

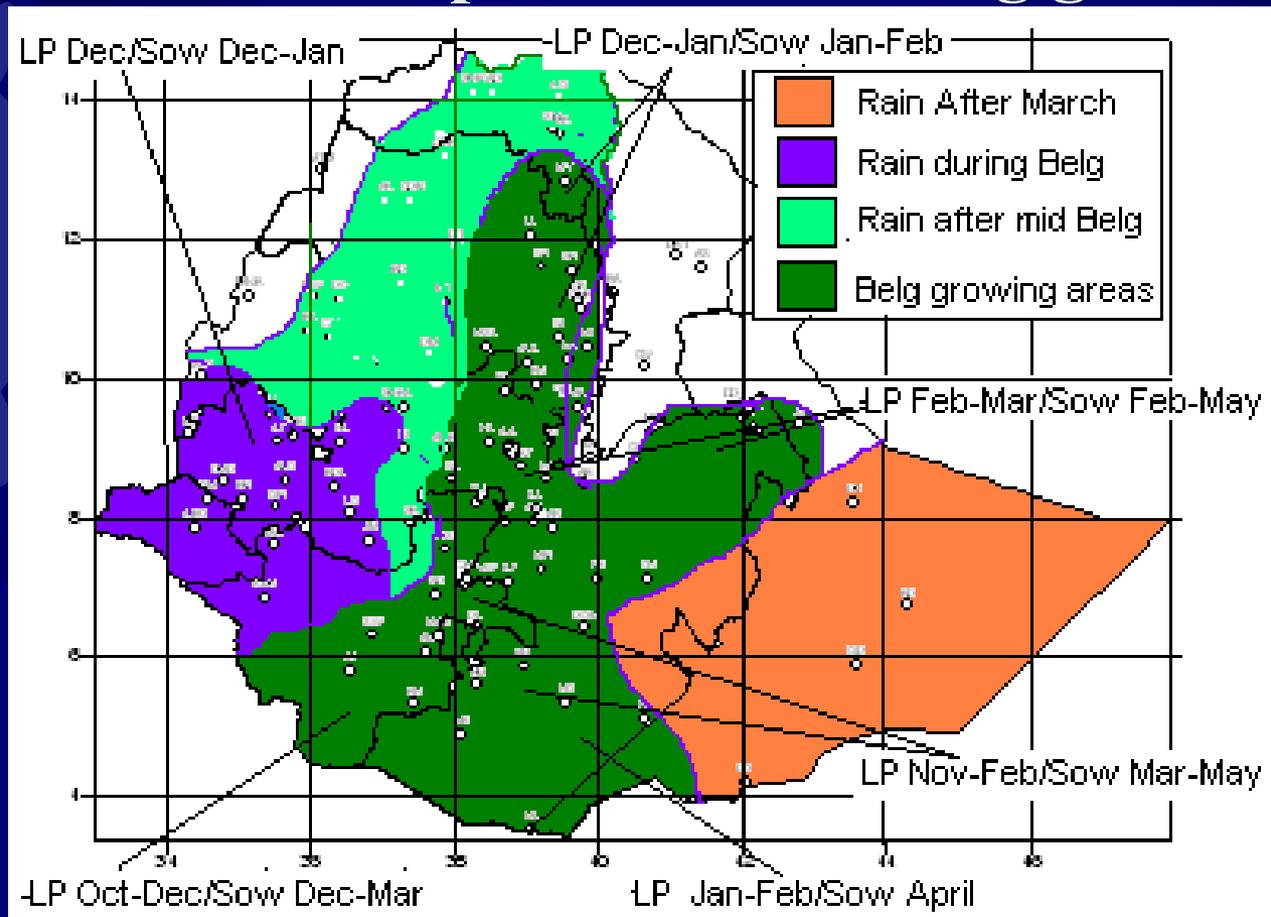
AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK FOR
BELG 2006
BY
AGROMETEOROLOGICAL TEAM

