



TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 28, 2009/10 Cropping Season

June 1-10, 2010

HIGHLIGHTS

- Over bimodal areas, crops were ranging from wax ripeness and harvesting stage, and good harvest is anticipated.
- Over unimodal rainfall sector, crop harvesting was the major activity, and good harvest is anticipated.

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the first dekad of June 2010, the southern hemisphere systems (St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones) continued to intensify while the Siberian anticyclone and the associated Arabian ridge in the northern hemisphere relaxed keeping the rain-making mechanism (Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone, ITCZ) further north over the Great Horn of Africa. The East African Ridge intensified significantly thus maintaining low-level diffluent pattern, thus causing a relatively less convective atmosphere over the country.

RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the dekad under review, dry conditions spread over much of the country indicating the end of rain season. However, a few localized areas over bimodal rainfall regime continued experiencing rains where the Lake Victoria basin, northern coast, and northeastern highlands reported rainfall 20 mm and 100 mm. Bukoba reported the highest amount of about 98.8 mm followed by Lyamungo 56.1 mm, Mwanza 50.8 mm, Pemba 47.5 mm, and Tanga 40.7 mm which were all above normal except over Pemba which was near normal as shown in Figure 1 and 2. Other stations recorded less than 10 mm with much of the country remaining seasonably dry.

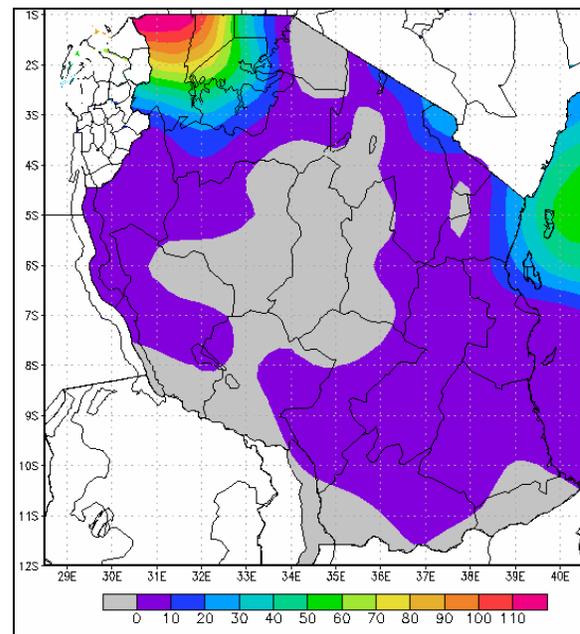


Figure 1: June 1-10, 2010 Rainfall Distribution

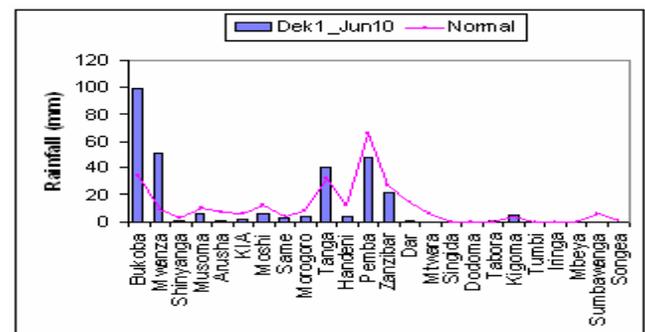


Figure 2: June 1-10, 2010 Observed against normal rainfall

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

During the first dekad of June 2010 crops mainly maize, paddy and beans over most areas of bimodal rainfall pattern were ranging between wax ripeness and harvesting maturity. Most crops were generally in good state as observed mainly over the northeastern highlands, despite the extensive dry spell experienced during the previous dekad particularly over some lowland areas of Hai and Same districts, and parts of northern coast (Tanga and Coast regions). Yield prospects for 2010 *Masika* cropping season is expected to be good despite of false starts, dry spells and early cessation. Over unimodal areas, farmers were continuing with harvesting of maize, beans, paddy, sunflower, sorghum and millet, and yield prospects is generally good, though some areas like Ismani in Iringa (north) and Nzega in Tabora experienced poor crop performance due to inadequate soil moisture supply enhanced by earlier cessation of the seasonal rains.

Market supply for cassava over several areas continued fairly well.

Pasture and water availability are good and livestock conditions are normal.

Hydro-meteorological Summary

Water levels in lakes, dams and river flows maintained during the period, thus water availability for human and industrial use, and hydro power generation is good.

Environmental Summary

Cool temperatures over most areas in the country have led to comfortable conditions at night although over high ground areas cold temperatures were uncomfortable as reported from Mbulu and Meru districts.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING JUNE 11-20, 2010

For the coming dekad, the southern hemisphere systems (the Mascarene and St. Helena anticyclones together with East African ridge) are expected to continue intensifying while the Azores and Siberian anticyclones together with the Arabian ridge in the northern hemisphere are likely to relax pushing the ITCZ further northwards. Occasional southeasterly flow is likely to occur over the eastern parts of the country allowing outbreaks of moist air over the areas.

EXPECTED WEATHER SITUATION DURING JUNE 11-20, 2010

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Shinyanga, Mara and Mwanza regions) is likely to experience a few showers and thunderstorms. Northern coast and hinterland (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Tanga and Coastal regions together with the Islands of Unguja and Pemba) are expected to experience occasional off-seasonal rainfall. Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara regions) are expected to experience mainly normal orographical rainfall mainly over high grounds. Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): Most areas are expected to experience mainly dry conditions with a few light showers. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya and Iringa regions) are expected to experience reduced night temperatures associated with chilly weather mainly over high grounds. Southern region (Ruvuma region) and part of Mahenge are expected to experience occasional light rains. Outbreaks of light rains are expected over high grounds near the Lake. Western areas (Tabora and Kigoma regions) are expected to feature mainly dry conditions. However, Northern Kigoma is likely to experience occasional showers. Central (Dodoma and Singida regions) are expected to feature dry conditions. Relatively low temperatures are likely during night and early morning hours. Occasionally windy conditions are also likely to occur.

Prepared by

TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY

3rd, 4th 5th & 10th Floors - Ubungo Plaza – Morogoro Road.

P.O. Box 3056 Tel. 255 -(0) 22 – 2460706-8 ; Fax: 255 - (0) 22 – 2460718 E-mail: (1) met@meteo.go.tz (2) agromet1_tz@meteo.go.tz

Dar-es-Salaam UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA