

NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AGENCY

TEN-DAY AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

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SUMMARY

During the third decade of June 2013, rain bearing meteorological phenomena farther strengthened over much of kiremt rain benefiting areas of the country. As a result, much of Amhara, Tigray, Gambella, Benshangul-gumuz, Oromia and SNNPR received light to heavy rainfall. Some places of aforementioned areas exhibited heavy falls ranging from 32.4-59.0 mm in one rainy day. Thus, the situation might have favored Meher agricultural activities such as land preparation and sowing Meher crops, long cycle crops that were found at different growing phase water requirement for perennial plants, improvement of pasture and drinking water availability over pastoral and agro pastoral areas of the country.

During the first dekad of July 2013, better rainfall distribution observed over most parts of seasonal rainfall benefiting areas of the country. As a result most of Oromia, Amhara, Benshangul-Gumuze, Gambela, eastern Tigray, SNNPR, southern Afar, Dire dawa, Harari and pocket area of northern Somali received slight to heavy rainfall. This situation have a significant contribution for Meher agricultural activities early planted long cycle crops, cereals & pulses crops which were found at different phenological stages. More over the extended rainfall over eastern and north eastern parts could have a positive impact for Meher agricultural activities and availabilities of pasture and drinking water. On the other hand Some areas of south western, southern, northwestern and central parts of the country exhibited heavy fall ranging from (37.0 – 122.0) mm in one rainy day. Thus this condition resulted in crop damage in some areas.