JANUARY 26, 2006

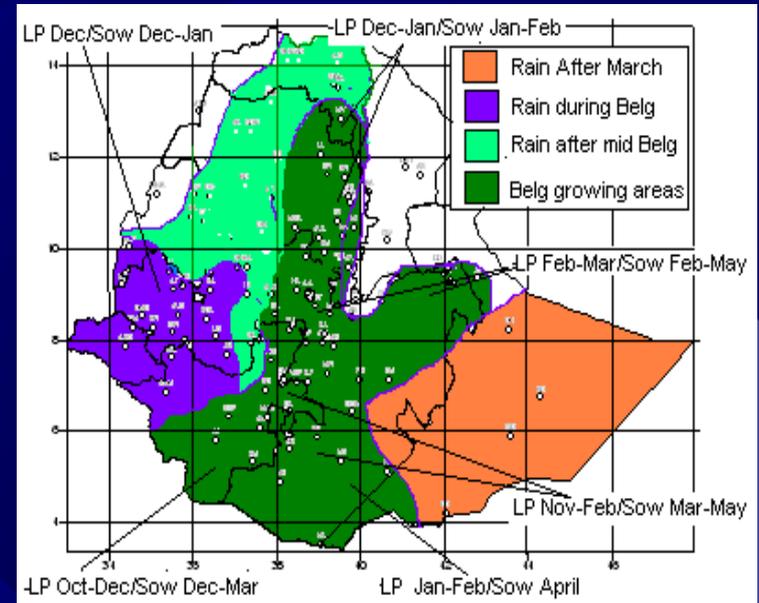
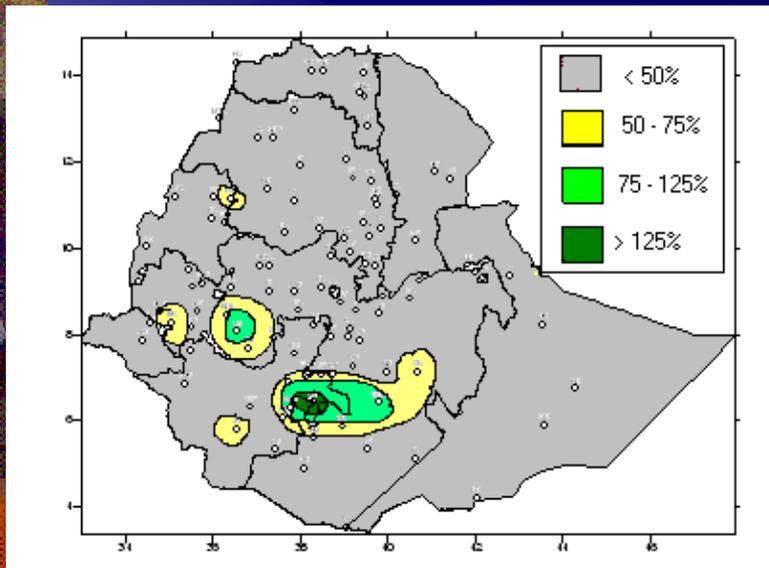
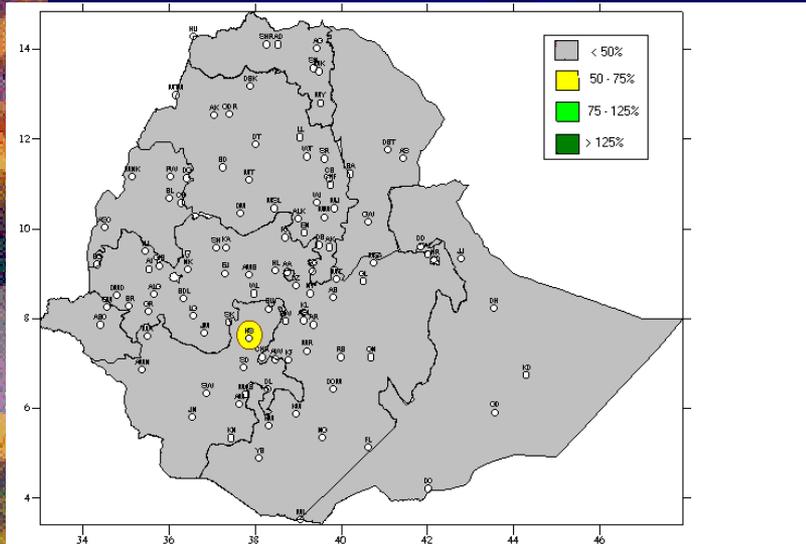


INTRODUCTION

- ☀ Central parts of northern high lands, eastern highlands, parts of central, southwestern and southern Ethiopia known as Belg growing areas.

