

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT (KMD)



AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

12th Dekad, 11th to 20th July, 2009

Issue No. 20/2009 Season: JJA

HIGHLIGHTS

- *During the 20th Dekad i.e. 11th – 20th July, 2009, light to moderate rainfall was received over the Western, Nyanza and parts Central Rift Valley with Kakamega, Kisii, Kisumu, Kericho, Kitale, Eldoret and Nakuru recording, 18.0, 8.8, 19.2 37.3 49.4,80.0 and 10.7 mm respectively. The Coastal regions experienced light to moderate rainfall with Mombasa, Mtwapa, Mshabaha, Malindi and Lamu recording Dekadal rainfall totals of 10.3.26.0.4 and 20.1mm respectively. Central Province, Nairobi area and its environs experienced cloudy mornings with light rains/drizzle over the high ground areas. The rest of the Country experienced mainly dry and sunny conditions during the Dekad (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 34.6, 34.4, 33.5., 26.7,33.3 , 29.3, 24.1, 28.3, 22.8 and 28.6 deg. Celsius respectively. (Fig 2)*
- *Night temperatures were relatively lower over Western and Central Rift Valley, Central Highlands, Nairobi area and its environs due to reduced cloud cover during the Dekad with Nyahururu, Narok, Eldoret Airport, Nyeri, Thika, Kabete and Dagoretti recording a Dekadal mean minimum of 6.1 7.2, 9.1,12.8, 12.1, 11.2 and15.4. 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. Pasture regeneration and animal's health conditions remains generally poor. (Figs. 1- 4)*
- *Famine and hunger and the associated impacts are being experienced in many parts of the Country especially in North Western and Northern Districts, Eastern, Central, Coast, Northeastern, Nyanza and parts of Northern and Southern Rift Valley provinces due inadequate rainfall resulting in the current season crop failure.*

CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW **(11th to 20th July, 2009)**

Central Province and Nairobi Area:

Cool and cloudy mornings with light rains/ drizzle over high ground areas was experienced 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 flowering stage, while the bean crop is at the harvesting stage with normal yields being reported. (Fig1&2).

Eastern Province:

Cool and cloudy mornings with light rains/ drizzle over high ground areas, 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 harvesting stage with normal yields being reported. Poor crop performance is being noted in the low lying areas of Embu, Meru, Mbeere Districts due to insufficient rainfall, with below normal yields being expected. (Fig1&2)

In the Southern Lowlands of the Eastern Province (Machakos, Makueni, Mwingi and Kitui districts), sunny conditions was experienced over most places during the Dekad. The maize and beans crops are wilting or have dried up due in most areas due to lack of rainfall, with poor or no yields being expected. (Fig1&2).

Coast Province:

Light to moderate rainfall was experienced over several places during the Dekad (Lamu, Malindi, Kwale and Voi). Maize crop is at flowering stages and is doing well with above normal yields being expected due to improved rainfall. (Figs.1-3)

North Eastern Province:

Sunny and dry conditions dominated the region (Mandera, Moyale, Wajir and Garissa) during the Dekad. Pasture regeneration and the animal's health conditions remained generally poor, due lack of rainfall. Death of livestock is on the rise due to inadequate pastures and water. (Figs.1, 2, 3 & 4).

Famine/hunger is still being experienced in most places and malnutrition levels are expected to be on rise.

Western Province:

Light to moderate rainfall were experienced over over few 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 flowering stage, while the bean crop is at the maturity stage with normal yields being reported. (Figs.1-3).

Nyanza and Central Rift Valley:

Light to moderate rainfall were experienced over few places in this regions (Kisumu, Nyamira, Kisii, Eldoret, Kitale, Kericho) during the Dekad with poor crops performance being expected due to insufficient rainfall. In areas around Kisumu maize and sorghum crops harvesting is on going with below normal yields being reported. Harvesting of the bean crop is complete with below normal yields being reported due to insufficient rainfall during the growing season. (Figs.1-3).

In areas around Eldoret Kapsoya and Kitale the maize and bean crop are at the flowering stages and are wilting due to insufficient rainfall, with poor yields being expected.