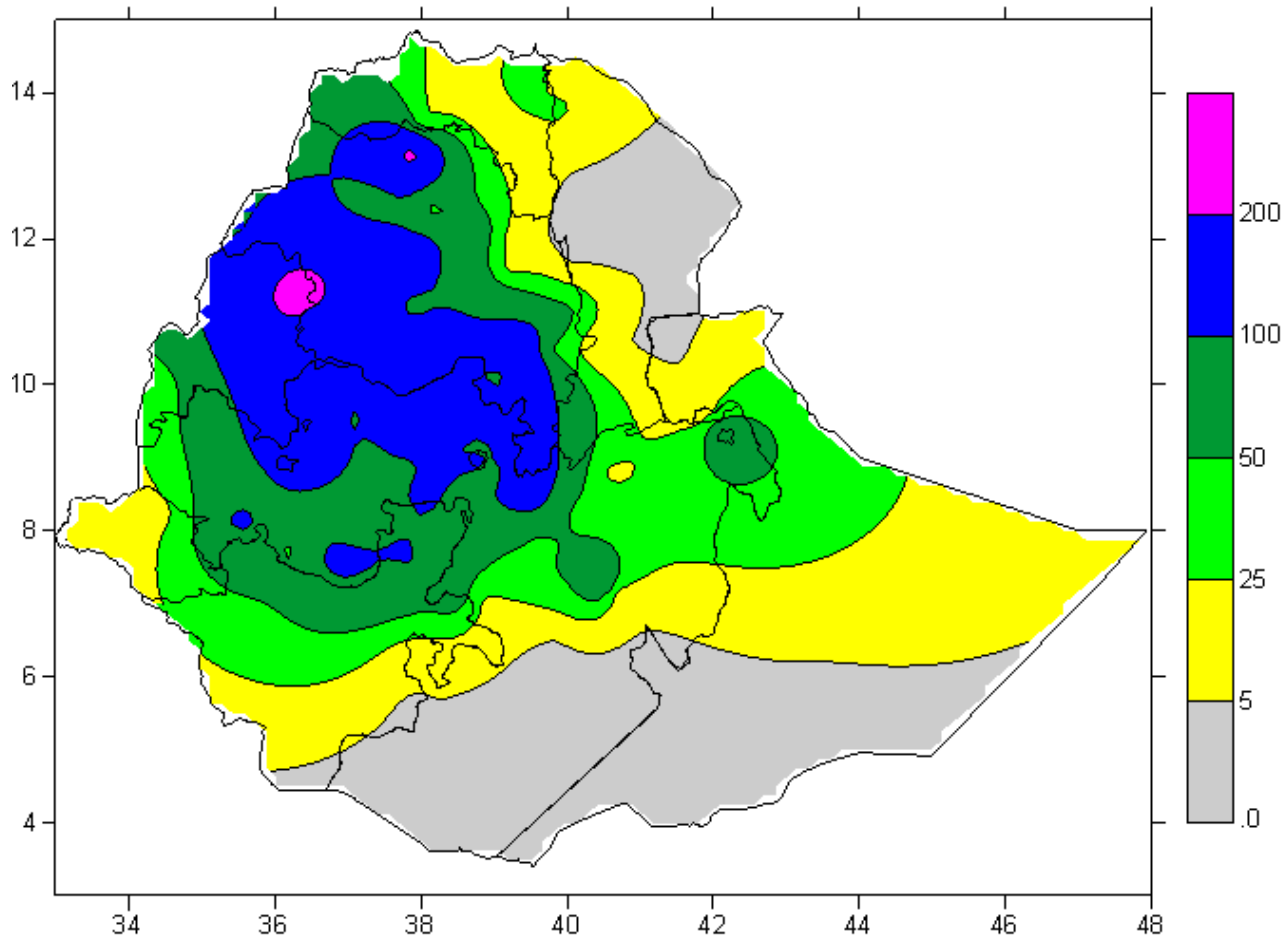


Fig 1. Rainfall distribution in mm (1-10 July 2013)

1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

1-10 July, 2013

1.1 RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.1)

Pocket area of northern Benshangul-Gumuz and western Amhara received >200 mm of rainfall. Most parts of Amhara, northern half of Benshangul-Gumuz and parts of western Oromia received 100-200 mm of rainfall. Western tip of Tigray, parts of northern and eastern Amhara, western parts of Benshangul-Gumuz, most parts of western Oromia, some parts of central and eastern Oromia and northern parts of SNNPR received 50-100mm of rainfall. Parts of eastern Oromia and northern Somali, central parts of SNNPR, eastern half of Gambela north eastern Tigray received 25-50 mm of rainfall. Eastern half of Tigray, northern and southern tip of Afar, northern tip eastern and central parts of Somali, western half of Gambela and southern half of SNNPR received 5-25 mm of rainfall. The rest parts of the country experienced little or no rainfall.