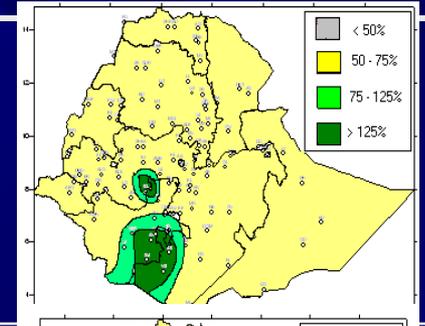
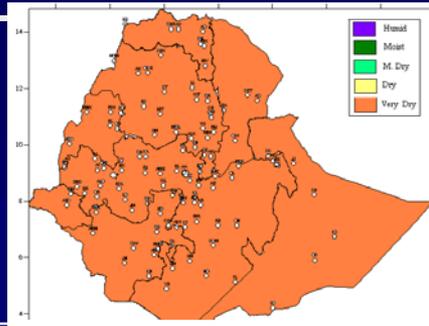
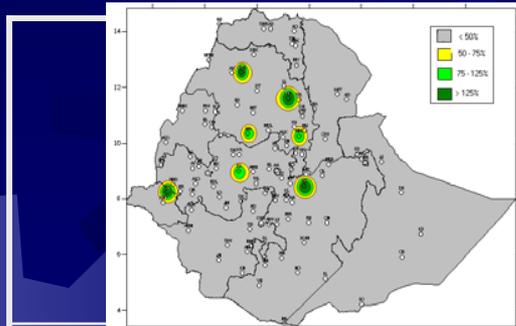


1- 10 and 11- 20 January 2006

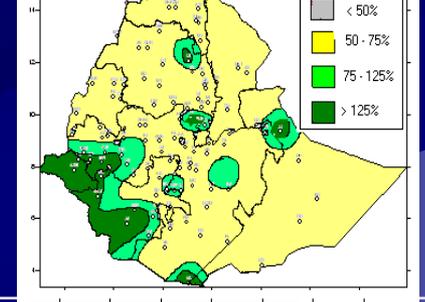
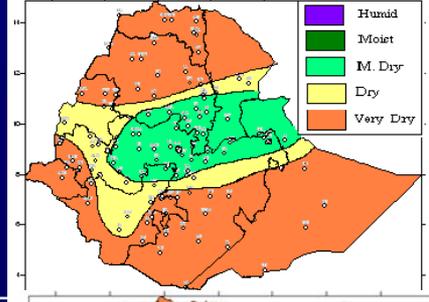
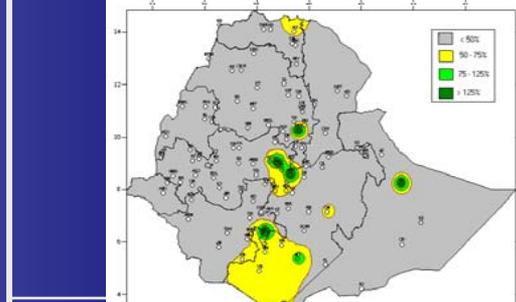


Moisture conditions for the selected best analog years (1981, 1986 and 2001)

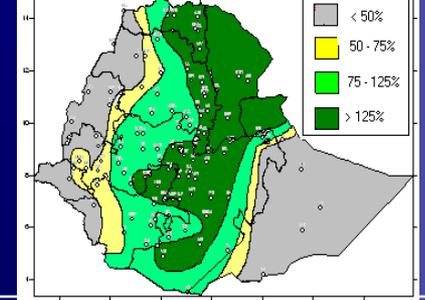
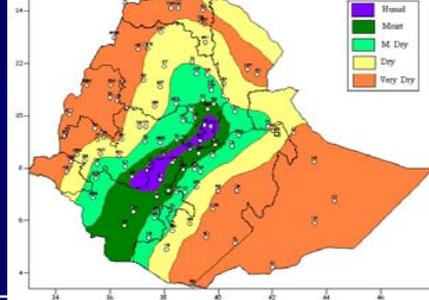
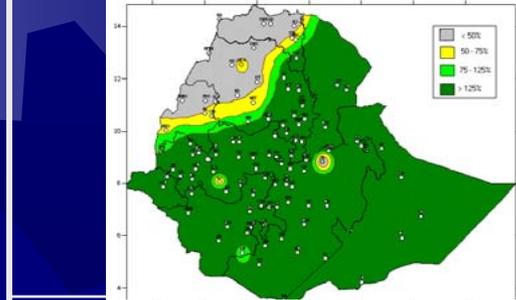
January