In areas around Kisii maize crop is at the maturity stage while the and bean harvesting is complete with normal yields being reported. (Figs.1-3).

Northern and Southern Rift Valley:

Northerwestern Rift Valley (Lodwar, Lokitang) experienced generally sunny and dry conditions during the Dekad. This has resulted in inadequate pastures and 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 and on the rise.

The pastoral regions of Southern Rift Valley(Narok, Kajiado, Mara) are expected to experience mainly sunny and dry conditions which will adversely affect water sources for livestock, wildlife and human use and, pastures resulting in poor animals` health (both livestock and game). Pastolarists have driven their livestock into the National parks /game reserves posing unfair competetation to the only available pastures for the wildlife.

For the farming community, wheat and maize crops are experiencing water stress due to lack of rainfall, with poor or no yields being expected.

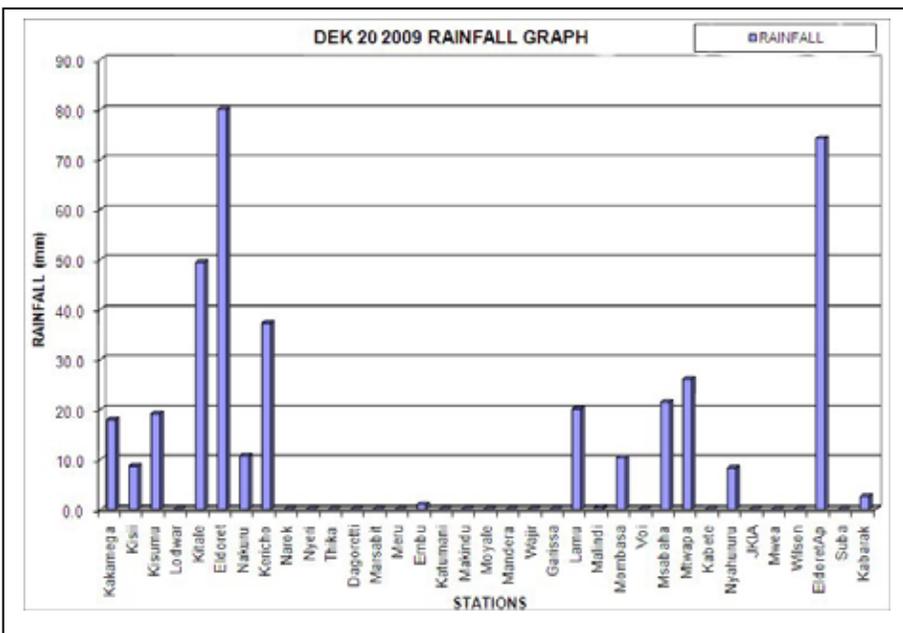
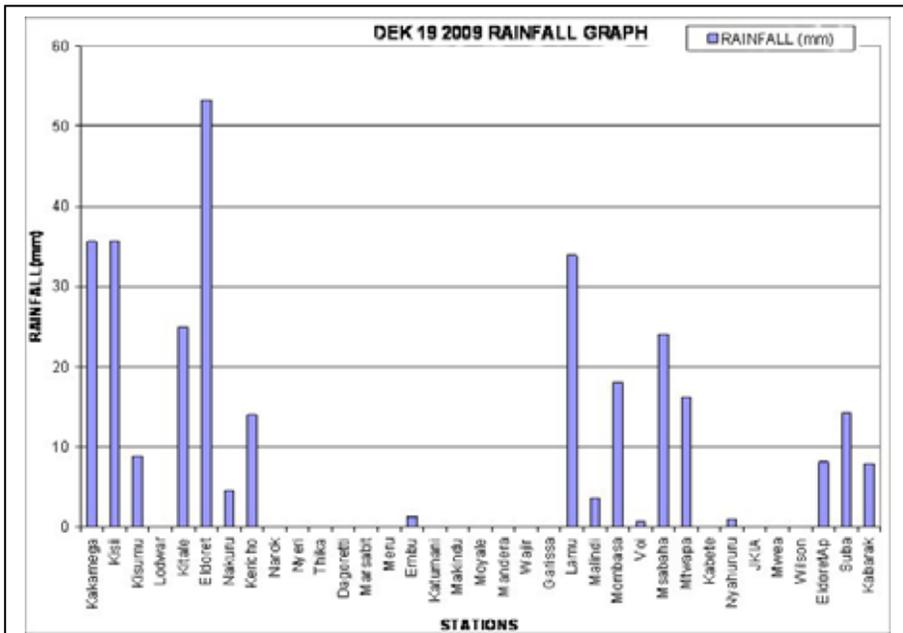
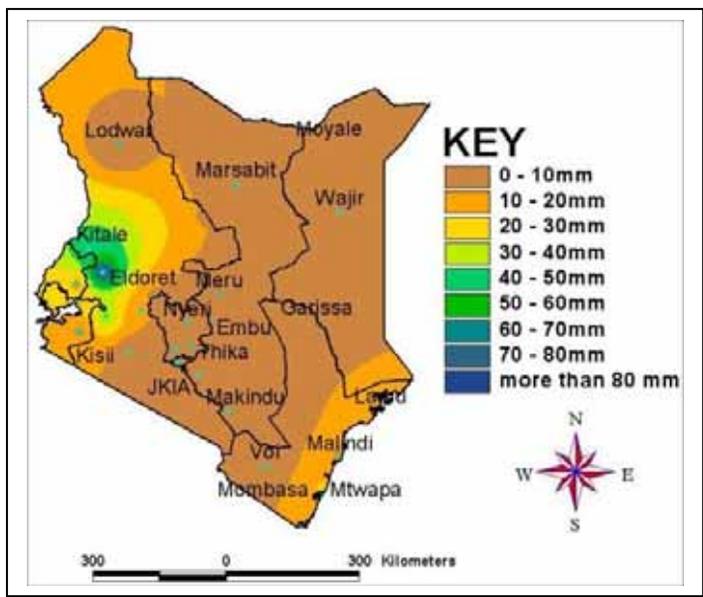
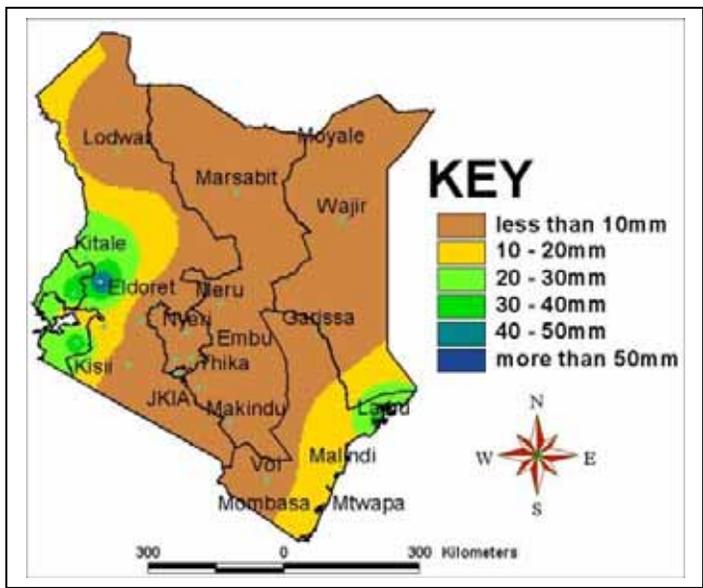


Fig. 1: Actual Rainfall (1st to 10th July, 2009) and (11th to 20th July, 2009) in mm



Dekads 19 and 20 , 2009 rainfall distribution.

