



TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

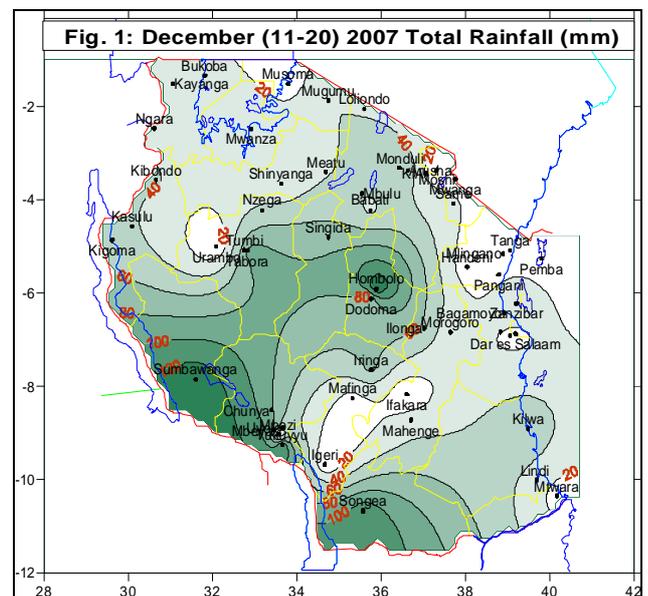
No.11 2007/08 Cropping Season

December 11-20, 2007

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the second dekad of December (11–20), the southern hemisphere systems (the St. Helena, the Mascarene anticyclones, and the East African ridge) were relaxed. The northern hemisphere systems (the Siberian high, Azores high and the Arabian ridge) were intense. This made the zonal arm of the Inter Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) to move further south and a dominance of the ridge from the north in the northwestern of the Indian Ocean along the coast. which resulted into isolated rain showers over northern coast and northeastern highlands. The meridional arm of the ITCZ was active increasing convective activities over western areas. The persistence of a weak trough over the Lake Victoria basin resulted in rainshowers over the Lake Victoria basin.

of Lake Victoria basin, western, northeastern highlands and the eastern belt.



RAINFALL SUMMARY

During December 11-31, rainfall activities concentrated largely over the unimodal sector where most stations registered high amounts of rainfall. Hombolo Agromet station situated in central areas of the country received 142.6 mm followed by Sumbawanga 135.3 mm, Songea 116.6 mm, Mbeya 87.6 mm, Tukuyu 121.0 mm, Singida 72.6 mm, Tumbi 67.8 mm, Dodoma 66.4 mm, Iringa 64.9 mm, Monduli 58.1 mm, Ilonga 58.0 mm and Kilwa Masoko 58.0 mm. The rest of the sample stations recorded rainfall below 40 mm for the period as shown in Figure 1. Such areas include parts

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological

December 11-20 experienced an adequate supply of soil moisture mainly over the unimodal sector where major field activities during the dekad were planting of maize and beans, transplanting of paddy and tobacco, as reported from southwestern highlands, south, southern coast and central regions.

For the bimodal areas land preparation and planting activities continued well over several areas like Monduli, Handeni, Loliondo and Simanjiro districts in northeastern highlands and northern coast where soil moisture supply for the period was conducive. As for the early-planted crops mainly over Lake Victoria basin

and western parts (Biharamulo, Muleba, Karagwe and Ngara districts) in Kagera region beans crop was in ripeness stage and in good state whereas in Kibondo and Kasulu districts of Kigoma region weeding of maize and beans crops was carried out and the crops were in good state.

Market supply for cassava over several areas of the country was good.

Pasture conditions and water availability for livestock and wildlife especially over central, northeastern highlands and southwestern areas are improving.

Hydrometeorological

Water levels in lakes and dams were expected to rise as well as river discharges as a result of a set-in of seasonal rainfall over unimodal areas.

Environmental

Temperatures were high over most parts of the country while humidity was particularly high over the coastal belt.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING DECEMBER 21 – 31, 2007

During this dekad, the Southern Hemisphere Systems (the St. Helena the Mascarene anticyclones, and the East African ridge) are expected to relax. The Azores and Siberian anticyclones in the Northern Hemisphere are expected to continue intensifying, thus allowing the ITCZ to continue moving further south.

EXPECTED WEATHER DURING DECEMBER 21 –31, 2007

The Lake Victoria basin is expected to feature rain showers and thunderstorms over few areas. Western areas (Kigoma and Tabora), Central areas (Dodoma and Singida) will feature cloudy conditions with thundershowers over some areas. Northern coast and Northeastern highlands are expected to feature rain showers over few areas. Southern coast, Southern region and Southwestern highlands will feature thundershowers over some areas.