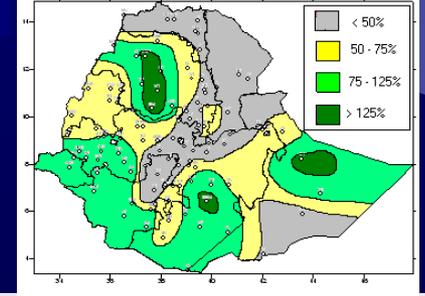
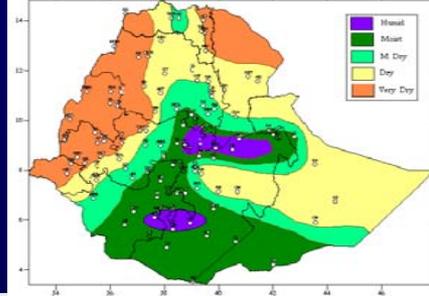
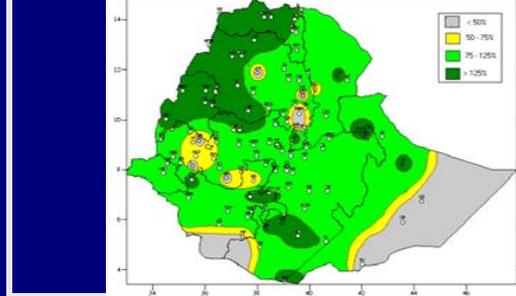
February



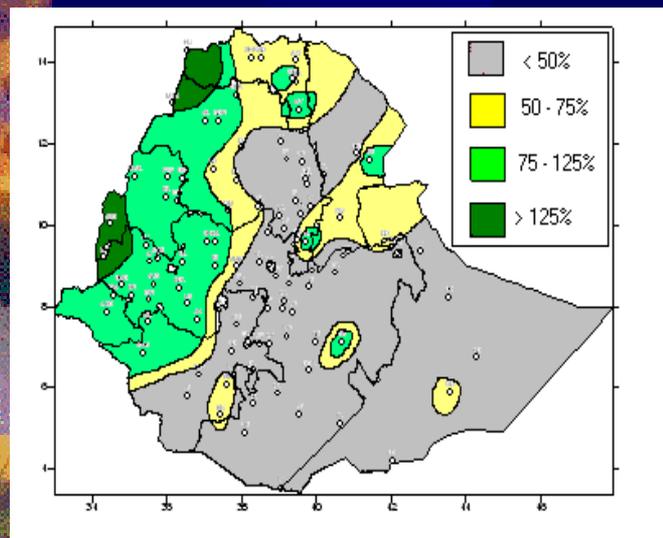
March



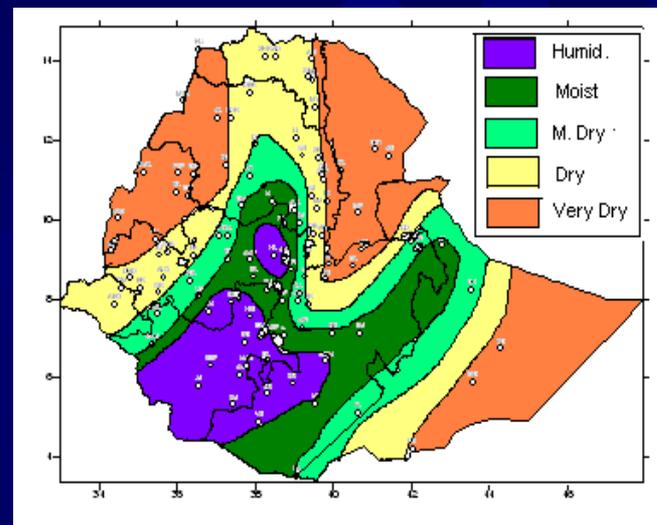
April



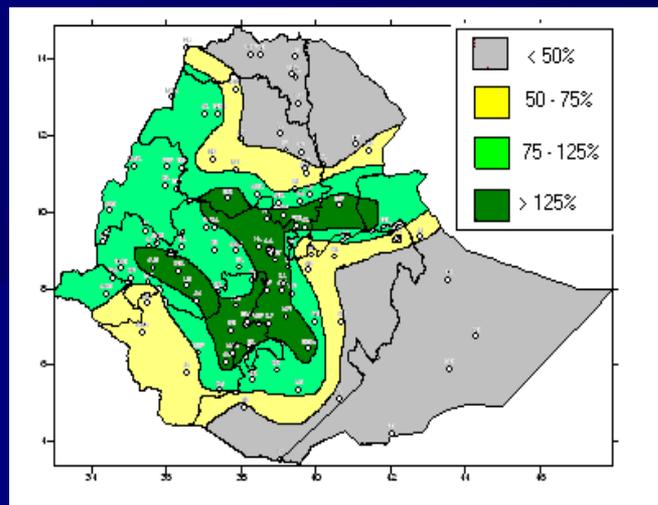
Analog years ass. Contd.....



