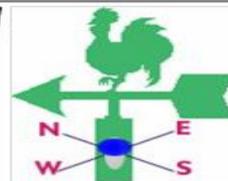
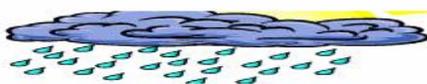




TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 12 2010/11 Cropping Season

December 21-31, 2010

HIGHLIGHTS

Soil moisture obtained over greater part of the country during the period was favorable for planting activities over unimodal sector, but the already adversely affected crops in bimodal areas never recovered e.g. beans in Biharamulo district.

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the last dekad of December 2010, the northern hemisphere high pressure cells, the Siberian High and its associated Arabian ridge continued to intensify and push the zonal arm of the Inter-tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) further south over north-eastern parts of the country, while the Azores high slightly intensified orienting the meridional arm of ITCZ further west of the country. The Southern Hemisphere High pressure cells, St Helena and Mascarine anticyclones remained slightly weak while the East African ridge slightly intensified towards the end of the dekad. In the beginning of the dekad, the dominant low level wind flow was easterly in the greater part of the country with the exception of the extreme west where weak westerlies were observed. Towards the end of dekad, mainly northeasterly to easterly wind flow became dominant across much of the country contributing to a suppression of rainfall activities over most areas of the country.

RAINFALL SUMMARY

The dekad experienced rainfall activities over a greater part of the country obtaining favorable amounts, except for few areas of extreme northern coast that obtained rainfall below 10mm as depicted in the map, Figure 1. The highest rainfall for the period was recorded at Morogoro station (123.5mm), followed by Mahenge (94.0mm),

Tabora (76.2mm), Igeri (75.6mm), Bukoba (58.0mm), Sumbawanga (56.2mm), Singida (48.8mm), Uyole (41.0), Ukiriguru (37.5mm), Mwanza (36.7), Kigoma (36.5mm), Musoma (36.5mm), Iringa (34.9mm), Songea (30.3), Mtwara (27.8mm), Tukuyu (26.9mm), Kibondo (25.6mm), Shinyanga (24.8mm), Mbozi (24.9mm), Dodoma (24.4mm) and Mbeya (23.7mm).

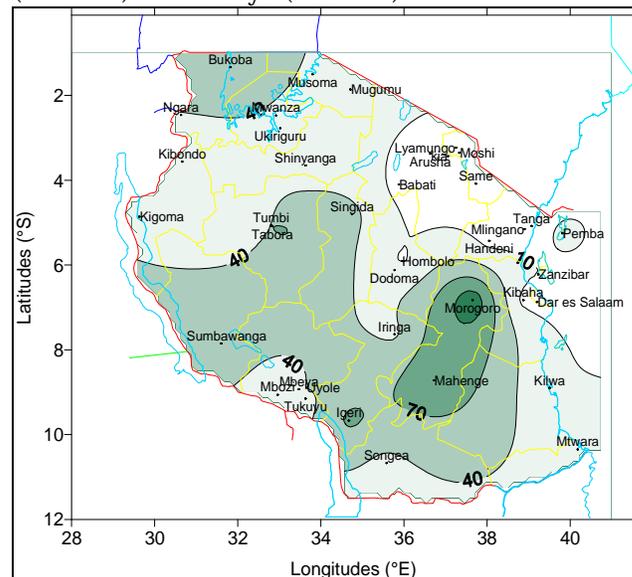


Figure:1 December 21-31, 2010, Rainfall distribution

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Soil moisture obtained over greater part of the country during the period was favorable for planting activities in the unimodal sector, but the already adversely affected crops in bimodal areas

never recovered e.g. beans in Biharamulo district. In the bimodal sector (northern coast, northeastern highlands and parts of Lake Victoria basin) late planting and numerous crop replanting were carried out following beans crop being adversely affected to wilting point that at vegetative stage due to short supply and distribution of soil moisture.

Generally, field crops were ranging from emergence to near tasseling in poor to moderate state for maize while beans were from emergence to near ripeness in poor to moderate state as reported from bimodal areas.

On the other hand, the soil moisture boost obtained during the period regenerated pastures for livestock and wildlife over most parts of the country.

Hydro-meteorological Summary

Water levels in lakes and dams and river flows have improved slightly, thus water for human and industrial usage and hydropower generation should be used sparingly.

Environmental Summary

Temperatures over most areas in the country were generally warm with high humidity levels, leading to uncomfortable conditions. The trend is towards warming during the coming dekad.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING JANUARY 1-10, 2011

Helena and Mascarene highs are expected to remain slightly weak. In the northern hemisphere, the Azores high is expected to intensify slightly while Siberian high and the associated Arabian ridge are likely to intensify.

The meridional arm of the ITCZ is expected to shift towards the west over Congo forest Basin, while the zonal arm of the ITCZ is expected to remain diffused over the eastern sector of the country. The shift of the meridional component of ITCZ is expected to give chance to a weak low-level dry wind convergence (westerlies and north-easterlies).

EXPECTED WEATHER SITUATION DURING JANUARY 1-10, 2011

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mara, Shinyanga and Mwanza regions): Moderate rain-showers and thunderstorms are likely over few areas. Western areas (Tabora and Kigoma regions): Moderate thundershowers are expected over few areas. Northern coast and hinterland (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Tanga and Coastal regions, Zanzibar and Pemba Islands): Light rain-showers are expected. Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): Light rain showers and thunderstorms are expected over few areas. North-eastern Highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara regions): Mainly dry conditions over some areas are expected. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya and Iringa regions and southern Morogoro-Mahenge areas): Moderate rain-showers and thunderstorms are expected over some areas towards the end of the dekad. Southern region (Ruvuma region): Moderate rain-showers and thunderstorms over some areas, are expected particularly towards the end of the dekad. Central region (Dodoma and Singida regions): Light rain-showers and thunderstorms, are expected towards the end of the dekad.