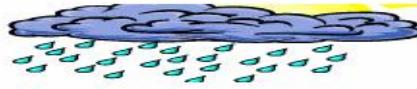




TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 5 2007/08 Cropping Season

October 11-20, 2007

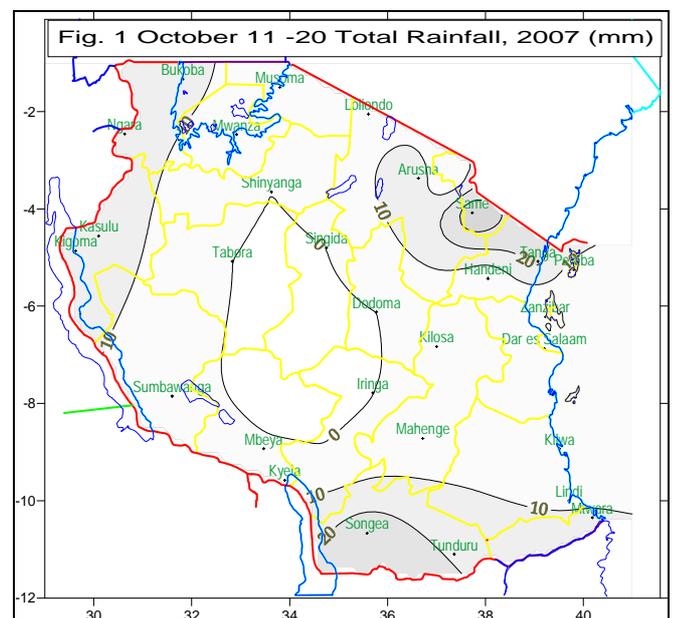
SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During 11 - 20 the October, the southern hemisphere systems (the St. Helena, the Mascarene anticyclones, and the East African ridge) continued to relax, influencing a southeasterly to easterly flow to the country, mainly at low levels. Retreat of the Near Equatorial Trough (NET) over Northwest Indian Ocean coupled with neutral conditions of Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the area, hindered activities over Northern coast. Persistence of a weak trough over Lake Victoria basin and western parts of the country coupled with occasional west-east oscillations of the meridional component of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) resulted into a few activities over the areas. The Siberian high continued to intensify zonally causing the zonal arm of the ITCZ to continue remaining over the Northern Hemisphere

RAINFALL SUMMARY

During October 11-20, rainfall activities were recorded over some parts of the bimodal rainfall regime [northern coastal belt, northeastern highlands and Lake Victoria basin] but at below normal levels and a few parts in the unimodal rainfall pattern observed their first rains for the season. Maximum amounts reported from meteorological stations included Same (40.6mm), Songea (27.3mm), Tanga (22.1mm), Kigoma (18.7mm), Bukoba (15.1mm). Central areas continued to be dry as

shown in the figure 1. A major part of the short rains receiving areas have not recorded significant rainfall so far.



IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological

Soil moisture levels over the bimodal rainfall regime [northern coastal belt, northeastern highlands and lake Victoria basin] so far have recorded isolated improvement. Completion of land preparation and planting activities continued during the period over the bimodal rainfall areas.

Cassava over several areas of the country, at all levels was the most available at markets.

Pasture conditions and water availability for livestock and wildlife are short in supply especially over central and southwestern areas.

Hydrometeorological

Water levels in lakes and dams are falling as well as river discharges, and have not yet been boosted by the rains.

Environmental

Temperatures are increasing while wind speeds are declining. Bush and wildfires are still a menace in most parts of the country.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING OCTOBER 21 – 30, 2007

During this dekad, the southern hemisphere systems (the St. Helena, the Mascarene anticyclones, and the East African ridge) are expected to continue relaxing. The southeasterly flow turning to easterly flow at times is expected to be dominant over the entire country, mainly over low levels. The NET over the northwest Indian Ocean, is expected continue retreating. However SSTs are expected to continue being neutral over North-west Indian Ocean. The Azores and Siberian anticyclones in the northern hemisphere are expected to continue intensifying, hence pushing the ITCZ further southwards.

EXPECTED WEATHER DURING OCTOBER 21 – 30, 2007

The northern coast and northeastern highlands are expected to experience light rain-showers over few areas, whereas the southern coast is expected to have occasional rain-showers due to pressure drops and a long ocean track of easterly flow. The Lake Victoria basin and western areas (Kigoma) are expected to continue receiving showers and isolated thunderstorms over a few areas. Central, southwestern highlands, southern region, western areas are expected to feature mainly partly cloudy conditions with sunny periods.