May 1981



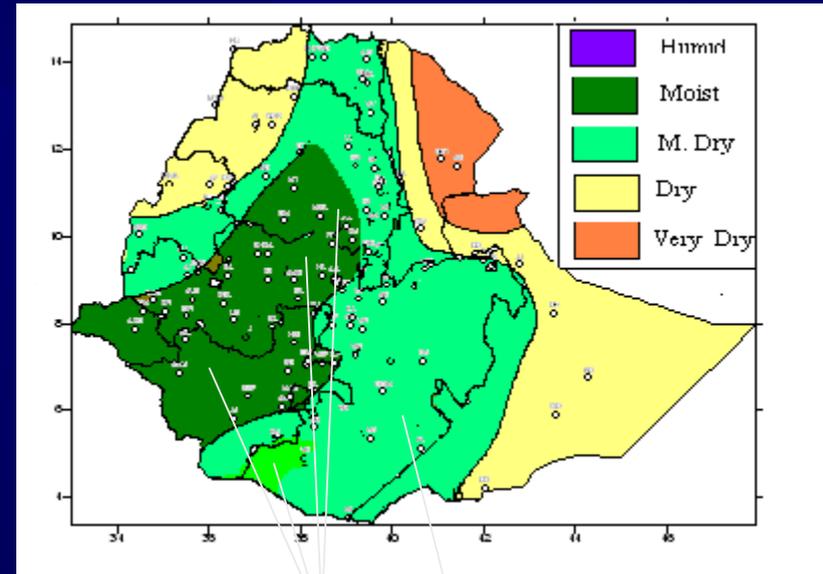
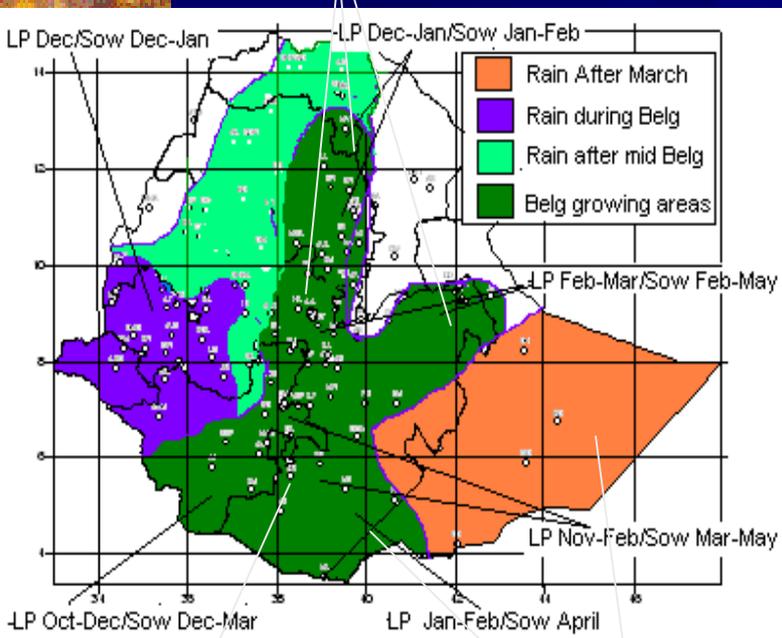
MS May 1986



May 2001

Summary of Analog year's moisture condition (1981, 1986 and 2001)

