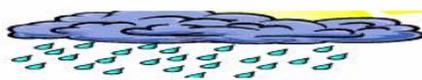




TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

Na: 18 Cropping Season 2010/11

February 21-28, 2011

HIGHLIGHTS

Reduced soil moisture supply was experienced over much of the country during the dekad, except for a few areas of the unimodal sector including southwestern highlands, southern, southern coast and Morogoro (south) that obtained significant supply.

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the third dekad of February 2011, the northern hemisphere high pressure cells, the Siberian High and its associated Arabian ridge remained intense keeping the zonal arm of the Inter-tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) in the vicinity of the southern border of Tanzania, similarly the Azores high was intense resulting to low level wind divergence over the northeastern Tanzania. The meridional arm of ITCZ was confined over central parts of DRC. The Southern Hemisphere High pressure cells, St Helena and Mascarene high remained weak throughout.

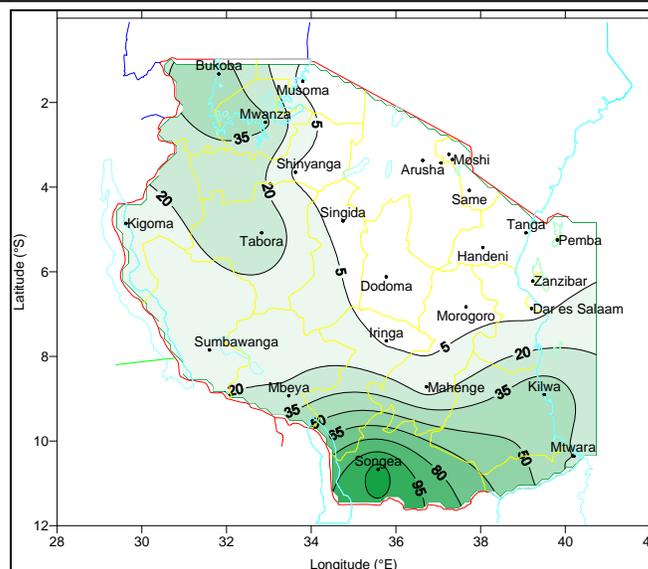


Fig. 1: February 21-28, 2011 Rainfall distribution (mm)

RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the period under review, rainfall activities decreased over much of the country, with the highest amount registered at Songea meteorological station was 116.7mm. other stations recorded: Igeri 55.3 mm, Kilwa 45.6 mm, Mbozi 40.3 mm, Bukoba 40.1mm, Mwanza 38.1mm, Mtwara 35.0 mm, Tabora 32.1 mm, Uyole 29.1mm, Tukuyu 25.6 mm, Mbeya 24.0 mm, Kibondo 14.9 mm and Mahenge 11.6 mm. The rest of the stations recoded rainfall below 10 mm with the most obtaining zero rainfall as shown in Fig 1.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Reduced soil moisture supply was experienced over much of the country during the dekad, except for a few areas of the unimodal sector including southwestern highlands, southern, southern coast and Morogoro (south) that obtained significant supply. The soil moisture so obtained was conducive to the field work carried out mostly in the southern sector where weeding of maize and transplanting of paddy were the leading activities with crops ranging from vegetative to earring stages for the earliest planted maize crop. Bimodal sector (Lake Victoria basin, northeastern highlands and northern coast) observed land preparation for

Masika season. Likewise, soil moisture drop during the period had a slight negative effect to pastures for the livestock and wildlife over most parts of the country

Hydro-meteorological Summary

Water levels in lakes, dams, and rivers have remained low, 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 hot coupled with high humidity leading to uncomfortable conditions, and the warming trend is expected during the coming dekad.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING MARCH 1-10, 2011

The southern hemisphere systems, the St Helena and Mascarene highs are expected to be slightly strong. In the northern hemisphere, the Azores High is expected to relax slightly towards the end of the dekad. The Siberian high and the associated Arabian ridge are expected to remain strong. The meridional arm of ITCZ is expected to be active mainly over Congo basin and occasionally oscillate eastwards toward the western part of country. The zonal arm of ITCZ is expected to be more active over southern parts of the country signifying the gradual migration of the ITCZ northwards.

EXPECTED WEATHER SITUATION DURING MARCH 1-10, 2011

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mara, Shinyanga and Mwanza regions): Rainfall is expected mainly over Kagera, Mwanza and western parts of Shinyanga regions. Western region (Tabora and Kigoma regions): Isolated showers and thunderstorms are expected. Slightly enhanced rainfall is likely over Kigoma region. Northern coast and its hinterland (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Tanga and Coastal regions, Zanzibar and Pemba Islands): Mainly partly cloudy conditions are expected. However rainfall is expected over southern Morogoro region. Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): Moderate thundershowers are expected. North-eastern highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara regions): Mainly partly cloudy conditions and isolated rain-showers over high grounds. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya and Iringa regions and southern Morogoro (Mahenge areas): Pockets of enhanced thundershowers are likely during the dekad. Southern region (Ruvuma region): Mostly scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are expected. Central Region (Dodoma and Singida regions): Isolated rain showers are expected.

Prepared by

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