



KMD

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

26th Dekad, 11th to 20th September, 2009

Issue No. 26/2009, Season: JAS

HIGHLIGHTS

- *During the 26th Dekad i.e. 11th – 20th September, 2009, moderate to heavy rainfall was received over the Western, Nyanza and parts Central Rift Valley with Kakamega, Kisii, Kisumu, Kericho, Kitale, Eldoret and Nakuru recording 184.3, 56.9, 159.7, 68.3, 36.0, 16.9, and 6.8mm respectively. The Coastal regions experienced insignificant light rainfall with Mtwapa, Lamu, Mombasa and Malindi recording Dekadal rainfall totals of 5.1, 2.1, 3.1 mm, and 5.6 mm respectively. Central Province, Nairobi area and its environs experienced sunny intervals with occasional showers over the high ground areas. The rest of the Country experienced mainly dry and sunny conditions during the Dekad (Fig 1&2)*
- *Day time temperatures were relatively high due to reduced cloud cover over Western, Central Rift Valley, Central Province, Nairobi area and its environs and the Coastal region with Kakamega, Kisumu, Nakuru, Eldoret, Mwea, Nyeri, Meru, Embu, Thika, Dagoretti, Moyale, Makindu and Mombasa recording a Dekadal Mean day Maximum of 27.5, 31.1, 29.1, 25.4, 30.2, 26.6, 26.1, 28.0, 30, 27.4, 28.3, 30.7 and 29.7 deg. Celsius respectively. The rest of the country experienced warm conditions with Lodwar, Mandera, Wajir and, Garissa, recording a Dekadal Mean day Maximum of 36.2, 36.1, 34.3 and 34.3 deg. Celsius respectively. (Fig 2&3)*
- *Night temperatures relatively decreased 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, Nakuru, Nyeri, Embu, Thika, Kabete and Dagoretti recording a Dekadal mean minimum of 6.9, 10.4, 10.5, 12.1, 13.5, 14.4, 13.8, 12.7 and 13.4 deg Celsius respectively. (Figs 1-6)*

- *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. Pastures and animal's health conditions remains generally poor. Death of livestock and wildlife especially the browsers is on the increase due to inadequate water and pastures (Figs. 1- 6)*
- *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 the current drought*

CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW; 11TH TO 20TH SEPTEMBER 2009

Central Province and Nairobi Area:

Cool and cloudy mornings with occasional showers over high ground areas was experienced in Central province, Nairobi area and its environs during the Dekad. Warmer conditions will prevail as the period progresses more so during the afternoon hours. Harvesting of maize in some places has been completed with below normal yields being realized. (Fig1-4).

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. The maize crop has been harvested with below normal yields being reported. Harvesting of the bean crop is complete in most areas with below normal yields being reported. In the low lying areas of Embu, Meru, and Mbeere Districts the maize crop withered due to insufficient rainfall. (Fig1-5)

In the Southern Lowlands of the Eastern Province (Machakos, Makueni, Mwingi and Kitui districts), sunny conditions was experienced over most places during the Dekad. (Fig1-6).

Coast Province:

Insignificant light rainfall was experienced over few places during the Dekad (Lamu, Malindi, Kwale). At Lamu, the maize crop is at harvesting stages with normal yields being expected. For areas around Mshabaha the maize crop is at the harvesting stage with below normal yields being reported due to previous poor farming practices. (Figs.1-4)

North Eastern Province:

Sunny and dry conditions were experienced in the region (Mandera, Moyale, Wajir and Garissa) during the Dekad. Pastures and drinking water for both human and animal (livestock and wildlife) were scarce, while the animal's health conditions remained generally poor. Death of livestock and wildlife is on the rise as current drought conditions continues to bite. (Figs.1, 2, 3, 4,5 &6).

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

Western Province:

Moderate to heavy rainfall were experienced 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 and is corresponding to normal growth with normal yields being expected. Harvesting of the bean crop is complete with normal yields being reported. (Figs.1-4).

Nyanza and Central Rift Valley:

Moderate to heavy rainfall were experienced over few places in this regions (Kisumu, Nyamira, Kisii, Eldoret, Kitale, Kericho) during the Dekad. In areas around Kisii farmers have completed planting while in Kitale farmers have started harvesting their maize. In Kisumu weeding is going on while beans are flowering. (Figs.1-4).

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.1-6).

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) experienced mainly sunny and dry conditions resulting in inadequate water sources for livestock, wildlife and human use. Pastures remained inadequate resulting in poor animals` health (both livestock and game).

Pastoralists have driven their livestock into the National parks /game reserves posing unfair competition to the only available pastures and water for the wildlife. Death of livestock and wildlife is on the rise as current drought conditions continues to bite. (Figs.1, 2, 3, 4,5 &6).

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

Famine/hunger and its related impacts is being experienced and malnutrition levels are still high and on the rise.

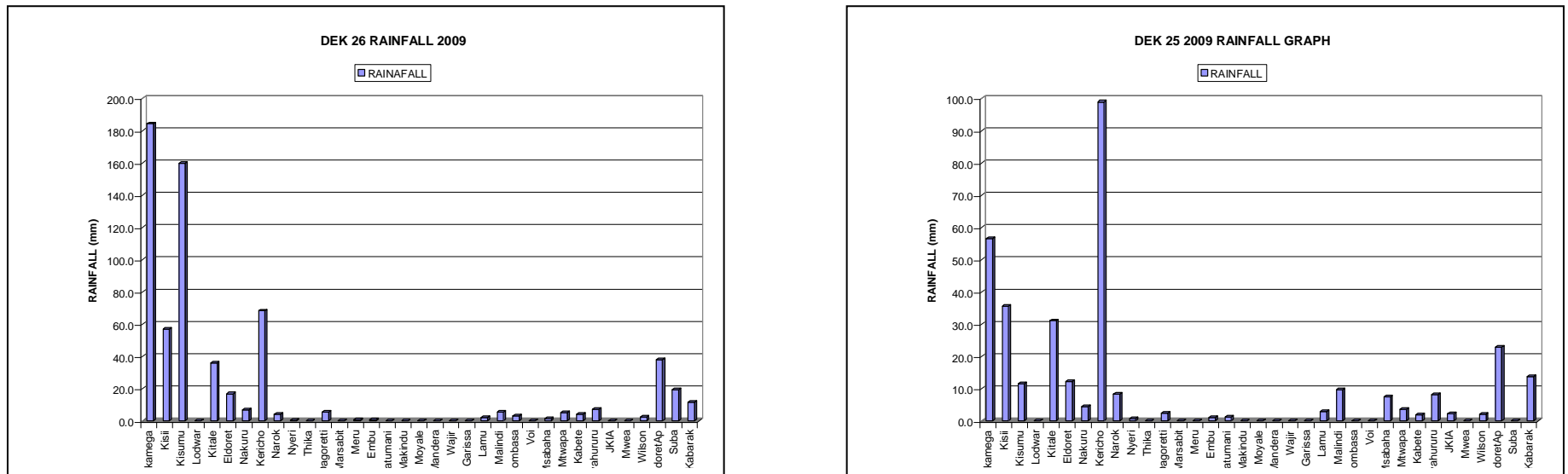
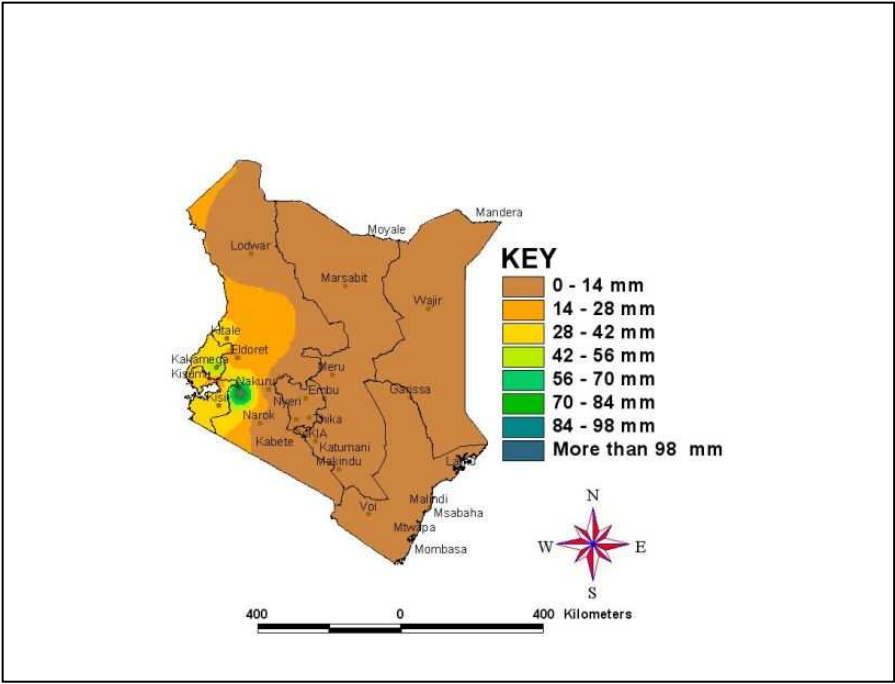
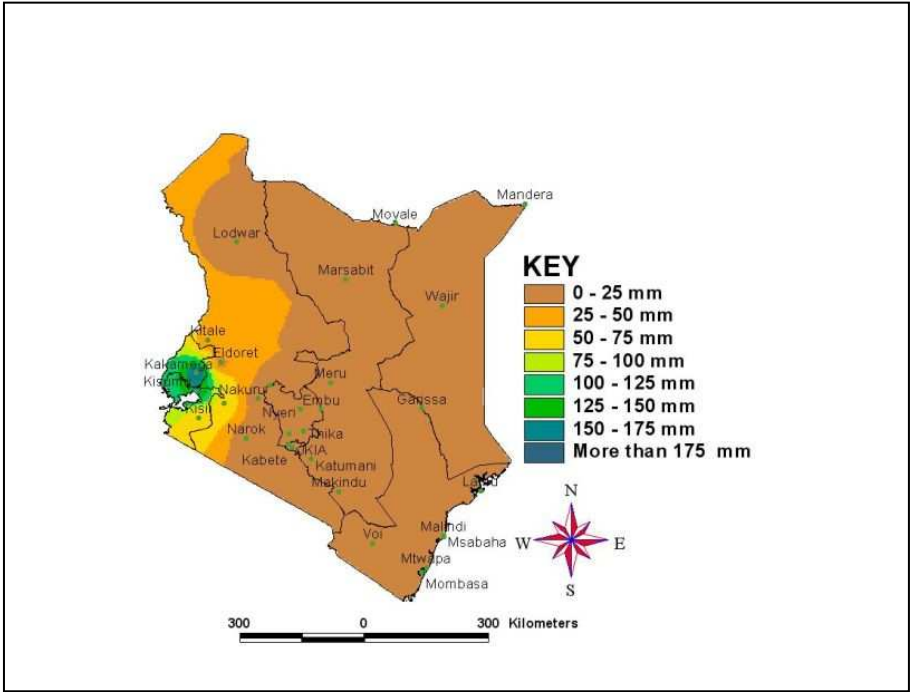
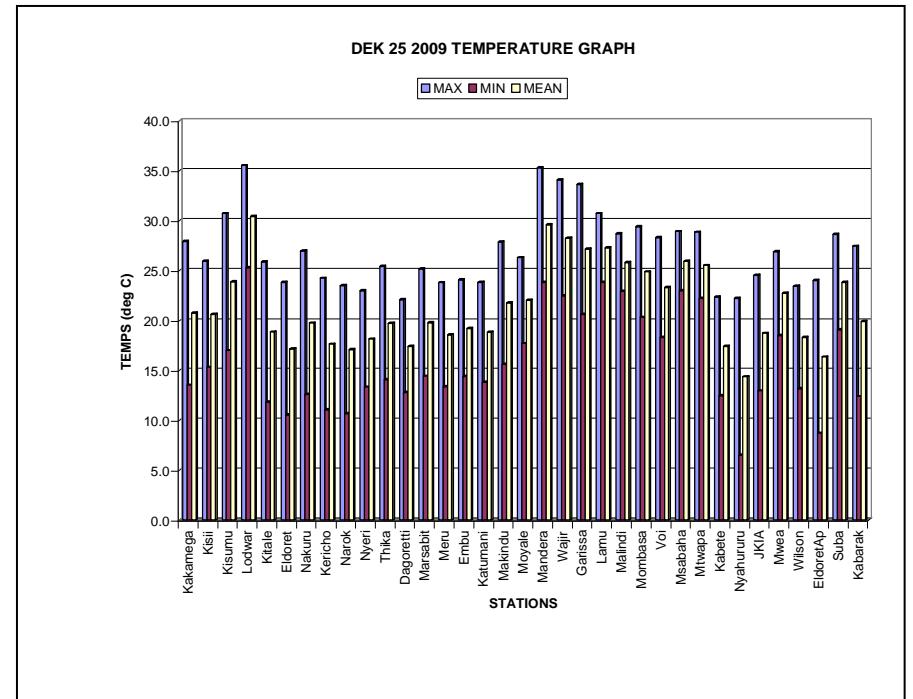
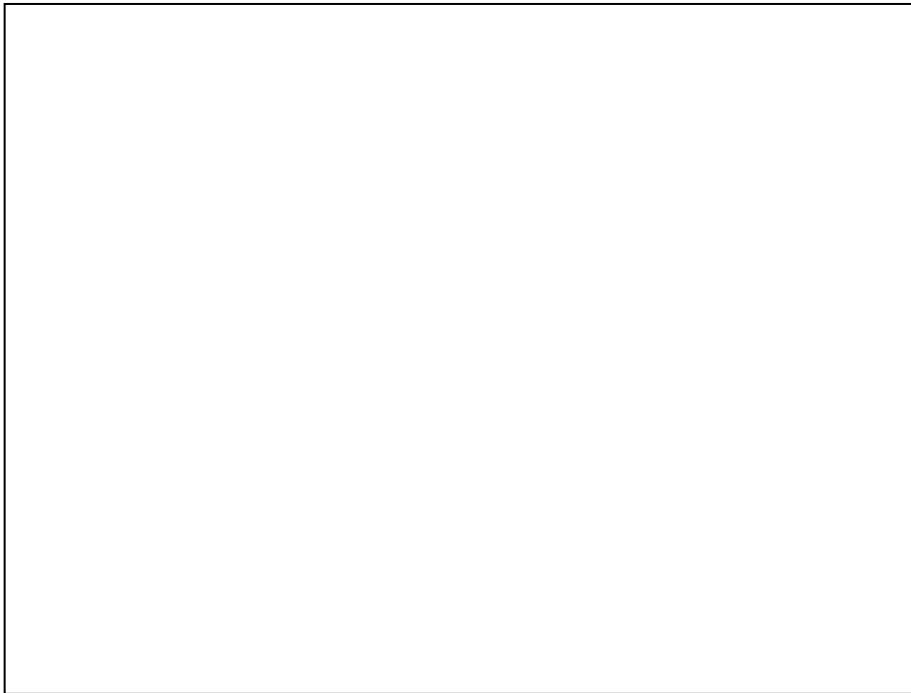