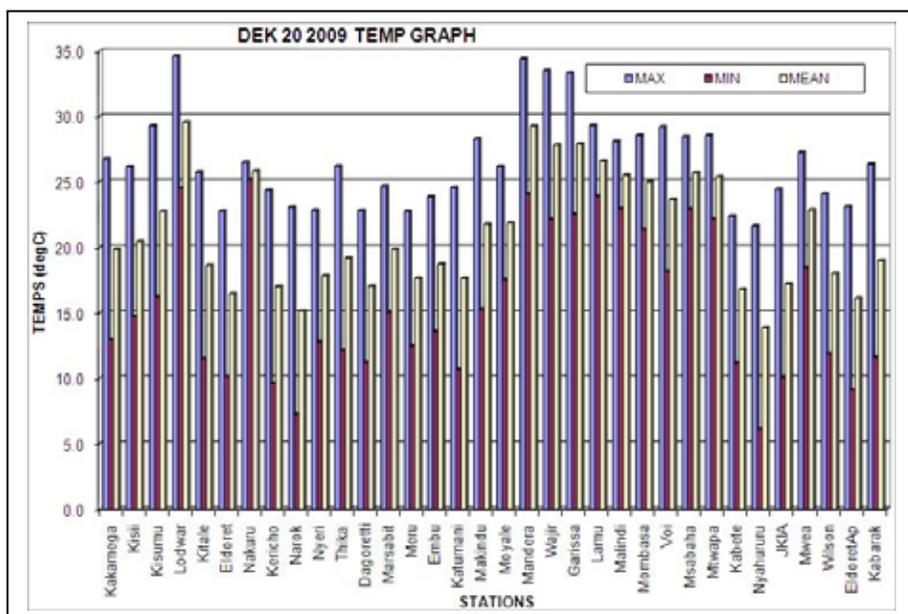
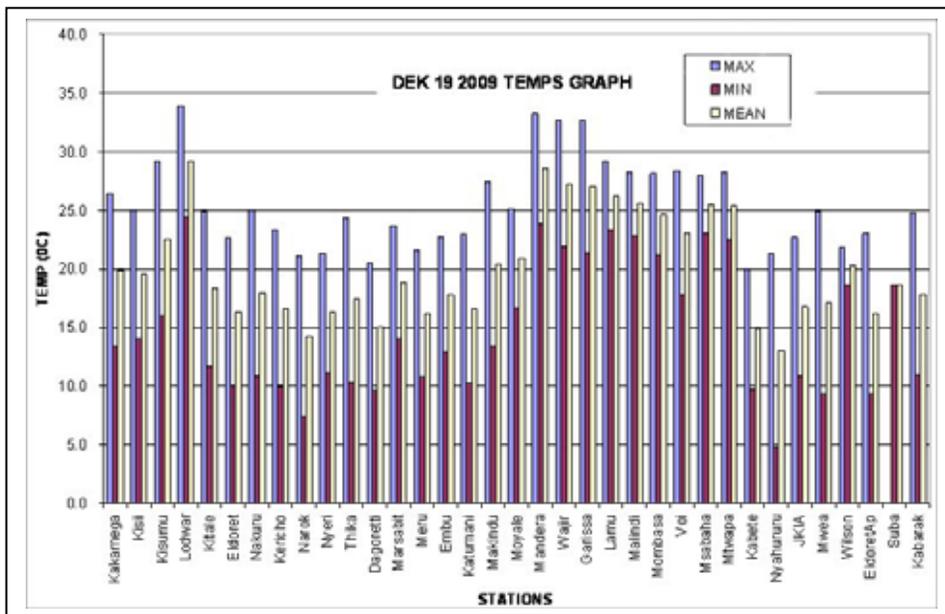
