



TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 2, 2010/11 Cropping Season

September 11-20, 2010

HIGHLIGHTS

Dry conditions threatens availability of water supply for normal use and pasture for livestock and wildlife particularly over northeastern highlands and central regions of Tanzania

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the second dekad of September 2010, the Azores and Siberian anticyclones together with the Arabian ridge in the northern hemisphere intensified occasionally while slightly relaxation of the southern hemisphere systems (the Mascarene and St. Helena anticyclones together with the associated East African ridge) was observed. The zonal component of the rain-making mechanism-Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) moved slightly southwards. During the period, Easterly waves influenced rainfall over the coastal areas ahead of the expected seasonal rainfall system.

RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the second dekad of September, the country was seasonally dry except for few areas over Lake Victoria Basin and northern coast which reported rainfall amounts that exceeded 10 mm over **very few** places.

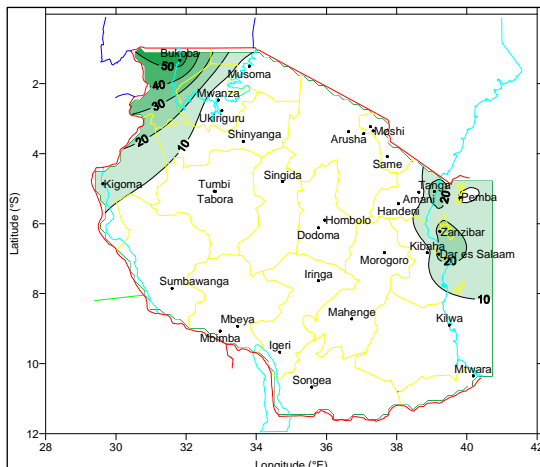


Figure 1: Rainfall distribution during September 11-20, 2010

The highest rainfall amount (55.4 mm) was recorded at Bukoba in Kagera region. Stations which reported rainfall amounts exceeding 10 mm were Tanga 30.7 mm, Dar es Salaam 24.1 mm, Zanzibar 21.9 mm, and Kigoma 13.4 mm as indicated in the Figure 1 above.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Dry condition continued to persist over almost the whole country except for a few areas mainly parts of bimodal areas in Lake Victoria basin, northern Kigoma (Kasulu and Kibondo districts) and northern coast that received handful amounts of precipitation during the period, making it favorable for land preparation as well as early crop planting as reported to have been started over parts of Kagera region (Ngara, Muleba and Karagwe districts).

On the other hand, dry conditions threatens availability of water supply for normal use and pasture for livestock and wildlife particularly over northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara, and Kilimanjaro regions) and central (Dodoma and Singida regions) parts of the country.

Hydro-meteorological Summary

Water levels in lakes and dams and river flows have declined due to the prevailing dry season, thus water for human and industrial usage, and hydro-power generation should be used sparingly.

Environmental Summary

Cool temperatures over most areas in the country have led to comfortable conditions at night although over high altitude areas cold temperatures were uncomfortable as reported from Mbeya, Sumbawanga

(southwestern highlands), Mbulu and Meru districts (northeastern highlands).

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2010

The coming dekad is likely to be associated with slight relaxation of the southern hemisphere systems (the Mascarene and St. Helena anticyclones together with the East African ridge) while the Azores and Siberian anticyclones together with the Arabian ridge in the northern hemisphere are likely to continue intensifying. The general wind flow pattern is expected to be southeasterly.

EXPECTED WEATHER SITUATION DURING SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2010

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mara and Mwanza regions) is likely to experience few showers and thunderstorms. Shinyanga region is likely to experience mainly dry conditions.

Northern coast and hinterland (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Tanga and Coast regions, Islands of Unguja and Pemba) are likely to experience occasional showers mainly along the coastal areas and the Islands of Pemba and Unguja. It should also be noted that outbreaks of moderate to heavy rainfall are likely to occur mainly over the Island of Pemba and coastal areas of Tanga region. Southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): Most areas are expected to experience mainly dry conditions with occasional light showers. Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara regions) are expected to experience light showers and relatively low temperatures. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya and Iringa regions) mainly dry conditions are expected over greater part of the region except for high grounds where light rains may occur. Southern region (Ruvuma region) and part of Mahenge are expected to experience mainly dry conditions. Kigoma region is expected to feature some showers mainly over northern parts of the region. Central (Dodoma and Singida regions) and Tabora region are expected to feature persistently dry conditions and long sunny periods.

Prepared by

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