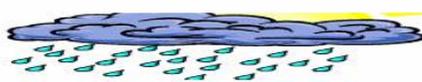




# TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



## DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 27 Cropping Seasons 2010/11

May 21-31, 2011

### HIGHLIGHTS

- During the dekad, over some parts of bimodal sector, soil moisture conditions favoured growth and development of field crops, mainly maize and beans which were at late vegetative to grain and pod filling stages.
- Temperatures over most areas in the country were generally moderate with cool conditions reported over high ground areas in the northeastern and southwestern highlands.

### SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the third dekad of May 2011, the northern hemisphere high pressure cells, the Azores and Siberian high and its associated Arabian ridge were relaxed while the southern hemisphere pressure systems, St Helena and Mascarene anticyclones intensified resulting to northward shift of rain making mechanism (ITCZ). Southerly to southeasterly low level wind continued to dominate the eastern parts of the country thus supplying moisture to the coastal belt and northeastern highlands. The meridional arm of ITCZ retreated westwards and became less active over the country.

### RAINFALL SUMMARY

During this dekad few rainfall activities were observed over the southern and northern coastal areas of the country. The highest rainfall amount for the period was obtained at Mtwara Airport 85.0 mm, followed by Pemba 72.3 mm, Naliendele 63.7 mm, Mahenge 59.9 mm, Lyamungo 57.5 mm, Marikitanda (Tanga region) 51.6 mm, Kilwa Masoko 47.1 mm, Dar es Salaam 39.4 mm, Mlingano 36.2 mm, Zanzibar 27.6 mm and Bukoba 27.1 mm. The rest of the stations recorded rainfall amounts of below 20 mm with several others reporting dry conditions as shown in Figure 1.

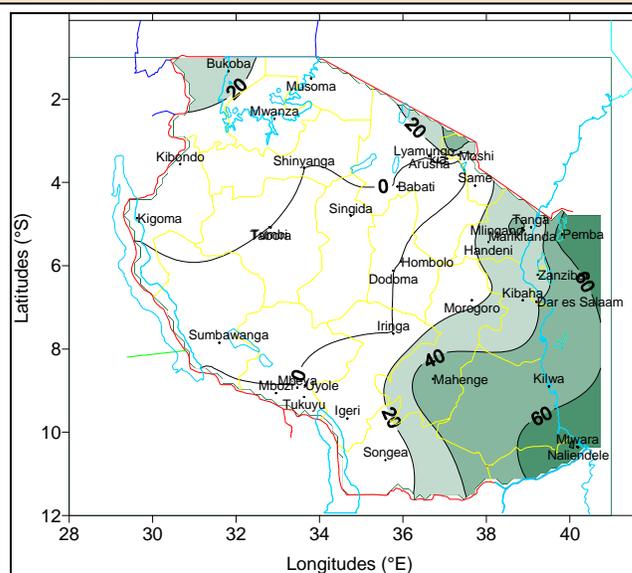


Fig. 1: May 21-31, 2011 Rainfall distribution (mm)

### Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Observed soil moisture condition over some parts of bimodal sector during the dekad favoured growth and development of field crops mainly maize and beans that were generally at late vegetative to grain and pod filling stages as reported mostly from northern coast (Tanga and Coast regions) and northeastern highlands (Same, Moshi, Arusha, and Mbulu districts) and parts of Lake Victoria basin (Musoma, Mugumu, and Tarime districts). Likewise, over unimodal sector the decreasing levels of soil moisture favored harvesting activities of most field crops including maize, although pockets of less harvest were anticipated over several parts in southwestern highlands, western, southern coast and the central areas following soil moisture deficit experienced during the season.

Pastures and water availability for livestock and wildlife were generally good over much of the country.

### **Hydro-meteorological Summary**

Water levels in lakes, dams and river flows have fairly regained over most part of the country. However, water for human and industrial usage and hydro-power generation still should be used sparingly.

### **Environmental Summary**

Temperatures over most areas in the country were generally moderate with cool conditions reported over high ground areas in the northeastern and southwestern highlands.

### **EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING JUNE 1-10, 2011**

The southern hemisphere pressure systems, the St Helena and Mascarene highs are expected to intensify pushing the ITCZ further to the northern parts of Africa. The northern hemisphere systems, Azores and Siberian anticyclones and the Arabian ridge are expected to relax. The zonal arm of ITCZ is expected to move further north over the Great Horn of Africa. Neutral SSTs conditions are expected over southwestern Indian Ocean with slightly cooling over central Indian Ocean.

### **EXPECTED WEATHER SITUATION DURING JUNE 1-10, 2011**

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mara, Shinyanga and Mwanza regions): Moderate rainfall and isolated thunderstorms are expected over Kagera and Mara regions. Mwanza and Shinyanga are expected to experience mainly dry conditions with occasional thunderstorms. Western region (Tabora and Kigoma regions): Isolated light showers and thunderstorms are expected mainly over northern Kigoma. Tabora region is expected to feature mainly dry conditions. Northern coast and its hinterland (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Tanga and Coast regions, Isles of Unguja and Pemba): Moderate rainfall is expected mainly over the Isles of Unguja and Pemba and occasionally spreading along the coastal belt. Morogoro region is expected to experience mainly dry conditions. Southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): Mainly dry conditions with occasional light showers. Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro, and Manyara regions): Isolated rain-showers are expected during the dekad mainly over high grounds. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya, and Iringa regions and southern Morogoro): Generally dry conditions. However, high grounds are likely to experience few light rain showers. Southern region (Ruvuma region): Mainly dry conditions, with some localized showers along the Lake Nyasa areas. Central Region (Dodoma and Singida regions): Mainly dry conditions are expected.

*Prepared by*

**TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY**

**3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:met@meteo.go.tz) (2) [agromet@meteo.go.tz](mailto:agromet@meteo.go.tz)**

**Dar-es-Salaam UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**