

**NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AGENCY**  
**TEN DAY AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN**  
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**SUMMARY**

During the third dekad of June 2005 with the exception of most parts of SNNPR, eastern and southern Oromiya, the rest parts of Meher growing areas received normal to above normal rainfall. As a result, crops were in a good condition in most parts of Meher growing areas. Nevertheless, some areas of northwestern and western parts of the country like Dangla, Metema, Nedjo, Limu Genet, Bullen, Bedelle, Chagni, Bahir Dar and Mota exhibited heavy falls ranging from 31.0 - 61.2 mm in one rainy day. Thus, this condition could have negative impact on crops, which are found in low-lying areas, and the soil type is clay.

During the first dekad of July 2005, most parts of Meher growing areas received normal to above normal rainfall. Thus, the situation was conducive for season's agricultural activities in most places. Nevertheless, some areas of western, northwestern, northeastern, central and eastern Ethiopia exhibited heavy falls ranging from 30-70 mm in one rainy day, which can result in water logging and flooding in sensitive areas. Besides some areas like Bedelle, Kachise, Pawe, Metema and Sinkata received heavy fall 2-3 days in the ten days period, which can induce excess moisture in crops field, that have already saturated due to the abundant falls observed during the preceding dekads. In accordance with the crop phenological report (1-10 July 2005), sowing of cereals like maize, millet and wheat including pulses was underway over some areas of northern Oromiya (Fiche) and central Oromiya(Ziway) and eastern Amhara ( Chefa, Majete and Shola Gebeya) and western Amhara (Chagni). Maize was at tasselling and ninth leaves stages in some areas of central Oromiya like Ziawy, eastern Oromiya like Gelemso, north-western Amhara like Chagni, north-western Benishangul-Gumuz (Mankush) central Oromiya (Woliso)and western Oromiya (Sekoru, Gimbi, Assosa and Nedjo) while at flowering stage over northern SNNPR like Hosaina and western Oromiya (Bedele and Alge ) including central Oromiya (Chira). Sorghum was at early vegetative stage in northwestern Benishangul-Gumuz (Mankush), western Oromiya (Gimbi and Alge) and eastern Amhara (Chefa). Millet was at early vegetative stage in some areas of western Oromiya like Limu Genet, eastern Oromiya (Gelemso) and some areas of northeastern Benishangul-Gumuz. Wheat was at early vegetative stage in some areas of central and northern Oromiya and eastern Amhara. Sesame and maize were at full ripeness stage in some midland areas of Oromiya.

# 1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

## 1.1 RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig. 1)

Western half of Tigray, northern and northwestern Amhara, most parts of Benishangul -Gumuz, few areas of western Oromiya including pocket areas of central Oromiya and pocket areas of SNNPR received 100-200 mm of rainfall. Most parts of central and western Oromiya, most parts of Amhara, eastern Tigray and northwestern SNNPR received 50- 100 mm of rainfall. Northern Tip and southwestern Afar, parts of eastern and central Oromiya, northeastern and central SNNPR experienced 25 - 50 mm of rainfall. Most parts of Afar, northern Somali, parts of eastern Oromiya and parts of notheastern SNNPR received falls ranging from 5 - 25 mm. There was little or no rainfall for the rest of the country.