5-30 % of annual product from Belg



Better moisture condition as of March

30 –70% of annual product from Belg

Sowing and water harvesting as of April

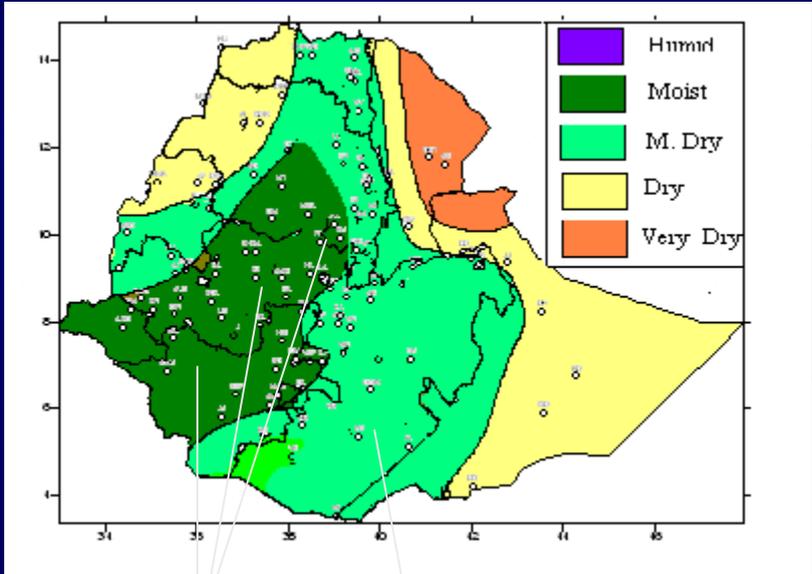
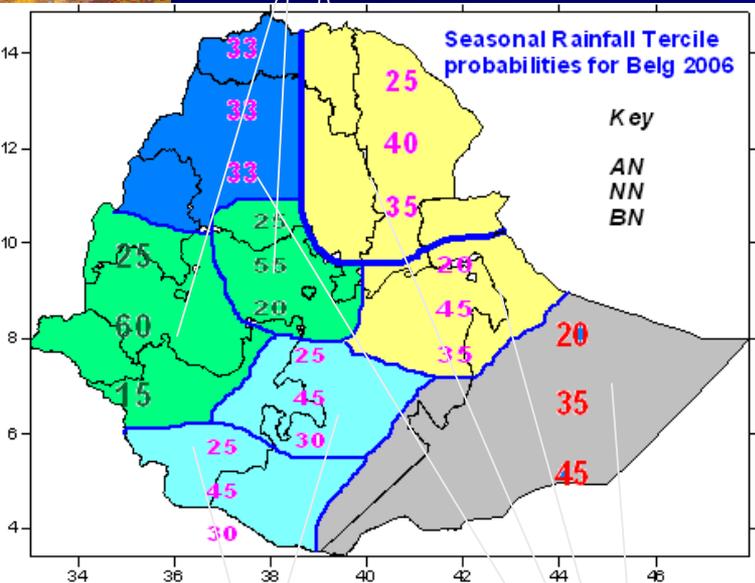
Better rainfall during April

Summary of Analog contd...

- ❑ The wet condition observed during the months of March, April and May over western, central and southwestern parts of the country could satisfy the crop water requirements of long cycle crops as well as other crops.
- ❑ On the other hand the deficient and erratic rainfall observed over most parts of Tigray, eastern Amhara, eastern Oromiya, Somali, parts of southern Oromiya, Benishangul-Gumuz and Southern SNNPR could negatively affect the water requirement of Belge crops and the availability of pasture and drinking water over the lowlands of pastoral and agro pastoral areas.

% RR probability and summary of Analog year's moisture condition (1981, 1986 and 2001)

80-85% normal to above normal RR Prob.



