



# TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



## DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 6, 2009/10 Cropping Season

October 21-31, 2009

### HIGHLIGHT

Over bimodal rainfall areas crop planting and land preparation were the major activities carried out during the period.

### SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the third dekad of October 2009, both southern hemisphere high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) relaxed contributing significantly to a weakening of the East African Ridge. The Siberia and Azores high pressure systems in the northern hemisphere intensified and allow Arabian ridge to establish itself and push the Inter-tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) southwards.

### RAINFALL SUMMARY

During October 21-30, central and southern areas of the country continued to experience generally dry conditions compared to normal as shown in Figure 1. Some areas of bimodal rainfall regime recorded significant amounts of rainfall which were above normal whereby Tanga received the highest amount of 168.9 mm followed by Amani 105.6 mm, Pemba 101.0 mm, Mlingano 94.9 mm, Bukoba 79.6 mm and Kizimbani 73.7 mm. Other stations which received rainfall are as shown in Fig 1.

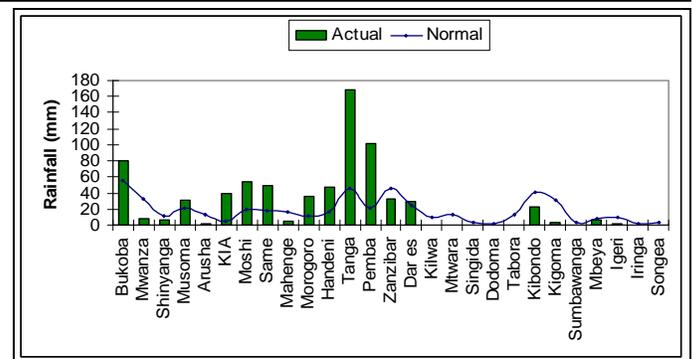


Fig 1: Oct 21-31 Rainfall amounts compared to normal

### IMPACT ASSESSMENT

#### Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Improved soil moisture conditions were reported over some parts of the northeastern highlands and northern coast. In some areas particularly (Same) emergence of crops have started. Over bimodal areas where improved soil moisture conditions were reported crop planting and land preparations were the major activities occupying farmers.

Market supply for cassava over several areas continued fairly well.

There is still a scarcity of pasture and water for livestock and wildlife over much of northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara, and Kilimanjaro regions) and central regions.

### Hydrometeorological Summary

There is still no significant improvement in Water levels in rivers, lakes and dams and their respective catchments over most areas of the country. Water for industrial and domestic purposes should be used sparingly.

### Environmental Summary

Temperatures over most parts of the county were high while humidity levels have remained fairly low.

### EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS NOVEMBER, 1-10, 2009

During the dekad, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems ( St. Helena and the Mascarene) are expected to continue relaxing, whereas the Azores and Siberian high pressure system in the northern hemisphere are expected to intensify thus allowing the ITCZ to continue moving southwards over northern Tanzania. Wind convergence over Lake Victoria Basin and occasionally over the northeastern parts of the country is expected to allow moisture influx over the area. Easterly to southeasterly wind flow is expected to influence the weather over the coastal areas and occasionally over the hinterlands. Warmer Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) are shifting towards Central Indian Ocean, and are likely to reduce rainfall activities over the Country.

### EXPECTED WEATHER NOVEMBER, 1-10, 2009

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mara and Mwanza regions) and some parts of western areas (Kibondo district) are expected to feature cloudy conditions with showers and thunderstorms and sunny intervals. These activities are likely to affect Shinyanga region. Northern coast and hinterland (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Tanga, Coastal regions together with the Islands of Unguja and Pemba) are expected to experience partly cloudy conditions with isolated showers. The rains are expected to be mainly normal. Southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) are expected to experience generally partly cloudy condition with occasional showers. Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara regions), the rains which have started over the area are expected to spread gradually over the region and they are expected to be mainly normal during this dekad. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya and Iringa regions) are expected to feature generally partly cloudy conditions. Light rainshowers are expected mainly over high grounds. Western areas (Tabora, southern Kigoma) and Rukwa region are expected to feature mainly partly cloudy condition. However few areas of Rukwa and Tabora region are expected to experience isolated showers and thunderstorms. Central (Dodoma and Singida regions) and southern region (Ruvuma region) are expected to feature mainly partly cloudy conditions and sunny periods. A few outbreaks of showers are likely to occur over northern Singida.

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