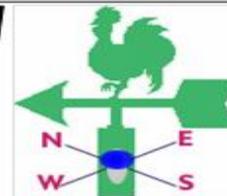




# TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



## DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 31

2005/06 Cropping Season

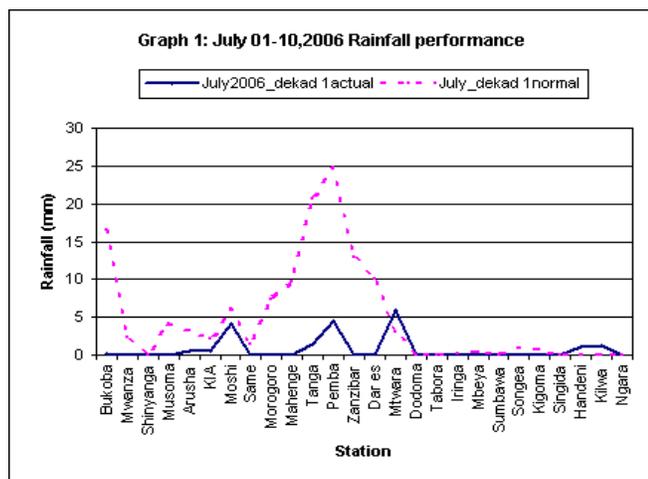
July 01 - 10, 2006

### SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the period 01<sup>st</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> July, the Siberian and Azores anticyclones over the northern hemisphere remained weak while over the southern hemisphere the St.Helena and Mascarene anticyclones, and the East African ridge were strong. The near equatorial trough was relatively active over the northeastern sector of the country. The southeasterly monsoon (SE) flow south of 5°S becoming southwesterly (SW) flow north of 5°S over the northeastern coast of East Africa was dominant.

### RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the period, the country was dominated by normal seasonal dry weather conditions although a few occasions of light rains were reported over some parts of northern coast, Islands of Pemba and Zanzibar as well as the high grounds of northeastern highlands.



Graph 1, depicts rainfall performance over some selected areas during the first dekad of July, where it is seen that there was no significant rainfall. Mtwara

town in the southern coast recorded the highest rainfall amount of about 5.9 mm.

### IMPACT ASSESSMENT

#### Agrometeorological

During the dekad, most farmers over unimodal rainfall areas completed harvesting of maize, sorghum and paddy, although in the higher altitude areas maize was reported at full ripeness stage in good state. Harvesting of sorghum in good to moderate state at ripeness stage over central areas and parts of Shinyanga region was reported.

Over bimodal rainfall areas, most crops were reported to be in good state at maturity stage. Harvesting of matured crops (maize, sorghum and paddy) continued over most parts, such as districts of Babati and Mbulu (in Manyara), Kibaha, Bagamoyo and Kisarawe in Coast region and some parts of the Lake Victoria basin.

Cassava in good state across the country was progressing well at various growth stages except over Ngara district where outbreak of *Batobato kali* (*cassava mosaic*) affected about 30% of the crop.

Overall, the 2006 *Masika* crop harvest over most of bimodal rainfall regime is anticipated to be above that of 2005 cropping season. On the other hand, localized poor harvests have been reported over parts of Dodoma region, Singida region, Meatu district in Shinyanga region, Kilolo and Iringa rural districts in Iringa region.

Pasture and water for livestock/wildlife generally maintained a satisfactory level across the country.

Expected dry conditions in the country during the second dekad of July will favour drying of matured crops, crop harvesting and storage.

### Hydrometeorological

Given the low humidity and prevailing winds during second dekad of July, there will be higher evaporation rates leading to a reduction in water levels in rivers, lakes and dams. Water for domestic and industrial purposes should be used sparingly.

### Environmental

Nights and mornings are chilly due to prevailing low temperatures and windy conditions. In high altitude areas where temperatures are getting low, charcoal stoves should not be used to heat up homes to avoid asphyxiation from carbon monoxide.

### EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING JULY 11 – 20, 2006

The Siberian and Azores anticyclones are expected to continue weakening over the northern hemisphere while over the southern hemisphere the St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones, and the East African ridge are expected to remain strong.

The near equatorial trough will continue to be active over the northeastern sector of the. The southeasterly monsoon (SE) flow south of 5°S becoming southwesterly monsoon (SW) flow north of 5°S on reaching the northeastern Tanzanian coast will persist.

### EXPECTED WEATHER DURING JULY 11 – 20, 2006

The northern coast and Islands of Zanzibar and Pemba will continue to feature cold nights and mornings with occasions of light morning rains over few areas and sunny periods. Lake Victoria basin will experience partly cloudy conditions with few thundershowers mainly over the northern parts of the lake and sunny periods. Southern and western areas will experience partly cloudy conditions with cold nights and sunny periods in the afternoon. Southwestern and northeastern highlands as well as central parts of the country will feature cold nights and mornings and sunny periods in the afternoon.

Prepared by

**TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY**

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