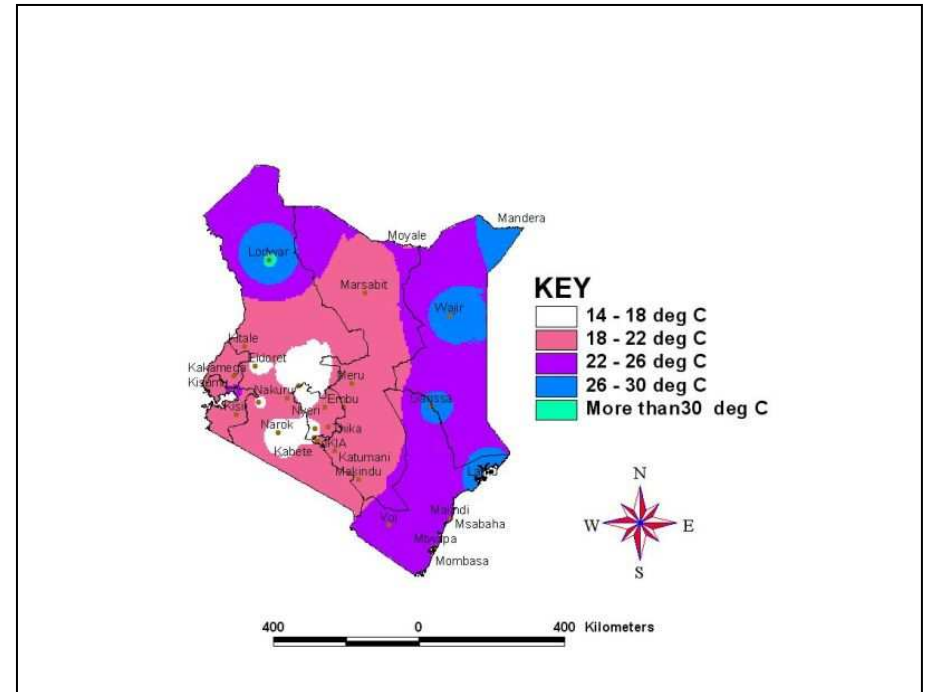
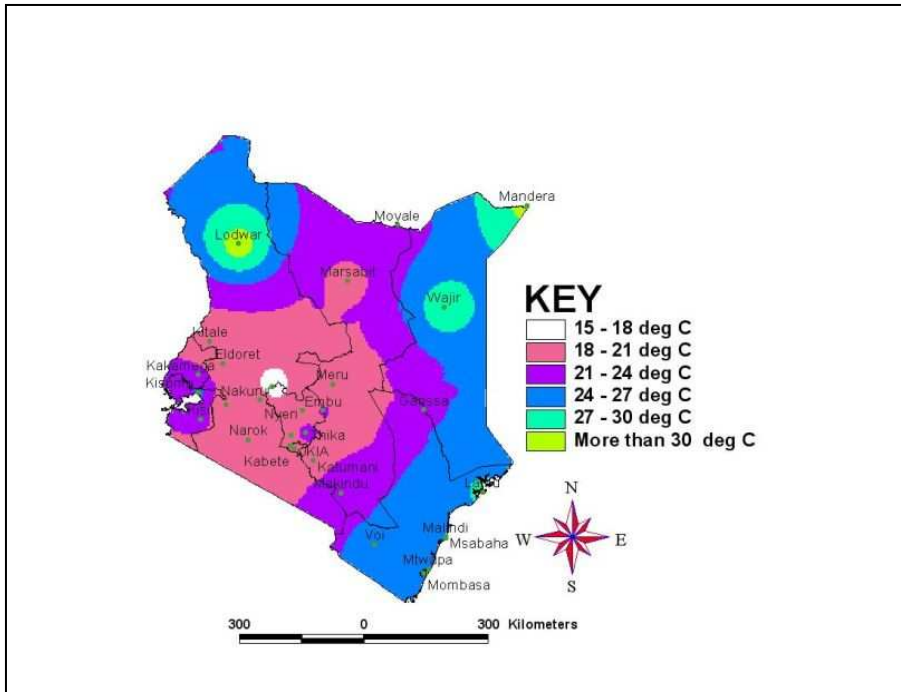
Fig. 1: Actual Rainfall (11th to 20th September, 2009) and (1st to 10th September, 2009) in mm