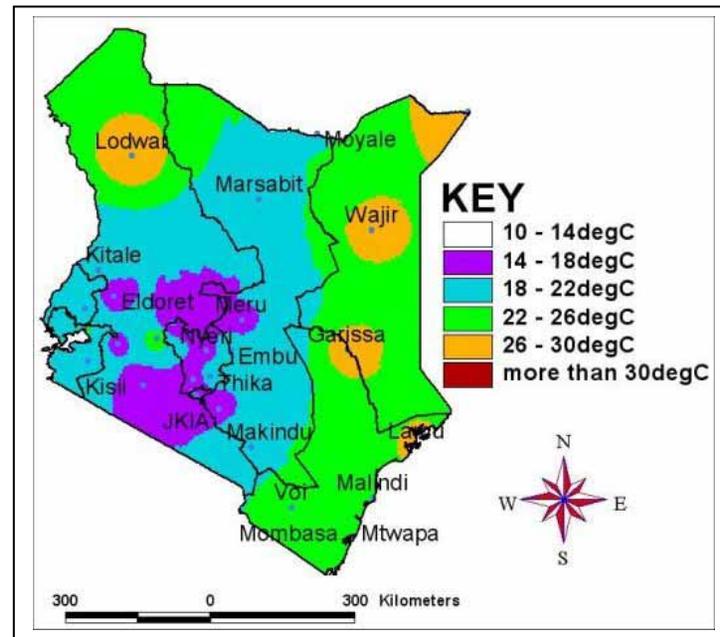
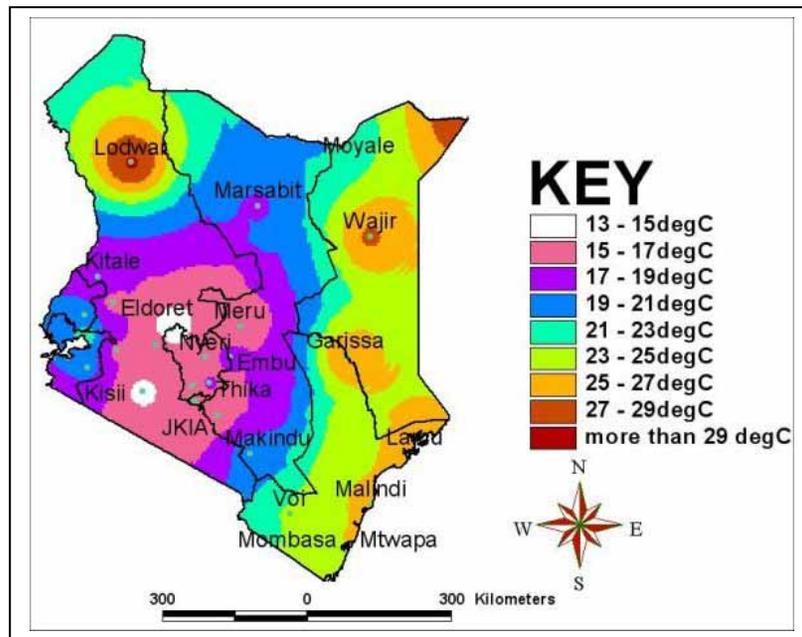


