

NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AGENCY
TEN-DAY AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN
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SUMMARY

During the first decade of June 2014, Kiremt rainfall activities strengthened over western half and further expanded to central, southern and south eastern parts of the country. As a result of this, western and central Tigray, much of Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella, Much of Oromia, SNNPR, and north Somali received light to heavy rainfall. In line to this, Chagni, Dangila, Algae, Gore, Masha and Adet reported heavy falls ranging from 30.4 to 65.0mm in one rainy day. When overall performance and area coverage was assessed, the rainfall amount ranging from 5 to 124 mm for 2 to 9 days exhibited over western Tigray, much of Amhara, Benishangul-Gumuz, Gambella, western, central and southern Oromia and SNNPR. In general, western Amhara, north Benishangul-Gumuz, southern high lands of Oromia, eastern Gambella and much of SNNPR received normal to above normal. Thus, the situation might have favored the ongoing agricultural activities, water requirement of long cycle Meher crops such as (Maize, millet and Sorghum) which sown during Belg and found at different phases of growth, perennial plants, land preparation, sowing of some Meher grains or pulses crops, availability of pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agro pastoral areas of the country. Whereas, below normal rain fall exhibited over the rest parts of the country might have negative impact on kiremt season agricultural activities particularly Meher growing areas.

During the second dekad of June 2014, kiremt rainfall activity widely distributed over western half of the country including southwestern parts. As a result Most of Amhara, Gambela, Benshangul-Gumuze, western and central Oromia, southern Oromia high lands, SNNPR and eastern Ethiopia received slight to heavy rainfall for consecutive days. The situation might have significantly contribute for Meher agricultural activities such as land preparation and sowing cereal like Teff, wheat and pulses crops, water requirement for long cycle crops which were found at different phenological stages, perennial Plants and Availability of pasture and drinking water. Moreover, Hawasa, Nekemet, Dangla, Aman, Jinka, received heavy rainfall within the range of 36.9 -56.9 mm in one rainy day. This situation might have negative impact on Belg crops that are already ripe and ready to harvest, on the other hand it favored pasture and drinking water availability especially in pastoral and agro pastoral areas.

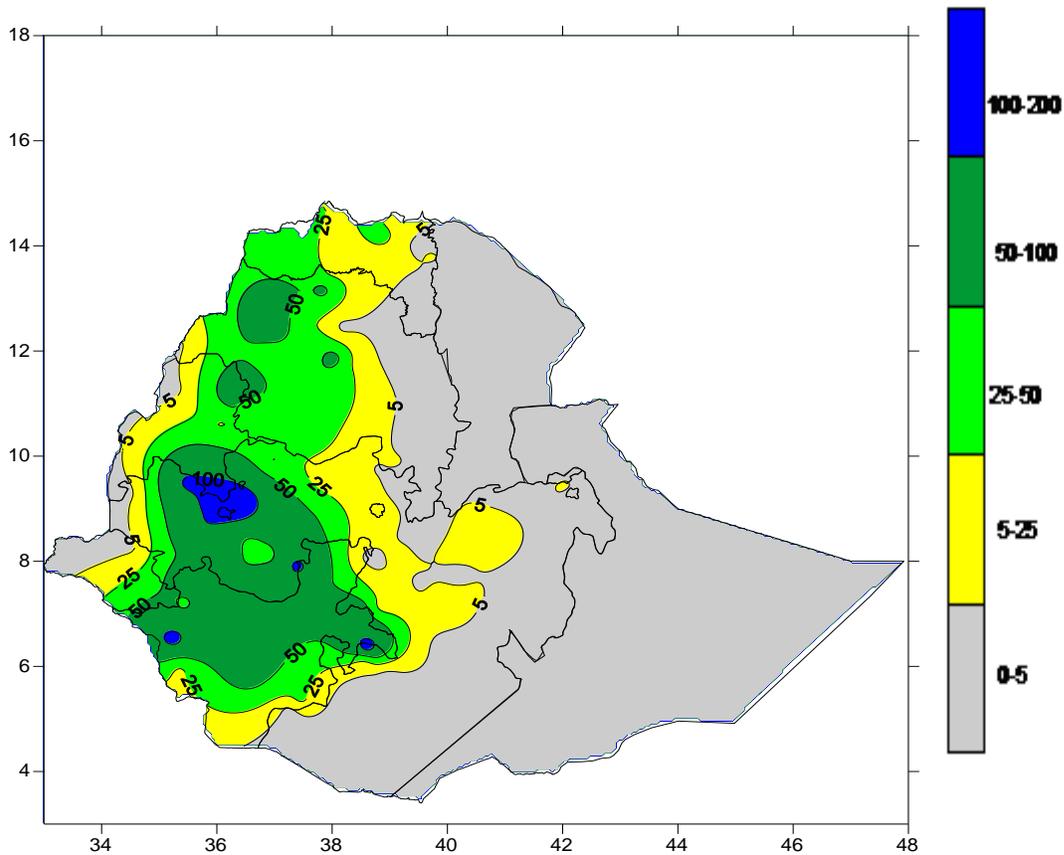


Fig. 1. Rainfall distribution in mm (11-20 June 2014)

