



TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 1

2006/07 Cropping Season

September 01 - 10, 2006

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the period 01 - 10 September, the Arabian and Azores anticyclones over the northern hemisphere continued to weaken while the St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones and the East African ridge over the southern hemisphere were generally intense. The near equatorial trough over the northeastern sector was active. The southeasterly monsoon (SE) flow south of 5 °S becoming southwesterly (SW) flow north of 5 °S over the East African and Somali coast was strong and dominant throughout the dekad.

RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the dekad, dry conditions persisted over much of the country, normal condition for the time of the year. Very few localized areas over Lake Victoria basin, northeastern highlands and along the northern coastal belt had occasions of light rainshowers, the highest being 15.9 mm reported at Bukoba Airport, followed by Tanga 11.7 mm, Lyamungu 3.9 mm and Handeni 3.3 mm.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological

The 2006/07 new cropping season has started over areas with a bimodal rainfall pattern, where farmers were involved in land preparations for the short rains season 'vuli' crop as reported in western Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera region) and western parts (Kibondo and Kasulu districts in Kigoma region). However,

due to low soil moisture levels experienced during the period, land preparations have had a slow start.

Sweet potatoes and cassava continued flowing to the markets.

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

Hydrometeorological

Given the prevailing low humidity and windy conditions, evaporation rates will remain high, leading to further 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 low, charcoal stoves should be used cautiously to heat up homes to avoid asphyxiation from carbon monoxide.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING SEPTEMBER 11 - 20, 2006

The northern hemisphere systems (Arabian and Azores anticyclones) will start strengthening gradually while the southern hemisphere systems (the St. Helena, and Mascarene anticyclones and the East African ridge) will remain strong. The near equatorial trough over the northeastern coast of Tanzania will continue to be active during the dekad. The southeasterly monsoon (SE) flow south of 5°S becoming southwesterly monsoon (SW) flow north of 5 °S over the coasts of East Africa and Somalia is expected to dominate.

**EXPECTED WEATHER DURING
SEPTEMBER 11 – 20, 2006**

The Lake Victoria basin is expected to experience cloudy conditions at times with occasions of thundershowers mainly over the western side (Kagera region) and sunny periods. Western areas (Kigoma and Tabora regions) will experience partly cloudy conditions with light thundershowers over very few

areas and sunny periods. The Northern coast (Tanga and Dar es Salaam regions and the islands of Zanzibar and Pemba) are expected to experience partly cloudy conditions with occasions of light rains over few areas and sunny periods. Northeastern highlands areas will experience partly cloudy conditions with light rains mainly over high grounds and sunny periods. The rest of the country will experience partly cloudy conditions with sunny periods.

Prepared by

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