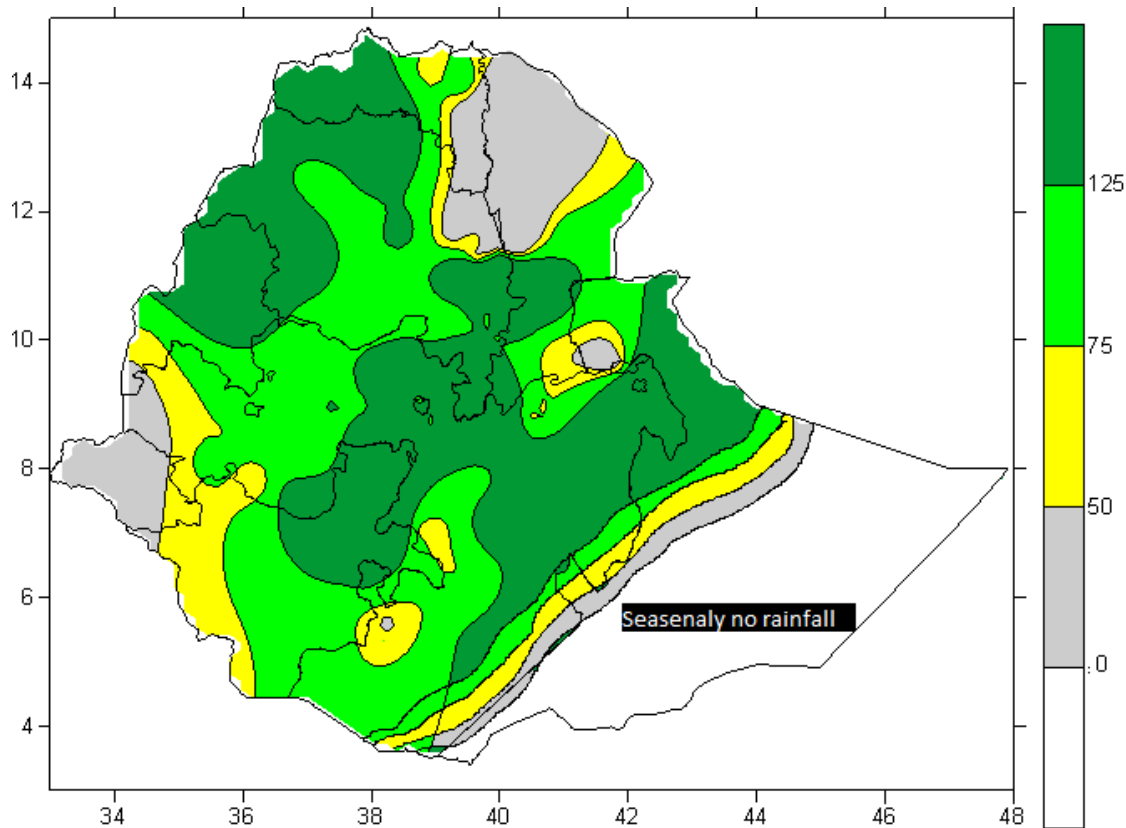


Fig2. Percent of normal rainfall distribution (1-10 July, 2013)

Explanatory notes for the legend:

- < 50 -- Much below normal**
- 50—75% -- below normal**
- 75—125% --- Normal**
- >125% ---- Above normal**

1.2. RAINFALL ANOMALY (Fig. 2)

Amhara, Oromia, Somali, most parts of Tigray, Benshangul-Gumuz and SNNPR and southern Afar exhibited normal to above normal rainfall. The rest parts of the country experienced below to much below normal rainfall.

1.3. TEMPERATURE ANOMALY

Some stations reported extreme maximum temperature greater than 35°C. Among the reporting stations: Methara, Awash Arba, Chifra, Dubti, Elidar, Error, Gewane, Mille and Semera 38.6, 39.0/ 40.0, 44.5, 43.5, 37.0, 41.8, 43.0 and 43.5 °C respectively. The situation might have a certain negative impact on the normal growth and development of plants

2.0 AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

2.1. VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

The dekad under review, on the first dekad of July 2013, better rainfall distribution observed over most parts of seasonal rainfall benefiting areas of the country. As a result, most parts of Oromia, Amhara, Benshangul-Gumuz, Gambela, eastern Tigray, SNNPR, southern Afar, Dire dawa, Harari and pocket area of northern Somali received slight to heavy rainfall. This situation have a significant contribution for Meher agricultural activities early planted long cycle crops, cereals & pulses crops which were found at different phenological stages. More over the extended rainfall over eastern and north eastern parts could have a positive impact for Meher agricultural activities and availabilities of pasture and drinking water. On the other hand Some areas of south western, southern, northwestern and central parts of the country exhibited heavy fall ranging from (37.0 – 122.0) mm in one rainy day. this condition resulted in crop damage in some areas.

