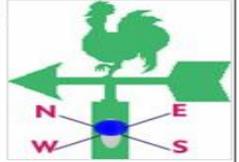




TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 31 2007/08 Cropping Season

July 1-10, 2008

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During 1-10 July, East African ridge prevailed resulting into much of the country falling under low-level diffluent flow pattern. This situation continued to influence dry weather over most areas of the country. Occasionally south-easterly flow continued to bring moist air-mass from the Indian Ocean to the coast mainly the extreme north. The Near Equatorial Trough (NET) was generally weak reducing activities over the coastal belt. The zonal arm of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) remained further north away from Tanzania. The Azores and Siberian anticyclones over the northern hemisphere continued to relax and resulted into retreat of the meridional component of the ITCZ.

pockets mainly over Lake Victoria basin, northern coast, and northeastern highlands as shown in Figure 1. The highest 10 day rainfall amount was reported at Bukoba 18.5 mm (Lake Victoria basin), followed by Lyamungo 17.9 mm (northeastern highlands), and Pemba 16.5 mm (Island of Pemba). Much of the country remained seasonably dry, indicating a normal tendency of dry season during this period of year.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Declining trend of soil moisture levels continued across the country as a result of prevailing seasonal dry conditions. During the dekad, farmers over unimodal rainfall pattern areas were finalizing crop harvesting (maize, paddy, and millet/sorghum) for 2007/08 cropping season whose yield is estimated to be normal for the areas over southern, southwestern highlands and western. However poor harvests have been reported over the central areas.

Likewise over bimodal rainfall regime areas, farmers were continuing with harvesting of maize, beans, and coffee. Crop harvest is anticipated to be good over some areas, while poor harvests are reported over Same (Mkumbara and Mkomazi), Mbulu, Loliondo, and Rombo in the northeastern highlands, and Ngara, Karagwe, Magu, Kwimba, and Tarime in the Lake Victoria basin. Poor rainfall distribution and early cessation attributed to poor crop harvests in those regions.

Market supply for cassava over several areas of the country continued fairly well, while pasture conditions and water availability for livestock and wildlife were declining.

RAINFALL SUMMARY

During July 1-10 rainfall was reported over a few

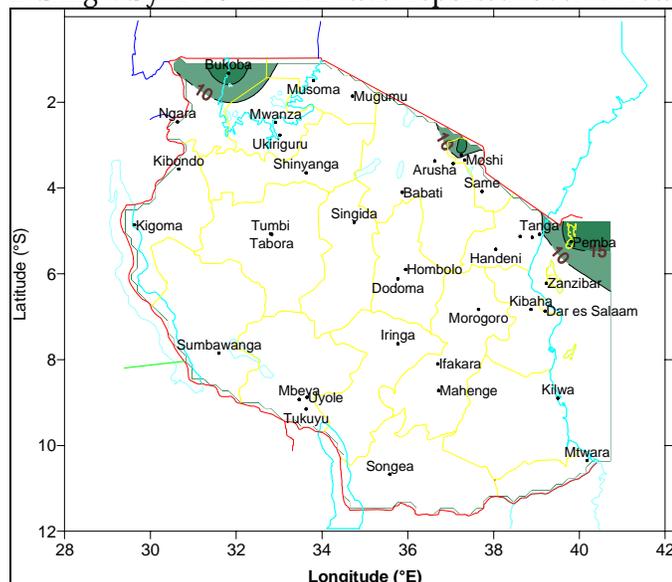


Fig. 1: July 1-10, 2008 Rainfall Distribution (mm)

Hydrometeorological Summary

Low humidity and prevailing winds during second dekad of July will result into higher evaporation rates leading to a reduction in water levels in lakes and dams, and rivers discharges.

Water for domestic and industrial purposes should be used sparingly.

Environmental Summary

Night temperatures continue falling over most parts of the country as the cool/cold season continues. In high altitude areas where temperatures get too low, heating up of homes by using charcoal stoves, firewood, etc, should be done with great care to avoid asphyxiation from carbon monoxide.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING JULY 11-20, 2008

During the period, the northern hemisphere anticyclones (Azores and Siberian) are expected to remain relaxed while over the southern hemisphere, the St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones are expected to gradually continue intensifying. This situation will continue to reinforce the East African ridge and cause much areas of the country to continue falling under diffluent wind flow pattern.

Southeasterly winds are expected to occasionally continue fetching moist air from the Indian Ocean to the coastal areas, but will continue to affect northern coast.

EXPECTED WEATHER DURING JULY 11- 20, 2008

The Lake Victoria basin is expected to feature mainly dry weather with long sunny periods interrupted with occasional light rains and isolated thundery activities caused by the Lake trough. Occasional advection of moist air-mass from the Indian Ocean is expected to continue causing a few isolated showers over northern coast together with isles of Zanzibar and Pemba. Central regions, southwestern highlands, western and southern areas are expected to feature mostly dry weather with long sunny periods. Northeastern highlands will experience few outbreaks of orographic light rains. Cold morning associated with light drizzle is expected to persist mainly over high ground areas in the northeastern and southwestern highlands. The remaining areas are expected to generally feature night and morning cool temperatures.