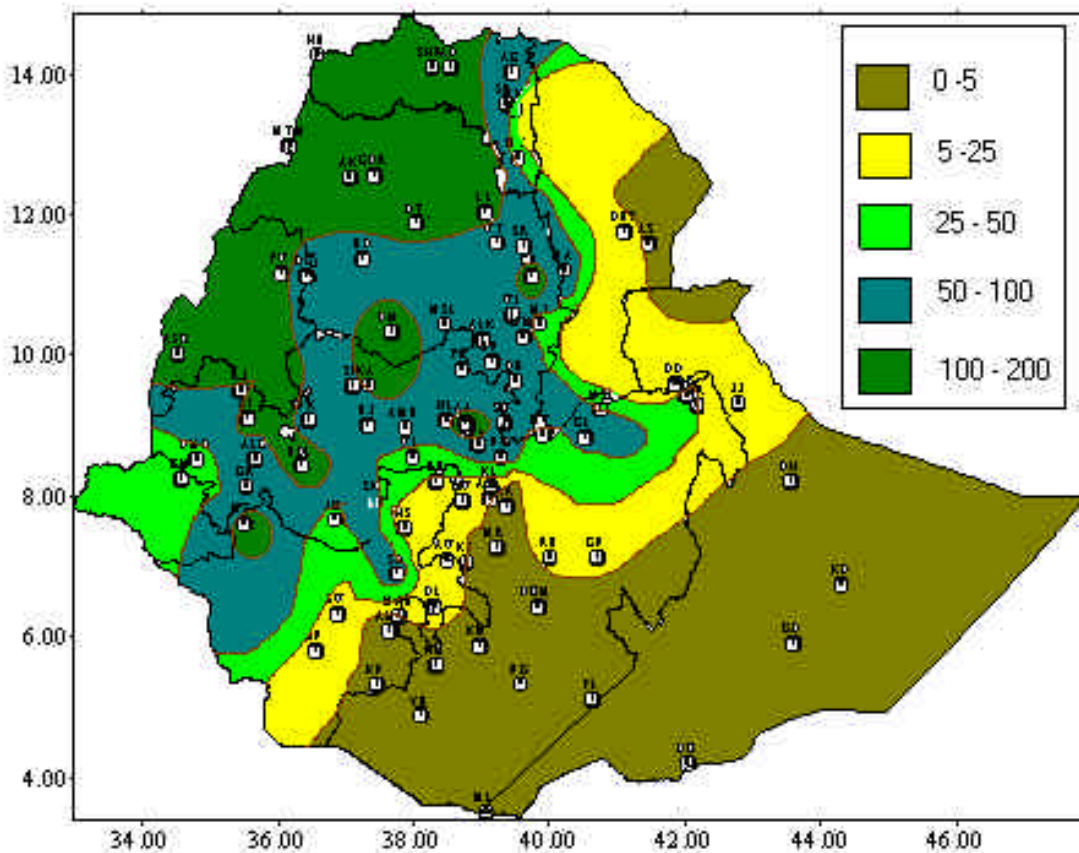
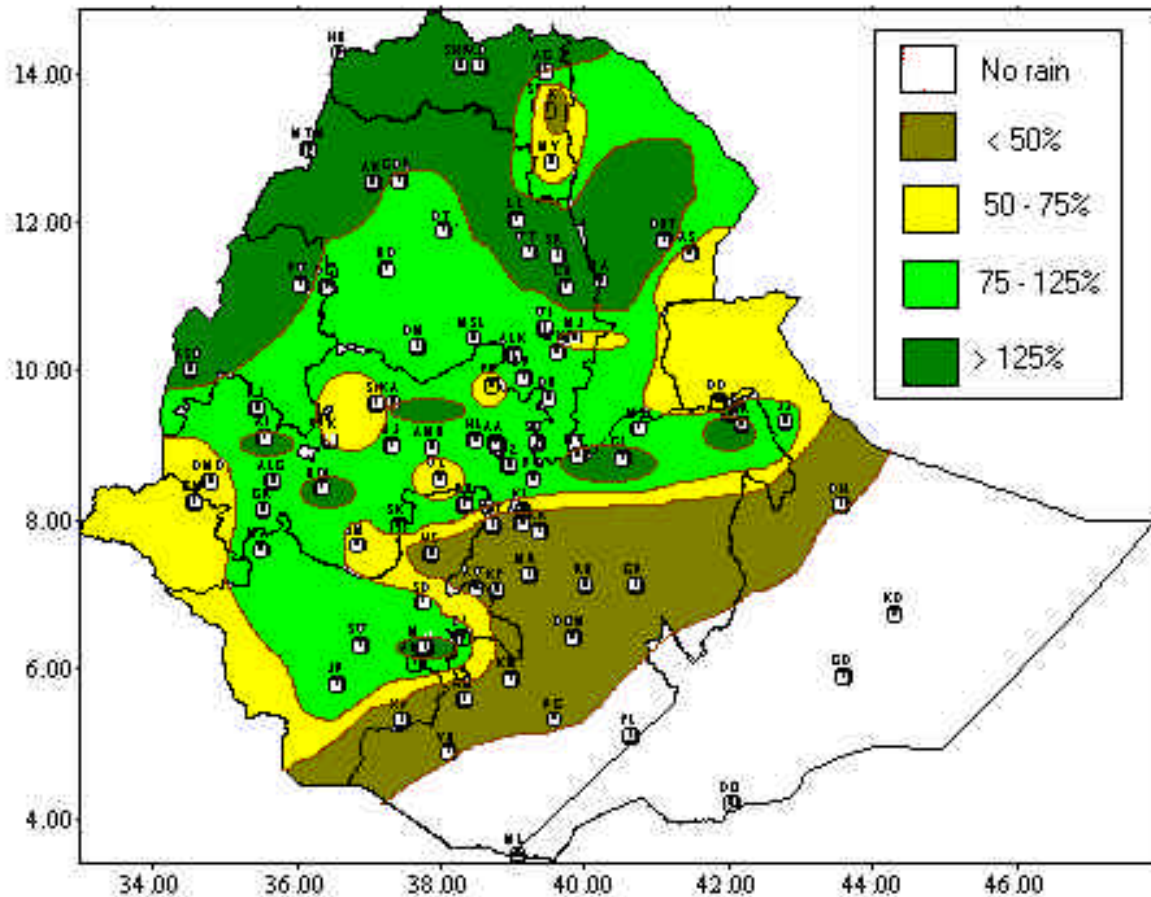


