

## DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 4

2005/06 Cropping Season

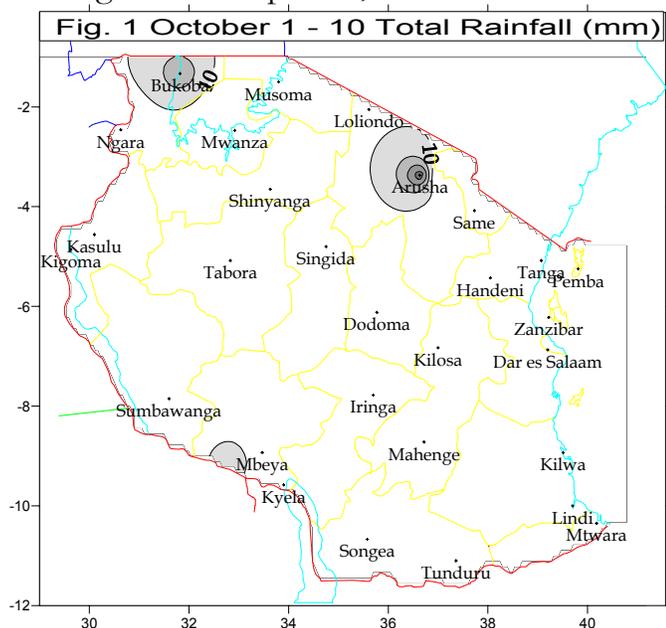
October 1 – 10, 2005

### SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the dekad 1-10<sup>th</sup> October, the northern hemisphere systems; the Azores and Arabian anticyclones continued to intensify although the shifting of the ITCZ further south was not very much significant. The southern hemisphere systems the St. Helena, the Mascarene anticyclones together with the East African ridge remained weak for the entire period. Moisture influxes from the Indian Ocean decreased due to a weak southeasterly wind flow.

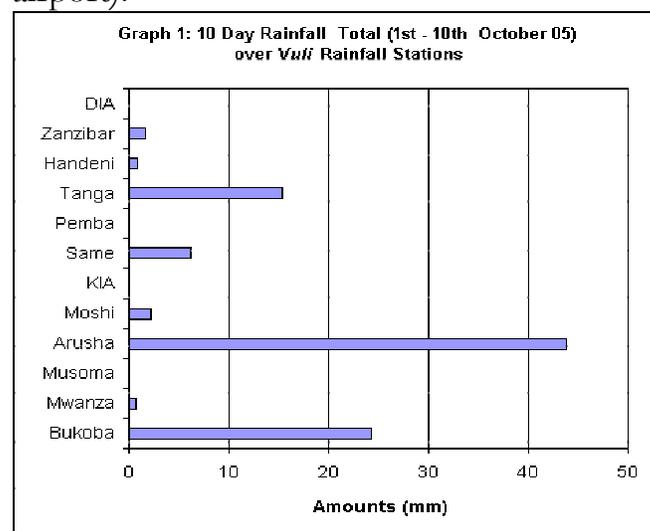
### RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the period, there was a



little rainfall activity reported over western parts of the Lake Victoria Basin (LVB) and

northeastern highlands (Fig.1). The maximum rainfall amount recorded for the period was 43.8 mm over northeastern highlands (Arusha airport).



Graph 1 shows the spatial rainfall distribution over *vuli* rainfall receiving stations. Most of the stations received rainfall totals of less than 20 mm except Bukoba (24.3 mm) and Arusha (43.8 mm). Since the third dekad of September to date a decrease in performance of short rains (*vuli*) has been observed over most areas in the bimodal rainfall regime, except for a few pockets of Arusha region, which had an increase during the first dekad of October. Remaining areas continued to have the seasonal dry conditions.

### IMPACT ASSESSMENT

#### Agrometeorological

Soil moisture conditions over bimodal sector continued decreasing during the period, thus

leading to prospects of moisture stress to early-planted crops. Moisture stress was reported over Sengerema in Mwanza region, which caused stagnant development to field crops during the period especially for those at early stage. Most part of the country including unimodal sector, farmers were at land preparations. Persistent dry conditions over unimodal rainfall regime (Shinyanga and Tabora, Singida and Dodoma regions) continued causing deterioration of quality and supply of pastures.

### Hydrometeorological

Low water levels in rivers and lakes were experienced during the period.

### EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING FIRST DEKAD (01 - 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2005)

The St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones over southern hemisphere are expected to continue relaxing allowing the intrusion of the northern hemisphere systems. The East African ridge will also weaken.

In turn, the Arabian and Azores anticyclones over the northern hemisphere are expected to continue intensifying hence squeezing the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) further south making the Equatorial trough and the Congo air mass more active over our area.

### EXPECTED WEATHER DURING FIRST DEKAD (01 – 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2005)

The coastal belt is expected to feature partly cloudy conditions with rains over a few areas and sunny intervals. Northeastern highlands will feature partly cloudy conditions and sunny periods with light rains over few areas mainly over high grounds. The Lake Victoria basin, mainly over Kagera and western areas particularly Kigoma will experience partly cloudy to cloudy conditions with showers and thunderstorms over few areas and sunny periods. The rest of the country will continue to experience partly cloudy conditions and sunny periods.

Prepared by  
TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY  
3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Floors - Ubungo Plaza Ltd – Morogoro Road.  
P.O. Box 3056 Tel. 255 - (0) 22 – 2460706-8 ; Fax: 255 - (0) 22 - 2460718  
E-mail: (1) [met@meteo.go.tz](mailto:met@meteo.go.tz) (2) [agromet\\_tz@meteo.go.tz](mailto:agromet_tz@meteo.go.tz)  
Dar-es-Salaam UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA