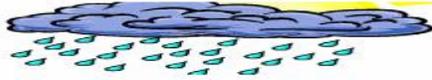




TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 35, 2008/09 Cropping Season

August 11-20, 2009

HIGHLIGHTS

Continuous soil moisture deficits over much of the country resulted into more decline of pastures and water availability for livestock and wildlife.

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the second dekad of August 2009, both southern hemisphere high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) were intense contributing to a persistent strong East African Ridge towards the region. The intense high pressure cells over South African tips and developments of cold front systems continued to allow southerly to southeasterly wind flow associated with cold air advection towards the country. A persistent divergent wind pattern condition during much of the period contributed to suppressed cloud formation over most areas. The Azores and Siberian high pressure systems in the northern hemisphere were relaxed however, occasional intensification was also observed resulting to south-north fluctuation of the zonal component of the Inter-tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) in the northern hemisphere.

RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the second dekad of August the country was generally dry except for a few pockets over coastal areas and Lake Victoria basin which received some rainfall, whereby Bukoba was leading by 22.2 mm followed by Mugumu 18.8 mm and Matangatuani 5.0 mm. Other stations received very light rains of less than 5 mm.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Persistent soil moisture deficits over much of the country resulted into more decline of pastures and water availability for livestock and wildlife. The situation was more pronounced over northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara, and Kilimanjaro regions) and central areas due to a poor rainfall performance during previous season.

Hydrometeorological Summary

Water levels in lakes and dams, and discharges in rivers in their respective catchments were declining over most areas as the dry season continues. Water for industrial and domestic purposes should be used sparingly.

Environmental Summary

Night temperatures continued to be low over most parts of the country. As night temperatures get low, caution should be taken against use of charcoal stoves for heating homes to avoid asphyxiation. Dry windy conditions that prevailed over northeastern highlands, coast, central and western areas increased prospects for diseases such as coughs, colds, pneumonia, and asthma.

**EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS
AUGUST 21-31, 2009**

During the dekad, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems (St. Helena and the Mascarene) are expected to remain intense, whereas the Azores and Siberian high pressure systems in the northern hemisphere are expected to intensify slightly thus allowing north-south oscillation of zonal component of the ITCZ. The Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over southwest Indian Ocean are expected to be near neutral with a tendency of warming likely towards the end of this dekad. The tropical Pacific Ocean SSTs are expected to be slightly warmer in association to the developing El-Nino conditions. The East African ridge is expected to slightly retreat southwards. The above configuration is expected to bring slightly moist southeasterly to easterly flow over the coastal areas.

**EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS
DURING AUGUST 21-31, 2009**

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mara, and Mwanza regions) is expected to feature partly cloudy conditions with isolated thundershowers and sunny periods mainly over western parts of the Lake including the northern parts of Kigoma.

While Shinyanga region is expected to feature generally partly cloudy conditions. Northern coast and hinterland (Dar es Salaam, northern Morogoro, Tanga, Coastal regions together with the Islands of Unguja and Pemba) will generally feature partly cloud conditions and isolated showers over few areas. Southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) are expected to experience mainly partly cloudy conditions. Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara regions) are expected to feature mainly partly cloudy conditions and a few light rains mainly over the high grounds. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya and Iringa and southern parts of Morogoro region) are expected to feature generally dry conditions with chilly and cool weather conditions especially during nights and early morning hours. Western areas (Tabora, southern Kigoma, southern Morogoro and Rukwa regions), Central (Dodoma and Singida regions) and southern region (Ruvuma region) is expected to feature mainly partly cloudy conditions and long sunny periods.