1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

1.1 RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.1)

Pocket areas of western and central Oromia, pocket areas of western and south SNNPR exhibited 100-200mm of rainfall. Much of western Oromia, SNNPR, and southern tip of Bensahgul-Ggumuz eastern margin of Gambella and pocket areas of western Amhara received 50-100mm of rainfall. Much of western Amhara, western and pocket areas of north Tigray, eastern half of Bensahgul-Ggumuz, parts of western, central and southern Oromia and eastern Gambella experienced 25-50 mm of rainfall. Eastern half of Tigray, central and western tip of Amhara, central Bensahgul-Ggumuz and Gambella, parts of southern, eastern and western margins of Oromia and southern tip of SNNPR received 5-25mm of rainfall. The rest parts of the country exhibited little or no rainfall.

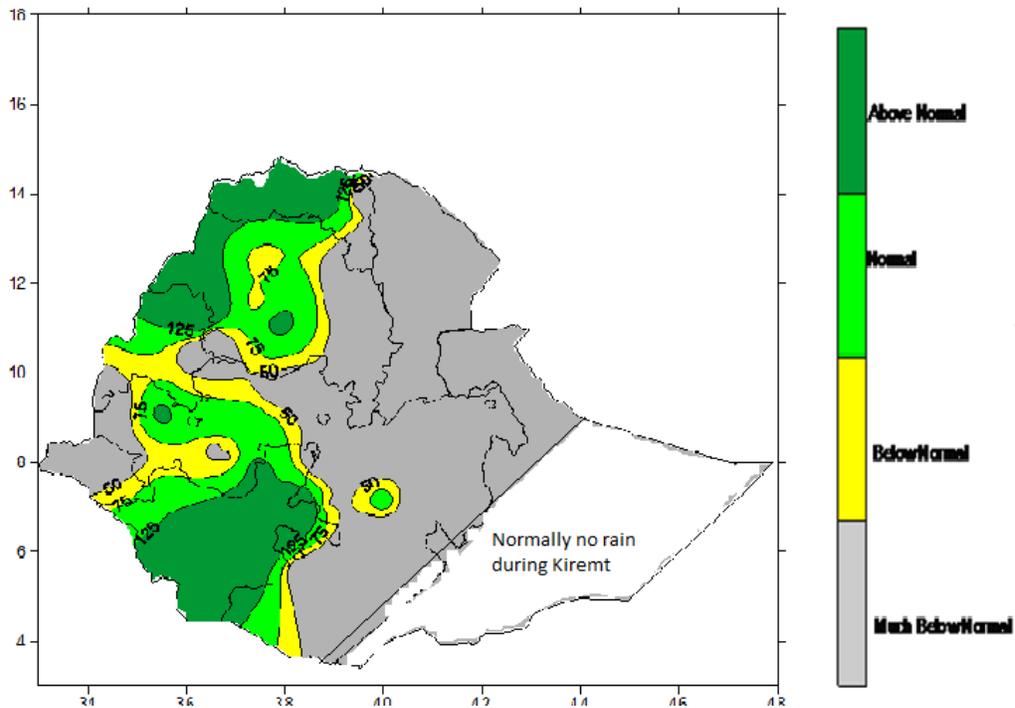


Fig2. Percent of normal rainfall distribution (11-20 June 2014)

Explanatory notes for the legend:

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

1.2 RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.2)

Much of southwestern Amhara, SNNPR, eastern Bensahgul-Ggumuz, southwestern and southeastern Oromia and pocket areas of eastern Oromia and eastern and northern Amahra exhibited normal to above normal rainfall, while the rest parts of the country experienced below normal to much below normal rainfall.

1.3. TEMPERATURE ANOMALY

Some stations in the low lands of the country reported extreme maximum temperature greater than 35°C. Among the reporting stations: Dire Dawa, Gode, Awash Arba, Ayisha, Dubti, Elidar, Gewane, Majete, Meiso and Mile recorded 38.0, 36.8, 41.0, 37.0, 44.8, 44.2, 43.6, 36.0, 36.5, 44.0, and 44.5 °C respectively. The situation might have a negative impact on the normal growth and development of plants and livestock.

2. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

2.1. VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

In dekade under view of June 11-20/ 2014, kirmet rainfall activity widely distributed over western half of the country including southwestern parts. As a result Most of Amhara, Gambela, Benshangul-Gumuze, western and central Oromia, southern Oromia high lands, SNNPR and eastern Ethiopia received slight to heavy rainfall for consecutive days. The situation might have significantly contribute for Meher agricultural activities such as land preparation and sowing cereal like Teff, wheat and pulses crops, long cycle crops which were found at different phenological stages, Water requirements of perennial Plants and Availability of pasture and drinking water. Moreover, Hawasa, Nekemet, Dangla, Aman, Jinka, received heavy rainfall within the range of 36.9 -56.9 mm in one rainy day. The situation might have negative impact on Belg crops that are already ripe and ready to harvest, on the other hand it favored pasture and drinking water availability especially in pastoral and agro pastoral areas.

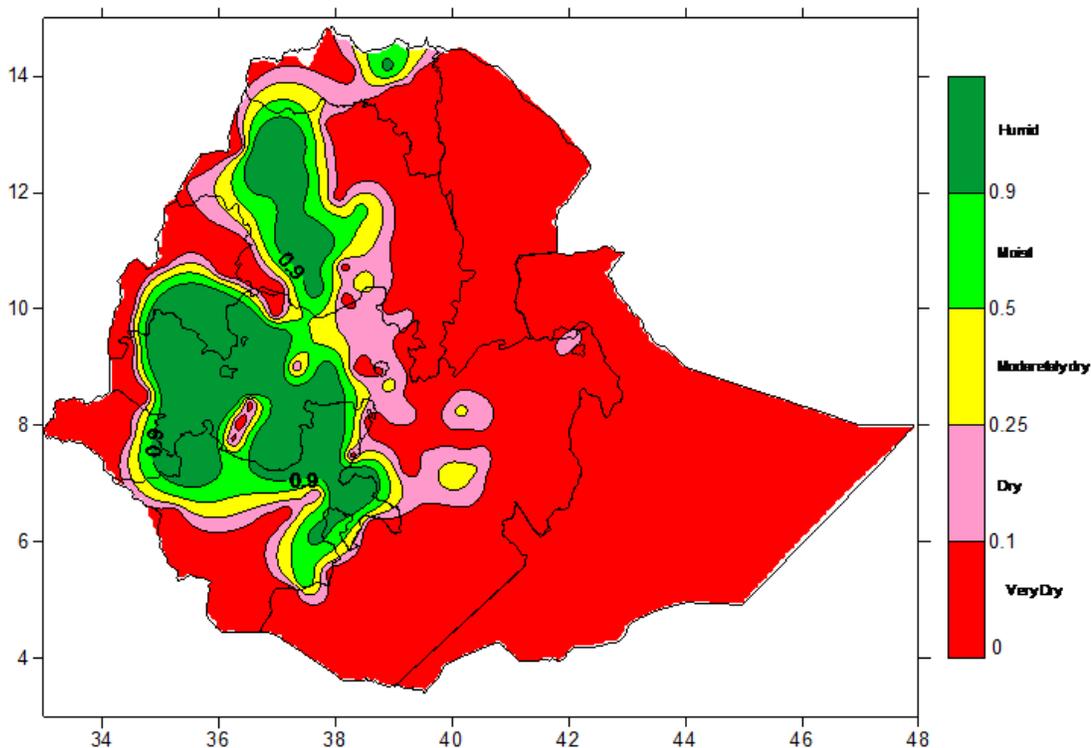


Fig.3 Moisture Status for (11-20 June 2014)

As indicated the moisture status map above, most western Oromia, parts of eastern Gambela, northern half of SNNPR, southern Benshangul-Gumuz, western and southwestern Amhara parts of southeastern Oromia and central and northern Tigray experienced moderately dry to humid moisture condition. This situation might have favored water availability of perennial plants and drinking water and pasture over pastoral and agro pastoral areas of the country. The rest parts of the country experienced dry to very dry moisture condition.

2.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DEKAD

In the coming third decade of June 2014, In normal situation kiremt rainfall extended over northern and central parts of the country. As a result of this, Tigray, Amhara, Benshangul-Gumuz, Gambela, western and central Oromia, northern parts of SNNPR will receive near normal with the possibility of above normal in some place will expect heavy falls. In addition to this, high lands of southern Oromia, eastern Ethiopia and northern Somali expect little rainfall. This situation would create favorable condition for cereal like (Teff and wheat) and pulse crops which planted after mid June, water requirement of the existing crops, perennial plants and availability of pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agro pastoral areas. On the other hand, in some place there might have heavy rainfall. Thus there might be a probability of getting flash flood and river over flow over some of the above normal rainfall areas. Hence the farmers and the concerned bodies should give attention to minimize the risk. In areas where little or no rainfall expects, it might have negative impact on seasonal agricultural activities.