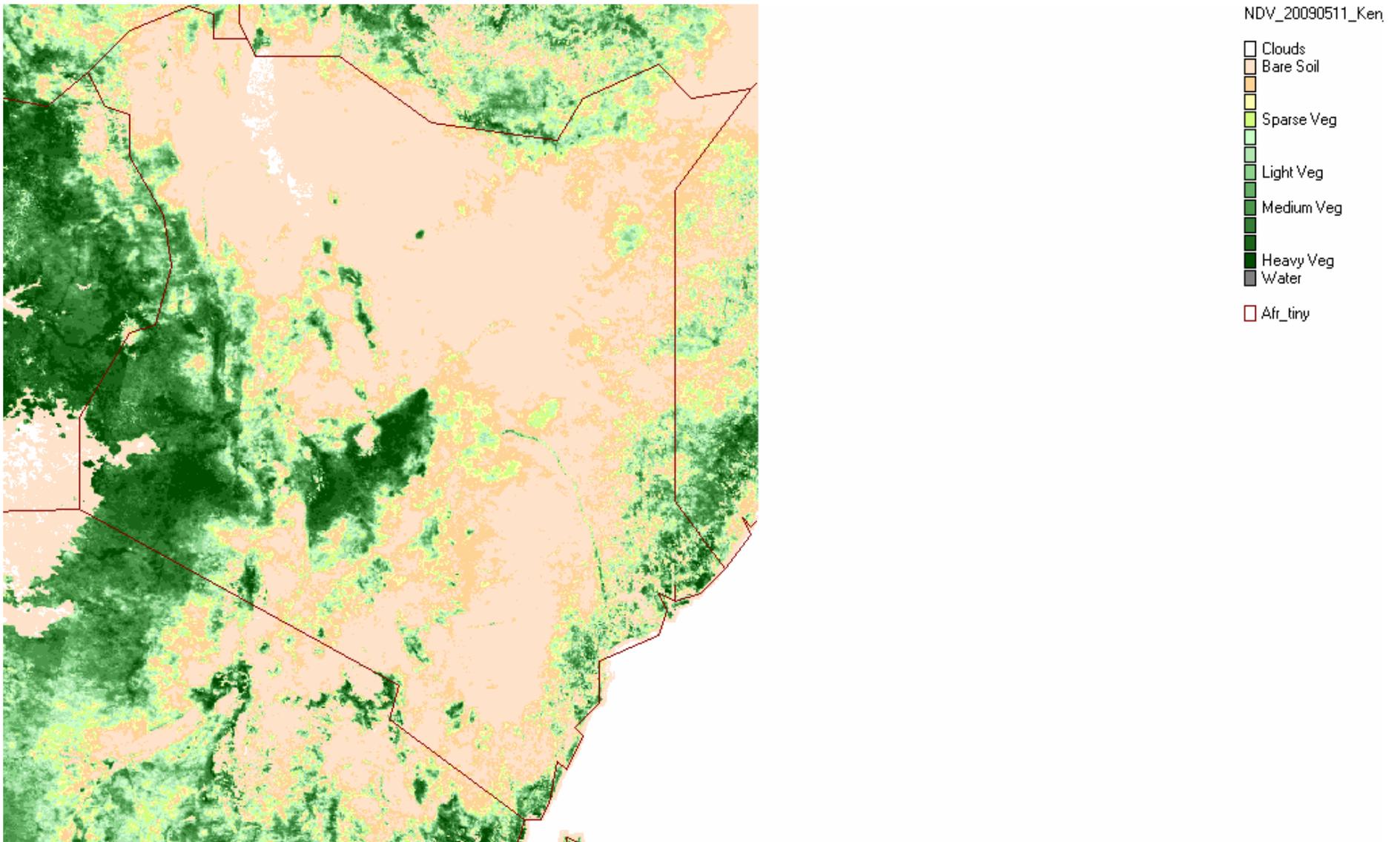


Fig. 4: DEKAD 14 Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (11th to 20th May, 2009)

EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS (1st –10th June 2009).

During the next 10 days (1st – 10th June, 2009) 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.

Central Highlands, Nairobi area and its environs, are expected to experience light to moderate rainfall over few places. 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 light to moderate in few 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.

The Coastal region is expected to experience mainly sunny conditions with light rainfall over few places. Poor crop performance is are expected due to insufficient.

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 mainly sunny conditions with light rainfall over few places pastures regeneration and animal's health both (livestock and game) are expected to gradually improve as the pastures conditions gradually improve.

In summary, Crops are expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth in most regions of the country. In the pastoral region poor pasture regeneration and water sources are expected.

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

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