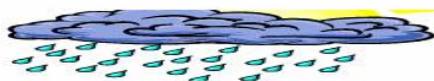




TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



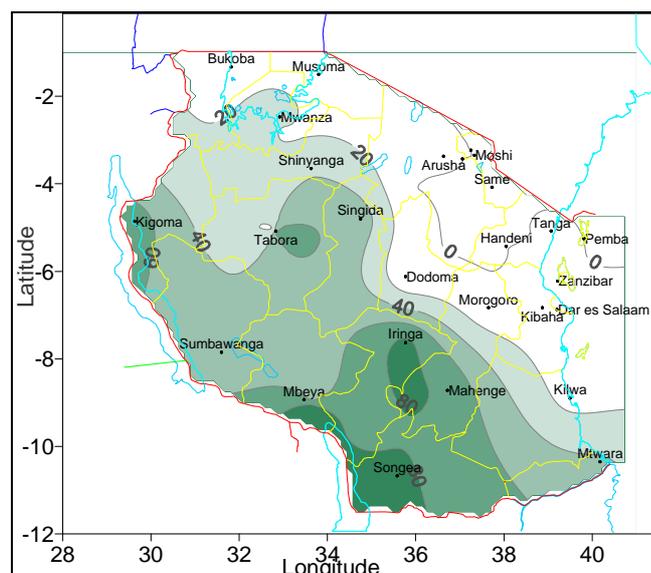
DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 11, 2008/09 Cropping Season

December 11-20, 2008

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the past 10 days (11-20 December, 2008), the northern hemisphere anticyclones (Azores and Siberian) remained intense while the St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones relaxed. The above configuration continued to allow the fluctuation of zonal component of ITCZ over the southern parts of the country. The dry northeasterly wind flow pattern continued to dominate over the eastern parts of the country suppressing rainfall activities. During this dekad the Meridional component of the ITCZ was also less active over the western region thus reducing rainfall over those areas.



Rainfall amounts during December 11-20, 2008

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

During the second dekad of December (11-20) bimodal (Lake Victoria basin, northeastern highlands, northern coast, Isles of Zanzibar and Pemba) areas observed inadequate supply of soil moisture. This condition affected crop growth and development as widely experienced over northern coast, northeastern highlands and parts of Lake Victoria basin (east) where crops in the fields were generally approaching tasseling (maize) and budding (beans) stages, both in poor to moderate state, except over Kagera region where beans was to be between vegetative and ripeness stages, in moderate state.

RAINFALL SUMMARY

The bimodal sector (Lake Victoria basin, northeastern highlands, northern coast, Isles of Zanzibar and Pemba) experienced reduced amounts of rainfall where the reported values for the period were below 40mm as shown in the rainfall map. Remaining areas of the country reported substantial rainfall amounts, like Tukuyu obtaining the highest rainfall (99.4mm), followed by Iringa (87.0mm), Songea (82.4mm), Mahenge (76.3mm), Hombolo (74.6mm), Kigoma (71.2mm), Tabora (68.6mm), Mbeya (67.5mm), Ifakara (66.9mm) and Singida (52.6mm).

For the unimodal sector (central, western, southwestern highlands, southern and southern coast regions) planting of maize, beans and paddy continued well in several areas as facilitated by favorable soil moisture supply. A few areas over the southern coast in Lindi and Mtwara regions were finalizing land preparation.

Market supply for cassava over several areas of the country slightly dropped.

Pastures and water availability for livestock and wildlife was generally moderate.

Hydrometeorological Summary

Despite the ongoing rains over some areas of bimodal rainfall regime, water levels in lakes, and dams generally declined. In view of that, water for domestic and industrial purposes should be used sparingly.

Environmental Summary

Temperatures are increasing and windy conditions are decreasing over much of the country.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING DECEMBER 21-31, 2008

For the coming dekad (10days), the northern hemisphere anticyclones (Azores and Siberian) are expected to remain intense while the St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones are likely to remain weak. The meridional component of the ITCZ is expected to be fairly active over the Western region and occasionally influencing rainfall over the

central areas. The Zonal component of the ITCZ is occasionally expected to fluctuate over the southern regions of the country causing a few outbreaks of rainfall activities over the area. The current northeasterly winds which are relatively dry and at times divergent are likely to contribute in suppressing rainfall activities over parts of Northern Coast and Northeastern highlands and southern Coast

EXPECTED WEATHER DURING DECEMBER 21-31, 2008

The Lake Victoria basin is expected to feature partly cloudy conditions with a few outbreaks of thundershowers. The Northeastern Highlands, Northern coast and its hinterlands, isles of Unguja and Pemba are expected to feature mainly dry conditions with a few outbreaks of isolated showers. Southwestern highlands, Western, Southern Region including Southern Coast together with Central areas are expected to feature partly cloudy conditions with showers and isolated thunderstorms.