Figs. 2: Dekads 26 and 25, 2009 rainfall distribution.



Figs 3: Mean Temperatures (11th to 20th September, 2009) AND (1st to 10th September, 2009) deg. Celsius



Figs. 4: Dekads 26 and 25, 2009 mean temperatures distribution

FIG 5: DEKADAL 26 Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (11th to 20th September, 2009)

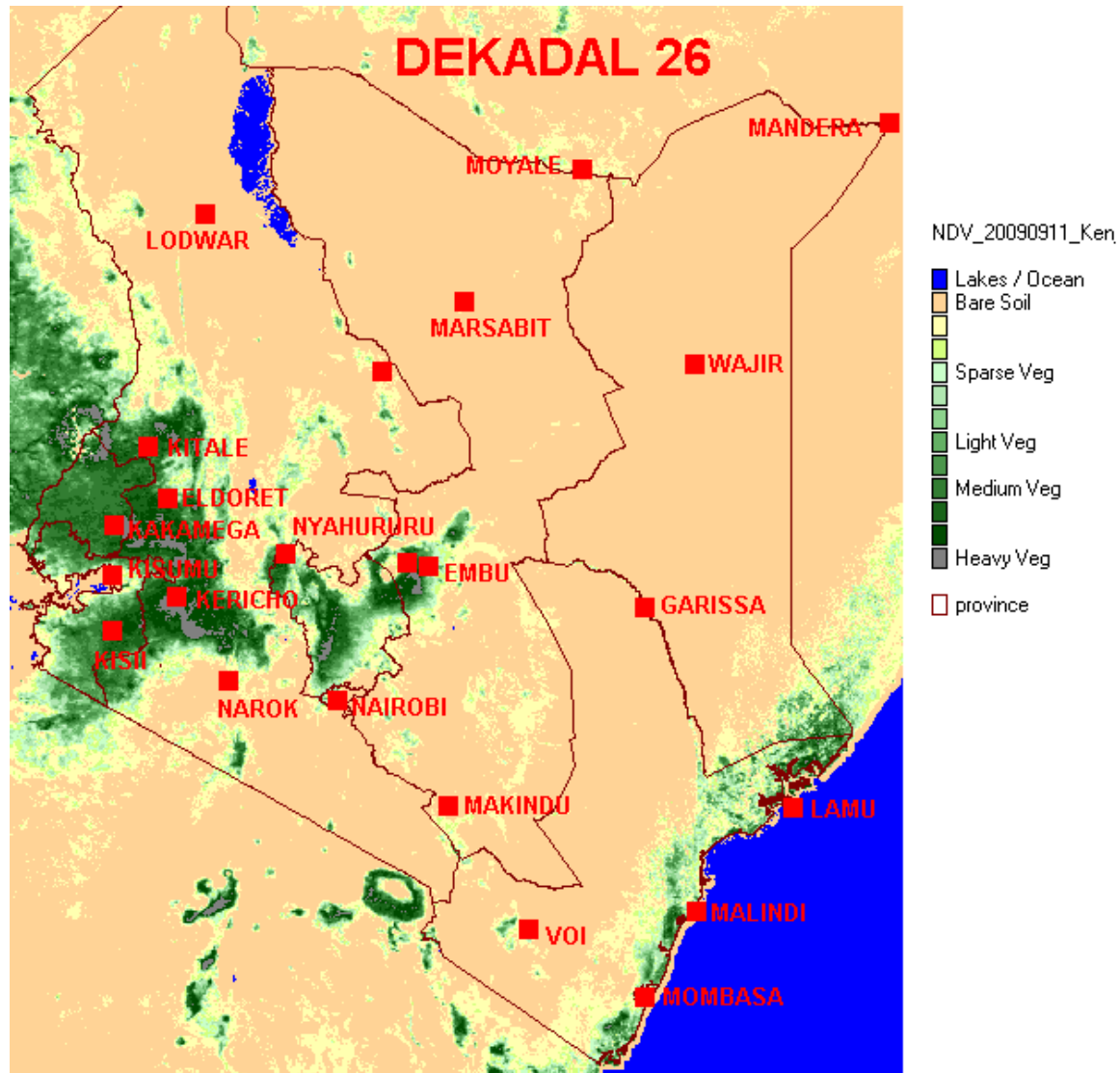
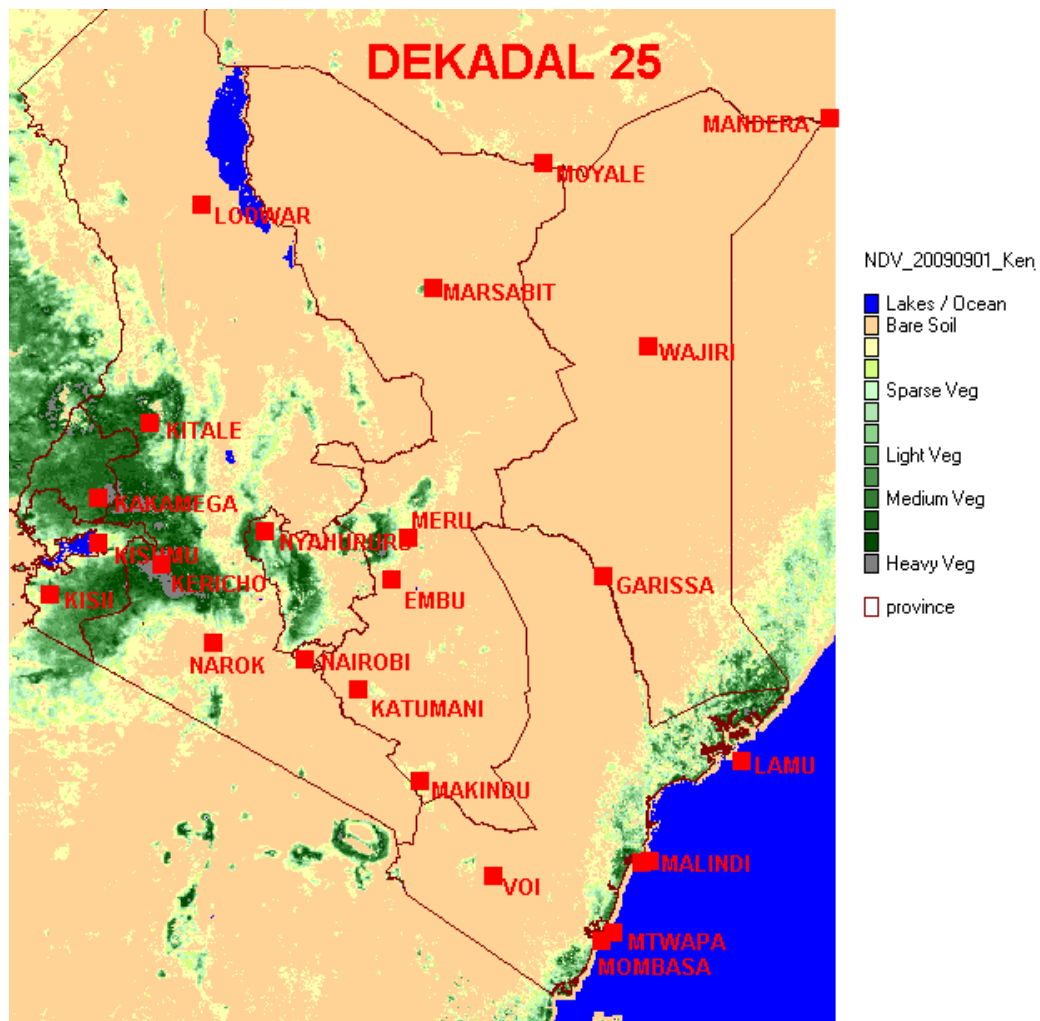