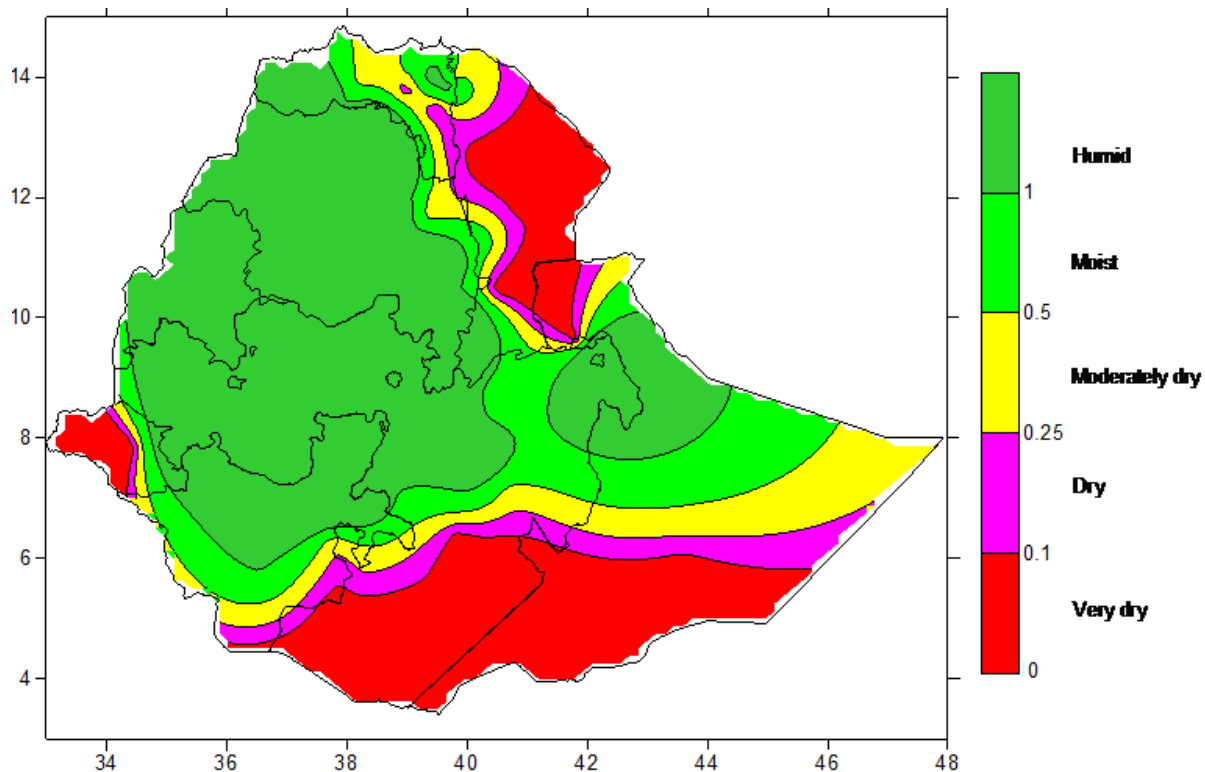


Fig.3 Moisture Status for (1-10 July 2013)

As indicated on the moisture status map above, Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, western, central and eastern Oromia, most of SNNPR, eastern margin of Gambela, western and eastern tip of Tigray and northern Somali experienced moist to humid moisture condition. Which might have favor the ongoing seasons agricultural activities, availability of water for perennial plants and drinking water and pasture over pastoral and agro pastoral areas of the country. While, most parts of Somali ,Afar, Gambella southern Oromia, eastern and central Tigray and southern parts of SNNPR exhibited moderately dry to very dry condition, which might have negatively affected seasons agricultural activities.

2.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DEKAD

In the coming ten days of July 2013, Most of the rain-producing systems are expected to be strengthened across the major portion of Kiremt rain benefiting areas of the country. As a result, most parts of Amhara and Tigray, Benshangul-Gumuze, Gambela, western and central Oromia and SNNPR will expect normal to above normal rainfall. The situation would create favorable condition for sowing activities of cereal crops like (Teff and wheat) and pulse crops. Besides it would have a positive contribution for the water requirement of the existing crops. However, the expected heavy fall together with hail storm over some areas of the aforementioned areas would have a negative impact on crop fields' particularly over low-lying areas and near the river banks. Thus, proper attention should be undertaken to minimize the risk. Moreover, the expected near normal rainfall over southern Afar, eastern Oromia, Harari, Dire Dawa, northern Somali and low lands of western Amhara and Tigray would favor the ongoing seasons agricultural activities and the existing perennial plants and long cycle crops as well. Besides, the expected dry weather situation or little rainfall over southern Oromia, south and south eastern low land parts could have a negative impact for the availability of pasture and drinking water over postural and agro-pastoral areas.