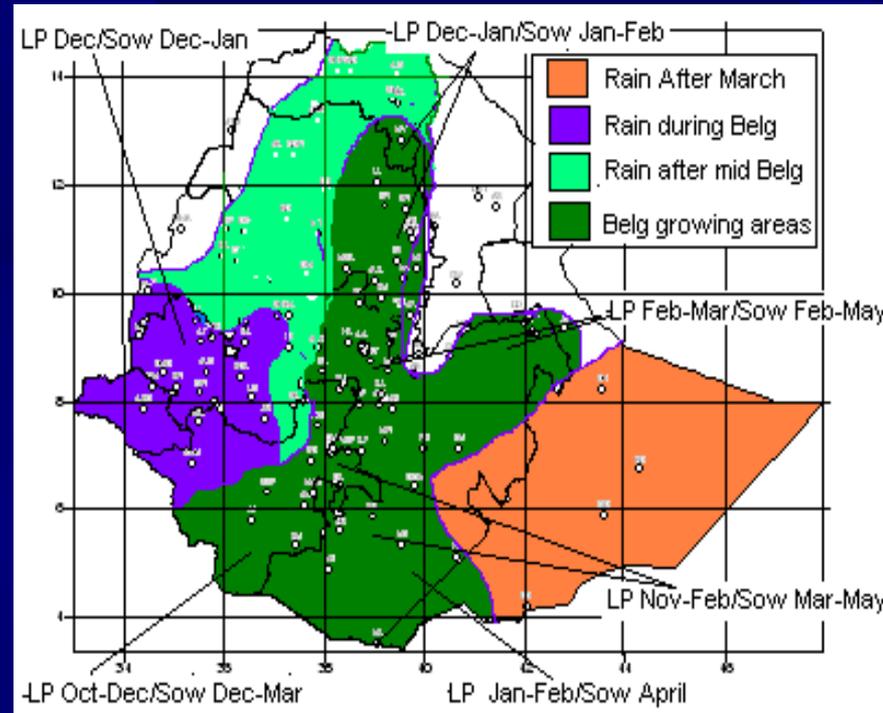
70% normal to above normal RR prob

55-65% normal to above normal RR prob

Better moisture condition as of March

Better rainfall during April and May

Agro meteorological outlook for the coming Belg 2006



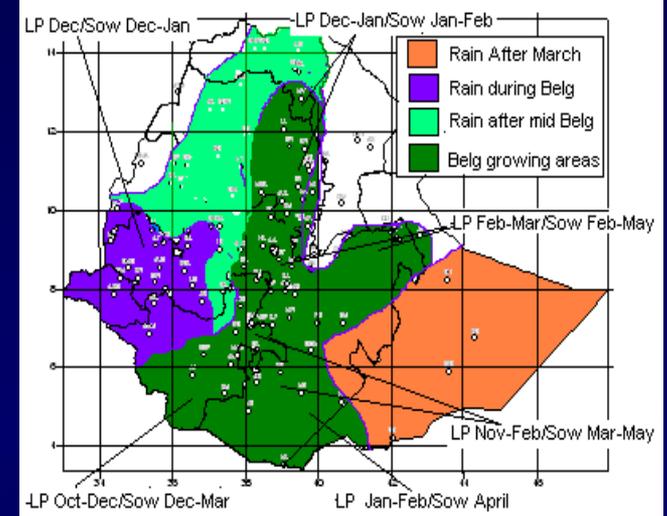
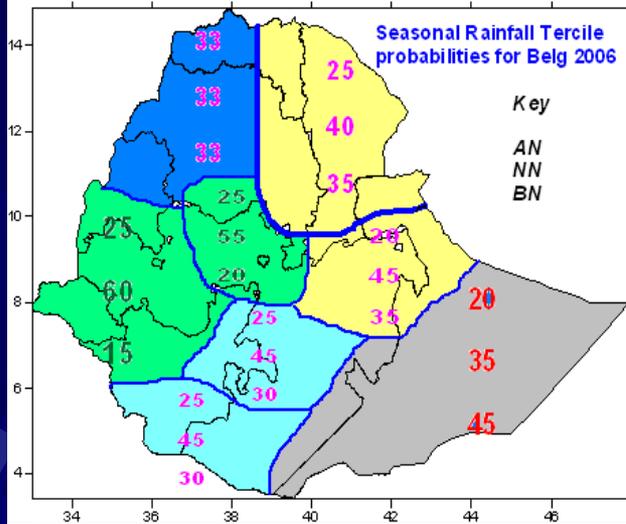
The expected erratic onset of Belg 2006 would have negative impact on the early season's agricultural activities in areas where Belg activities start earlier. Therefore appropriate measures should be applied ahead of time.

Agro mete outlook contd.....

- The anticipated erratic and deficient rainfall distribution during the season in most parts of Belg growing areas would have negative impact on the water requirement of Belg crops and Gena season crops in agro pastoral areas of southern Ethiopia like Yabello, Negelle and Moyale. Thus attention should be given for proper water harvesting techniques and other alternative action ahead of time.

