

## DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 3      2005/06 Cropping Season

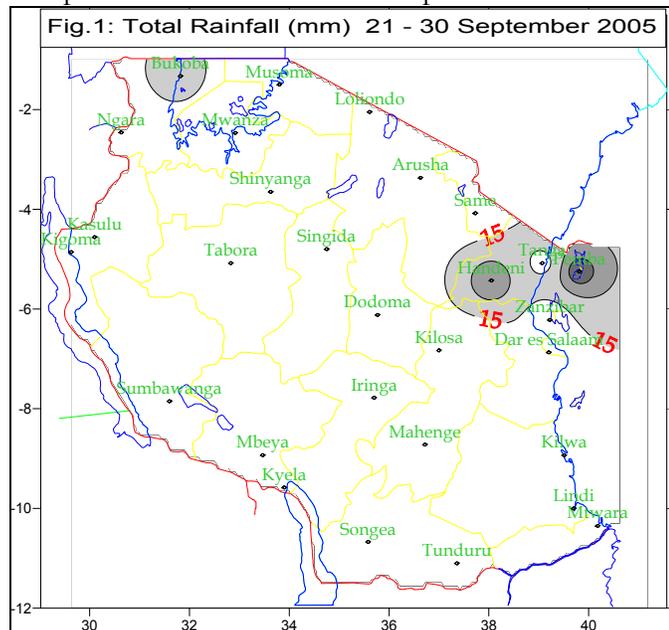
September 21 – 30, 2005

### SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the dekad 21-30<sup>th</sup> September, the Northern hemisphere anticyclones (Azores and Arabian) continued to intensify leading to further shifting of the ITCZ southward. For the Southern hemisphere, the St. Helena Anticyclone remained weak allowing the passage of frontal systems to the southern tip of Africa. The Mascarene and the East African ridge were intense at the beginning of the dekad and relaxed towards the end. There were less influxes of moisture from the Ocean as the southeasterly to easterly winds were not very much evident.

### RAINFALL SUMMARY

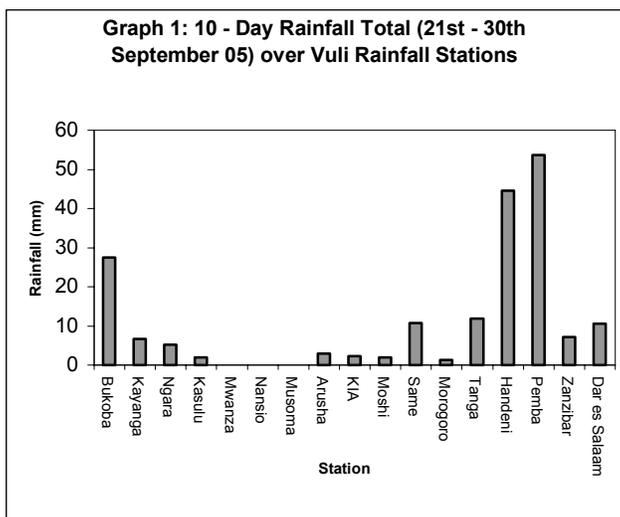
During the period, there was a decrease in rainfall activity over the Lake Victoria Basin (LVB) as compared with the previous dekad.



On the other hand, light rains experienced over a few areas of the northern coast and northeastern

highlands as indicated in Figure 1, were most likely the sign of the beginning of the expected setting in of the short rains. Pemba Island recorded the highest at

**Graph 1: 10 - Day Rainfall Total (21st - 30th September 05) over Vuli Rainfall Stations**



53.7 mm followed by Handeni with 44.5 mm, Tanga A/P (11.9 mm), Same (10.9 mm) and Dar-es-Salaam 10.7 mm as shown in Graph 1. Remaining areas continued to observe the seasonal dry conditions.

### IMPACT ASSESSMENT

#### Agrometeorological

Improved soil moisture conditions from the favourable rains experienced over the northern coast generally improved regeneration of pastures and good conditions for preparations of crop fields. However over the LVB the observed dry spell conditions experienced in most parts of the region impacted a mild deficit in the level of soil moisture requirements on early-planted crops and the general activities of land preparation. Over many parts of the country pasture supply was generally poor, example in Karagwe district and over some areas of the unimodal rainfall regime (Shinyanga and Tabora, Singida and Dodoma regions) where persistent dry

conditions continued, deterioration of quality and supply of pastures were eminent.

**Hydrometeorological**

Low water levels in rivers and lakes were experienced during the period.

**EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS  
DURING FIRST DEKAD  
(01 - 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2005)**

The Arabian and Azores anticyclones over the northern hemisphere are expected to continue intensifying hence pushing the Inter-Tropical Discontinuity (ITD) and the ITCZ further south. The St. Helena anticyclone is expected to relax together with Mascarene anticyclone and the East African ridge. This relaxation will allow the northern weather system to shift southward hence the incursion of the Congo air mass into the Lake basin and Western part of our country.

**EXPECTED WEATHER DURING  
FIRST DEKAD  
(01 – 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2005)**

The Lake Victoria basin, mainly over Kagera and western areas (particularly Kigoma) will experience partly cloudy to cloudy conditions with showers and thunderstorms over few areas and sunny periods. The coastal belt is expected to feature partly cloudy to cloudy conditions at times with rains over few areas and sunny intervals. The northeastern highlands will feature partly cloudy conditions with light rains over few areas mainly over high grounds and sunny periods. The remaining areas will continue to experience partly cloudy conditions and sunny periods.

Prepared by

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