

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the period 01st – 10th October, the St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones and the East African ridge over the southern hemisphere relaxed. Arabian ridge continued to intensify while the Azores anticyclone relaxed due to extra tropical frontal systems. The Arabian ridge intensified pushing southward the zonal arm of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ). The southeasterly monsoon flow attained easterly component as it reached the East African coast especially towards the end of the dekad thus maintaining some activities over the area. The near equatorial trough was active over the northern part of the country, thus causing light showers at times over some areas.

Much of the the Lake Victoria Basin with bimodal rainfall pattern experienced dry spell with some areas reporting rainfall less than 10 mm. Cumulative rainfall amounts of more than 100 mm in a dekad were reported over areas in the northern coast and Islands of Zanzibar and Pemba, where the highest rainfall amount was at Pemba (178.8 mm), followed by Tanga (155.1 mm) and Handeni (100.5 mm). The observed lull in rainfall activities over Lake Victoria basin, parts of the northeastern highlands and northern coast marked a dry spell for areas in the short rains (*vuli*). On the other hand, seasonal dry conditions persisted over unimodal rainfall pattern areas (central, western, southwestern highlands, southern and southern coast regions).

RAINFALL SUMMARY

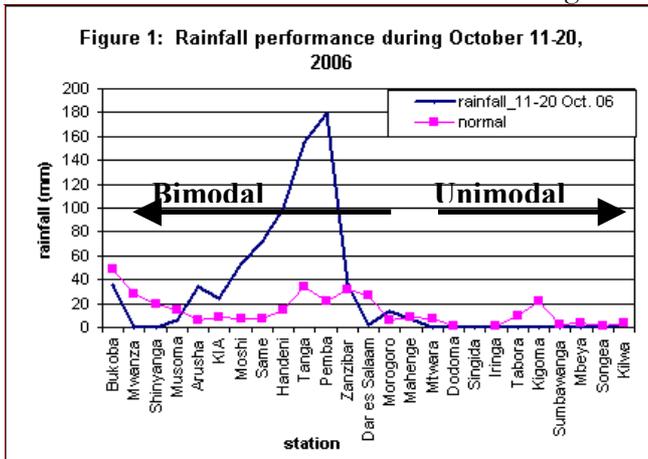
During the period 11 - 20th October, a few areas over the northern coast and northeastern highlands

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological

During the dekad, soil moisture replenishment was observed over the northeastern highlands and northern coast regions, the areas which experience a bimodal rainfall pattern. Other parts in the regime, including areas over the Lake Victoria basin experienced some soil moisture deficits following a dry spell that hit the region. Delayed planting of crops was reported in Mwanza, Mara, Shinyanga and Kagera regions. For the unimodal rainfall pattern areas (central, western, southwestern highlands, southern and southern coast regions) most farmers were still on land preparations as seasonal rains normally start in November. However, harvesting of perennials such as coffee continued over Kilimanjaro and Arusha regions, while cassava crop across the country was at various stages and in good state.

Figure 1: Rainfall performance during October 11-20, 2006



reported rainfall amounts more than 20 mm, amounts which were above normal (Figure 1).

Short (*Vuli*) rains are expected to boost pasture and water for livestock/wildlife in bimodal rainfall areas. The southern half of the country dry conditions will impact heavily on pasture and water.

Hydrometeorological

Vuli rains in the northern sector will boost water levels in rivers, lakes and dams whereas they will get even lower in the southern part of the country where the dry season is still continuing.

Environmental

Temperatures are warm and comfortable, with less windy conditions.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING OCTOBER 21 – 31, 2006

Arabian and Azores anticyclones over the northern hemisphere are expected to continue intensifying from the early dates of the dekad thus pushing the I T C Z southwards. The southern hemisphere systems, St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones and the East African ridge are expected to continue relaxing due to extra tropical frontal systems over the area.

northern coast, south of Equator and northeastern sector of the country. The southeasterly monsoon flow becoming easterly flow south of the Equator over the the East African coast will persist.

EXPECTED WEATHER DURING OCTOBER 21 – 31, 2006

The Northern coast and the Islands of Zanzibar and Pemba will feature cloudy conditions with showers over few areas and sunny periods mainly towards the end of the dekad. Lake Victoria basin and western areas (Kigoma region) will experience cloudy conditions with thundershowers mainly over the western parts of the lake and sunny periods. Northeastern highlands will feature partly cloudy to cloudy conditions at times with rainshowers mainly over high grounds and sunny periods. Southern, southwestern highlands, central regions will experience partly cloudy conditions with occasional light rainshowers towards the end of the dekad and sunny periods.

The near equatorial trough will be active over the

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