



# TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



## DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 3

2006/07 Cropping Season

September 21 - 30, 2006

### SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the period 21<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> September, the Arabian and Azores anticyclones generally started to intensify gradually while the St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones and the East African ridge indicated some features of relaxation. The southeasterly monsoon (SE) flow south of 5°S changed the direction to easterly at times over the northeastern coast of East Africa thus being dominant feature during the dekad. The near equatorial trough was active over the northern part of the country and contributed to light rains over the Islands of Pemba and Zanzibar, Mtwara and Tanga areas.

### RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the period 21<sup>st</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> September, dry conditions persisted over most parts of the country, which is a normal condition for this time of the year.

However, areas with bimodal rainfall pattern, the Lake Victoria basin, northeastern highlands and northern coastal belt had occasions of light rain showers. A few localized areas reported rainfall amounts above 20 mm, the highest being at Bukoba Airport 97.9 mm, followed by Zanzibar 47.2 mm, Same 40.3 mm, Handeni 36.0 mm, Mahenge 35.8 mm, Pemba 33.5 mm, Arusha 21.3 mm and Tanga 20.6 mm. The reported rainfall activities over bimodal areas indicate above normal rainfall amounts as shown in Figure 1.

### IMPACT ASSESSMENT

#### Agrometeorological

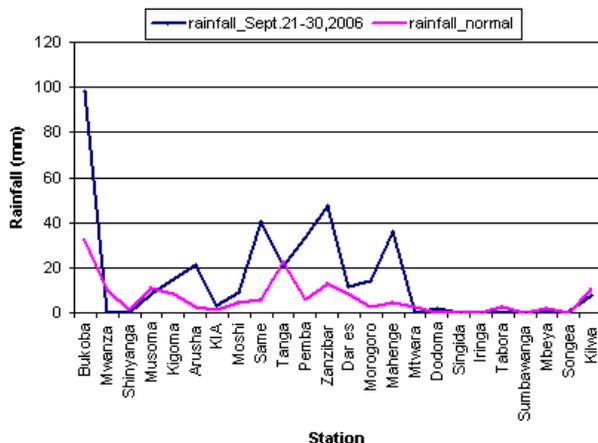
Favorable conditions for land preparations continued to persist over much of the country. Soil moisture replenishment was reported mainly over areas with a bimodal rainfall pattern (Lake Victoria basin, northeastern highlands, and northern coast) following onset of short rainy season (*vuli*). However, over the unimodal rainfall sector (central, western, southwestern highlands, southern and southern coastal regions) land preparations was progressing well although some areas in the region were yet to start as their cropping calendar is anticipated to start in November.

Onset of *vuli* will boost pasture and water for livestock/wildlife in bimodal rainfall areas, whereas in the southern half of the country dry conditions still persist.

#### Hydrometeorological

Onset of *Vuli* in the northern sector will boost water levels in rivers, lakes and dams whereas they will get even lower in southern sectors where the dry season is still continuing.

Fig. 1: Rainfall performance for the period of September 21-30, 2006



**Environmental**

Temperatures are warm and comfortable, with less windy conditions.

**EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS  
DURING OCTOBER 01 – 10, 2006**

The Arabian and Azores anticyclones will gradually intensify especially towards the end of the dekad while the St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones and the East African ridge are expected to relax. The near equatorial trough will continue to be active over the northeastern sector of the country. The southeasterly monsoon (SE) flow south of 5 °S becoming easterly flows north of 5 °S on reaching the East African coast will persist.

**EXPECTED WEATHER DURING  
OCTOBER 01 – 10, 2006**

The Northern coast (Tanga, parts of Dar es Salaam) and Islands of Zanzibar and Pemba) will feature partly cloudy conditions with light rains over few areas and sunny periods. Lake Victoria basin and western areas including Kigoma region will experience partly cloudy to cloudy conditions at times with occasions of thundershowers mainly over the western parts of the lake and sunny periods. Northeastern highlands, mainly over high grounds, will feature light rains at times and sunny periods. Southern, southwestern and central areas will experience partly cloudy conditions and sunny periods.

Prepared by

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