FIG 6: DEKADAL 25 Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (1st to 10th September, 2009)



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

During the next 10 days (21st –30th September, 2009) the Western regions are expected to experience afternoon showers over several places after the beginning of the period reducing to few places as the period progress. 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, weeding is in progress.

Central Highlands, Nairobi area and its environs, are expected to experience light rains over few places, with cool and cloudy mornings with light rains/ drizzle over high ground areas.

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.

In South-Eastern lowlands, generally sunny conditions are expected. Land preparation is going on. Previous crops withered hence famine/hunger and the related impacts are expected to continue.

The Coastal region is expected to experience occasional light rainfall. Harvesting of the maize is expected to continue with normal yields being expected.

In the Northern and Southern Rift Valley, Northeastern, parts Eastern Provinces of Kenya, hot and dry conditions are expected. Famine/hunger and the related impacts are expected to be on the rise due to inadequate rainfall 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 in the region to avert loss of human 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. Lack of pastures and inadequate

water sources for human and animal/wildlife use are expected. Poor animals` health both (livestock and game) are expected. Pastoralist may be forced to migration in search of pastures and water for their livestock and this normally results in armed human to human conflicts over these rare recourses.

In summary, poor maize crop performance is expected in most major maize growing areas in the country, due to inadequate rainfall. The pastoral regions and game parks/reserves poor pastures and water sources are expected. Hunger/famine is expected to worsen due to the current drought facing the country.

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

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