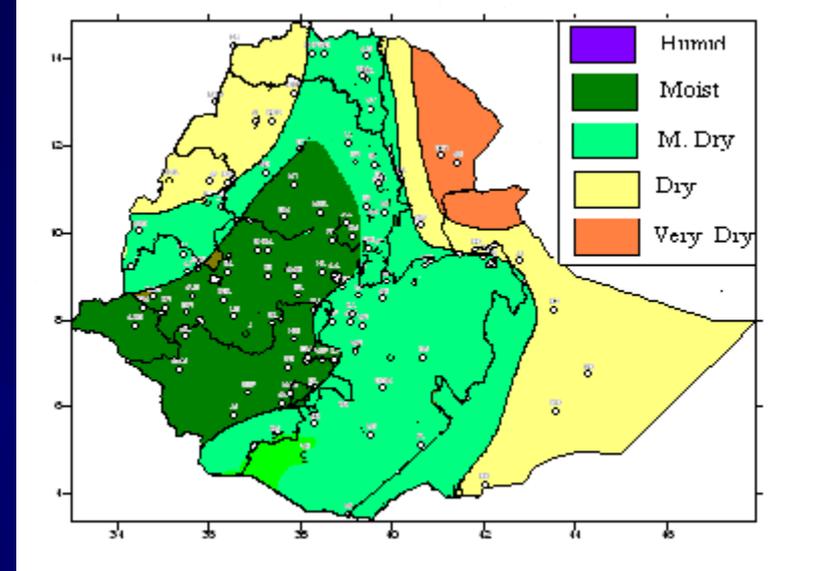
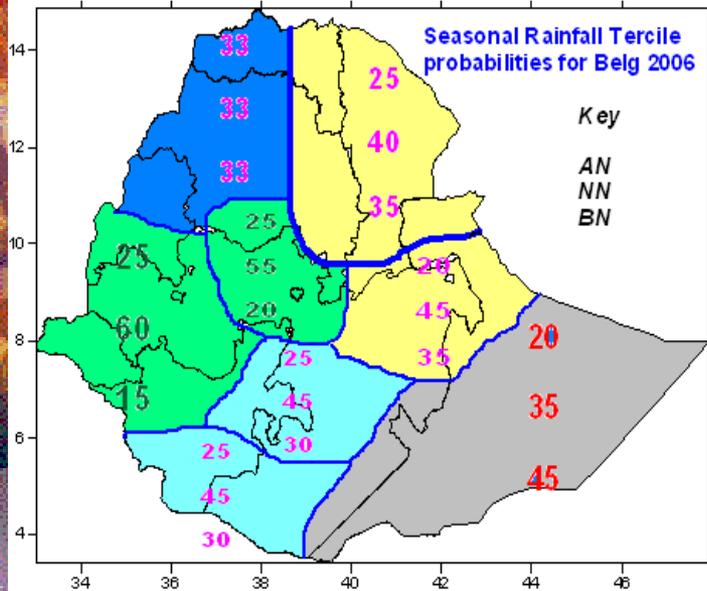
Agro mete outlook contd.....

- ❏ The anticipated erratic rainfall distribution over some lowland areas would also favor the outbreak of pest and diseases. Therefore, the concerned personnel should undertake appropriate precaution to take judicious pest control measures ahead of time to minimize risk due to adverse weather condition.



Agro mete outlook contd.....•

The expected less performance of April rainfall and 30-45 % probability of below normal rainfall over western Amhara, northern half of Benishangul gumuz, parts of eastern and southern Oromiya most parts of Tigray and northern highlands of Somali during the season would also have negative influence on the performance of long cycle crops like maize and sorghum. Therefore, appropriate alternate actions should be designed in terms of crop type and variety selection (drought resistance and short season variety of crops).



Agro mete outlook contd.....

The expected moist condition and 80-85 % probability of rainfall over central and western Oromiya, most parts of northern half of SNNPR, Southern Benishangul Gumuz and Gambela particularly during the month April would favour long cycle crops like maize and sorghum.

Agro mete outlook contd.....

With regard to pastoral and agro pastoral areas of south and southeastern lowlands the anticipated deficient and erratic rainfall particularly over parts of lowlands of eastern Oromiya and most parts of Somali during the coming April would have critical negative effect on the availability of pasture and drinking water. Thus, better water harvesting mechanisms should be developed in the areas in order to mitigate the effect of water shortage. Besides attention should be given ahead of time for better disaster prevention and preparedness measures.

Agro mete outlook contd.....

Temperature

The expected higher maximum temperature over the lowlands would increase the rate of evapotranspiration there by negatively affecting the normal growth and development of plants.

Possible impact Contd...



Last but not least using of seasonal weather forecast according to the specific conditions of Belg growing areas judiciously has paramount importance in order to take appropriate measures. Thus, the concerned personal should give attention in this mater and interpret and analyse the values according to the specific areas of interest. Besides, considering other conditions like the on set of the season, the distribution of rainfall throughout the season and cessation of rainfall in terms of crop type, phenological phase of the crop, soil types of the area, etc. is very important in order to use the information properly.



THANK YOU