Fig 1. Rainfall distribution in mm (1-10 July, 2005)

## 1.2 RAINFALL ANOMALY (Fig. 2)

Most parts of Meher producing areas received normal to above normal rainfall while parts of eastern and few areas of central Oromiya and parts of northwestern Afar experienced below normal rainfall. Normally there was no rainfall over southern and southeastern parts of the country.



**Fig.2 Percent of normal rainfall (1-10 July 2005)**

Explanatory notes for the legend:  
<50 -- Much below normal  
50—75% -- below normal  
75—125% --- Normal  
> 125% ---- Above normal

## 1.3 TEMPERATURE ANOMALY

No significant air temperature anomaly was observed over most parts of the country.

## **2. WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR THE SECOND DEKAD OF JULY 2005**

During the coming dekad Benishangul-Gumuz, central and western parts of Amhara, Tigray and Oromia, western portion of SNNPR as well as Gambela are expected to get normal to above normal rainfall where as, eastern portion of Tigray and Amhara and northern and eastern parts of SNNPR, Afar, northern part of Somali and eastern Oromia are anticipated to have close to normal rainfall with possibility of below normal rainfall at some places. Partly cloudy condition will dominate over southern and southeastern lowlands of Ethiopia. Moreover, heavy falls which can cause flash-flooding are expected over some places of central and western half of the country.

## **3. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE**

### **3.1 VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE**

The observed rainfall situation was conducive for season's agricultural activities in most places during the dekad under review. Nevertheless, some areas of western, northwestern, northeastern, central and eastern Ethiopia exhibited heavy falls ranging from 30-70 mm in one rainy day, which can result in water logging and flooding in sensitive areas. Besides some areas like Bedelle, Kachise, Pawe, Metema and Sinkata received heavy fall 2-3 days in the ten days period, which can induce excess moisture in crops field, that have already saturated due to the abundant falls observed during the preceding dekads. In accordance with the crop phenological report (1-10 July 2005), sowing of cereals like maize, millet and wheat including pulses was underway over some areas of northern Oromiya (Fitcha) and central Oromiya (Ziway) and eastern Amhara (Chefa, Majete and Shola Gebeya) and western Amhara (Chagni). Maize was at tasselling and ninth leaves stages in some areas of central Oromiya like Ziway, eastern Oromiya like Gelemso, north-western Amhara like Chagni, north-western Benishangul-Gumuz (Mankush) central Oromiya (Woliso) and western Oromiya (Sekoru, Gimbi, Assosa and Nedjo) while at flowering stage over northern SNNPR like Hosaina and western Oromiya (Bedele and Alge) including central Oromiya (Chira). Sorghum was at early vegetative stage in northwestern Benishangul-Gumuz (Mankush), western Oromiya (Gimbi and Alge) and eastern Amhara (Chefa). Millet was at early vegetative stage in some areas of western Oromiya like Limu Genet, eastern Oromiya (Gelemso) and some areas of northeastern Benishangul-Gumuz. Wheat was at early vegetative stage in some areas of central and northern Oromiya and eastern Amhara. Sesame and maize were at full ripeness stage in some midland areas of Oromiya.

### **3.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DEKAD**

The anticipated wide spread rainfall over central and western half of the country would favour season's agricultural activities. However proper precaution is important to mitigate the effect of heavy falls in some pocket areas of Benishangul Gumuz, central and western Amhara, central western Tigray, central and western Oromiya western parts of SNNPR and pocket areas of Gambela which are expected to have normal to above normal rainfall in the coming dekad. Besides the expected wet condition would negatively affect crops fields, which are found in low-lying areas and near riverbanks by flooding and water logging. Thus, proper attention should be given for those sensitive areas to minimize the adverse effect due to excess moisture. The expected near normal rainfall over eastern Amhara and Tigray, northern and eastern parts of SNNPR, Afar, northern Somali eastern Oromiya would favour the on going agricultural activities. Nevertheless, some pocket areas of the aforementioned areas likely to have below normal rainfall. Therefore, proper water harvesting activities should be practiced particularly over the lowlands of the above mentioned areas.