Fig 2: Mean Temperatures (1st to 10th July, 2009) (11th to 20th July, 2009) deg. Celsius



Dekads 19 and 20, 2009 mean temperatures

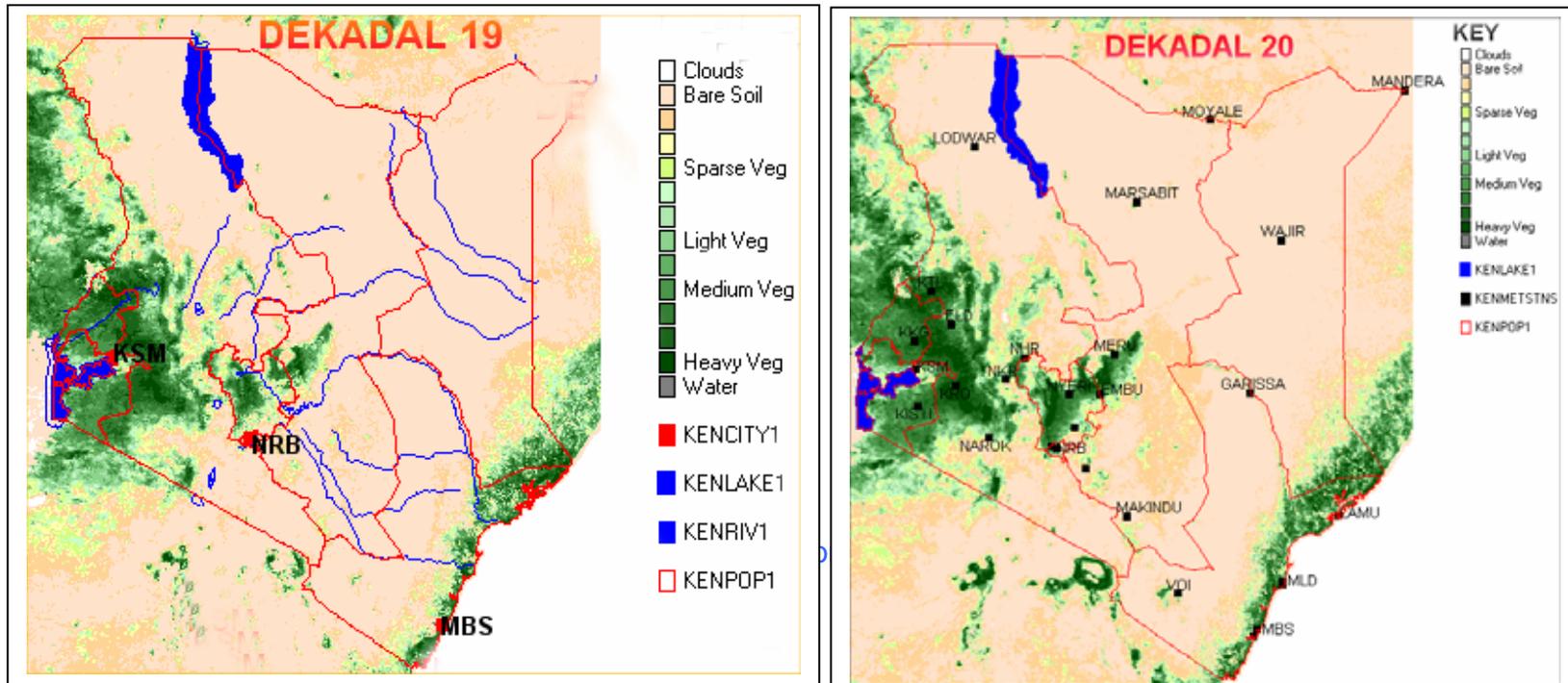


Fig 4: Dekads 19 and 20, 2009 Normalized Difference Vegetation Index,

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

During the next 10 days (21st –31st July, 2009) the Western regions are expected to experience light to moderate rainfall over several places. Crops are expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth with normal yields being expected.

Nyanza and Central Rift Valley are expected to experience light rains over few places, poor crops performance are expected due to reduced rainfall with below normal yields being expected in most areas around Kitale and Eldoret. In areas around Kisumu, harvesting of maize and sorghum is expected to continue with below normal yields being reported.

Central Highlands, Nairobi area and its environs, are expected to experience light rains over few places, with cold and cloudy mornings with light rains/ drizzle over high ground areas. Crops are expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth. Harvesting of the beans is expected to complete with normal yields being expected.

In Eastern Province regions of Embu and Meru districts, bordering Mt Kenya, are expected to experience cool and cloudy mornings with light rains/ drizzle over high ground areas. Crops are expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth. Harvesting of the beans is expected to complete with normal yields being expected.

In South-Eastern lowlands, generally sunny conditions are expected. Poor crop performances are expected due to lack rainfall.

The Coastal region is expected to experience light to moderate rainfall. Good crop performance is expected due to increased rainfall with above normal yields being expected.

In the Northwestern, Northern and Northeastern Kenya hot and dry conditions are expected, famine and hunger and their related impacts are expected to be on the rise due to lack during the last season. Death of livestock is expected to be on the rise due to lack of pastures and water both for human and animal use. Food relief efforts are expected to be put in place to avoid loss of lives due to hunger.

In the pastoral regions and game parks/reserve of Northwestern, Northeastern, Northern Rift Valley, Southern Rift Valley and Southeastern Lowlands, sunny and dry conditions are expected to prevail. Poor pastures and inadequate water sources for human and animal/wildlife use are expected. Poor animals' health both (livestock and game) are expected, due to inadequate pastures. Pastoralist may be forced to start migration in search of pastures and water for their livestock Human. Human conflicts normally arise due to these rare recourses.

In summary, Maize crop expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth in parts of Western, of Nyanza, Central Rift Valley, Central Highlands and parts of Eastern province bordering Mt. Kenya. However, for the pastoral regions and game parks/reserves 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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