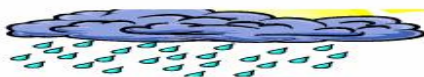




TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 30 Cropping Seasons 2010/11

June 21-30, 2011

HIGHLIGHTS

- Diminished soil moisture supply hampered late planted field crops though on the other hand favored maturity and harvesting activities of the crops.
- Low temperatures continued to dominate over the southwestern and northeastern highlands of the country.

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the third dekad of June 2011, the northern hemisphere high pressure cells, the Azores and Siberian highs and Arabian ridge were relaxed while the southern hemisphere high pressure cells, St Helena and Mascarene anticyclones remained intense with occasional relaxation of the Mascarene high pressure system. The rain making mechanism (ITCZ) moved further north over the Great Horn of Africa. Generally, southerly low level wind continued to dominate the southern and eastern parts of the country. The meridional arm of the ITCZ retreated westwards and became less active over the country. Low level wind convergence associated with abundant moisture over Lake Victoria resulted in some rainfall activities over the area.

RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the dekad, dry conditions prevailed over much of the country. The rains were observed over the Lake Victoria basin with the highest recorded total amount for the period at Bukoba station 108.4 mm, followed by Mwanza 45.9 mm, Musoma 33.9 mm, and Mugumu 23.0 mm. The rest of the country was seasonally dry.

Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Diminished soil moisture supply observed during the dekad hampered the late planted field crops though on the other hand favored maturity and harvesting activities of the earlier planted crops.

During the period under review farmers over most parts of unimodal sector were finalizing crop harvesting for 2010/11 except for a few areas like Igeri in Njombe district where crops mainly maize and wheat were still at wax ripeness. Likewise over the bimodal sector most areas were harvesting crop including maize, rice, cassava, beans, and paddy. Crop yields across the country are anticipated to be below average as reported over northeastern highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro, and Manyara regions), Biharamulo district, and Shinyanga and Mara regions due to poor soil moisture 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 not indicated any significant changes, thus water for human, industrial use and hydro-power generation should be used extremely sparingly.

Environmental Summary

Temperatures over most areas in the country were generally cool to cold conditions as reported over

high ground areas in the northeastern and southwestern highlands.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING JULY 1-10, 2011

The southern hemisphere systems, the St Helena and Mascarene highs are expected to intensify pushing the ITCZ further north of Africa. The northern hemisphere systems, the Azores and Siberian highs and 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 slight cooling over central Indian Ocean.

EXPECTED WEATHER SITUATION DURING JULY 1-10, 2011

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mara, Shinyanga, and Mwanza regions): Light rains and isolated thunderstorms are expected over Kagera and Mara regions.

Mwanza and Shinyanga regions are expected to experience mainly dry conditions with occasional thunder storms. Western region (Tabora and Kigoma regions): Mainly dry conditions are expected.

Northern coast and its hinterland (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Tanga, and Coast regions, Isles of Unguja and Pemba): Rain showers are expected and occasionally spreading to few areas of Morogoro region. Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): Mostly cloudy during morning hours and occasional light rains. Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro, and Manyara regions): Mainly dry conditions are expected during the dekad. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya, and Iringa regions and southern Morogoro (Mahenge areas): Mainly dry conditions and low temperatures during night and early morning hours. Southern region (Ruvuma region): mainly dry conditions and long sunny period. Central Region (Dodoma and Singida regions): Mainly dry conditions and low temperatures during night and early morning hours accompanied with windy conditions at times.