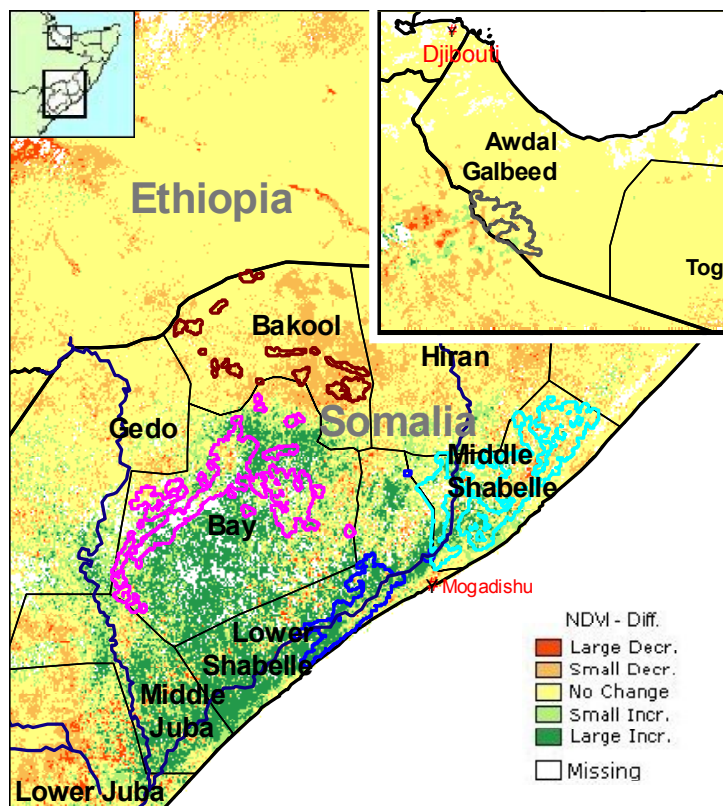


Agricultural areas



Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI)
Absolute difference w.r.t. previous year (Act. - Prev.)
Period: August 2004 Dekad: I

Highlights

Rainfall

Some rainfall is visible over the southern coastal regions of the country while the situation in the northern pastoral areas remains dry.

Crops

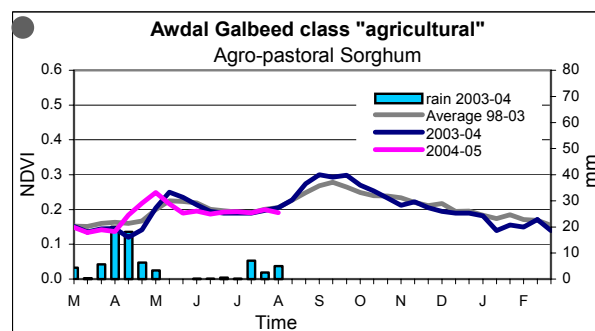
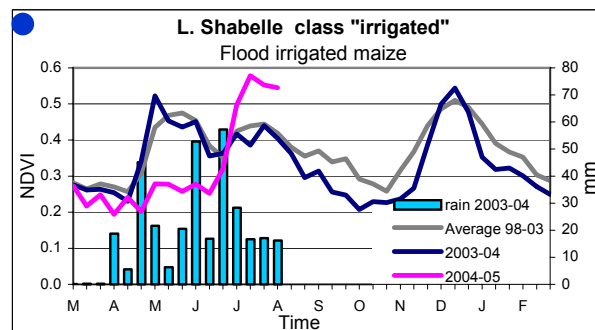
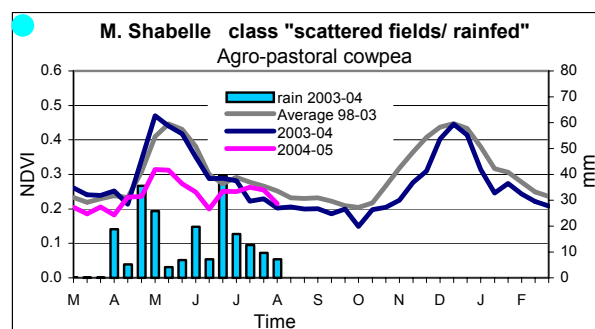
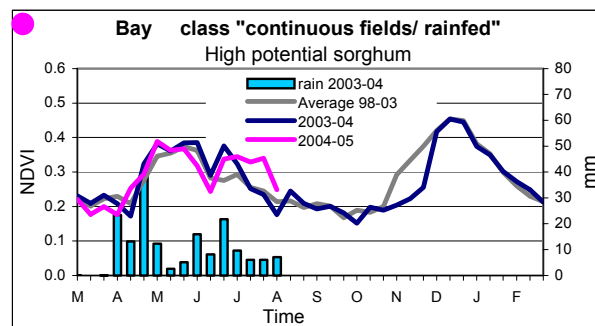
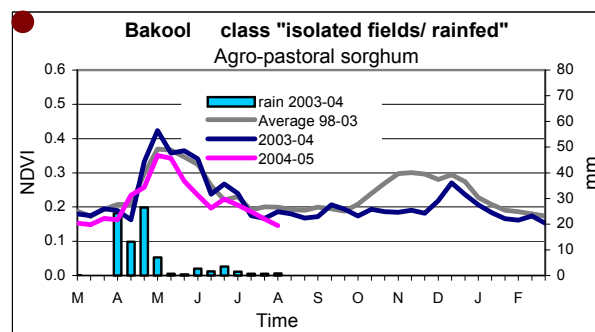
With the exception of Bay, the effects of short and insufficient Gu rains are clearly visible. Following the late rains, vegetation is very green in Southern Somalia and in particular in *Lower Shabelle*. Based on VGT NDVI and agricultural statistics obtained by FSAU, a Gu production forecast for *Bay* and *Lower Shabelle* was made as follows:

Bay (sorghum):
41060 MT +/- 17607 MT
Lower Shabelle (maize):
49905 MT +/- 7845 MT

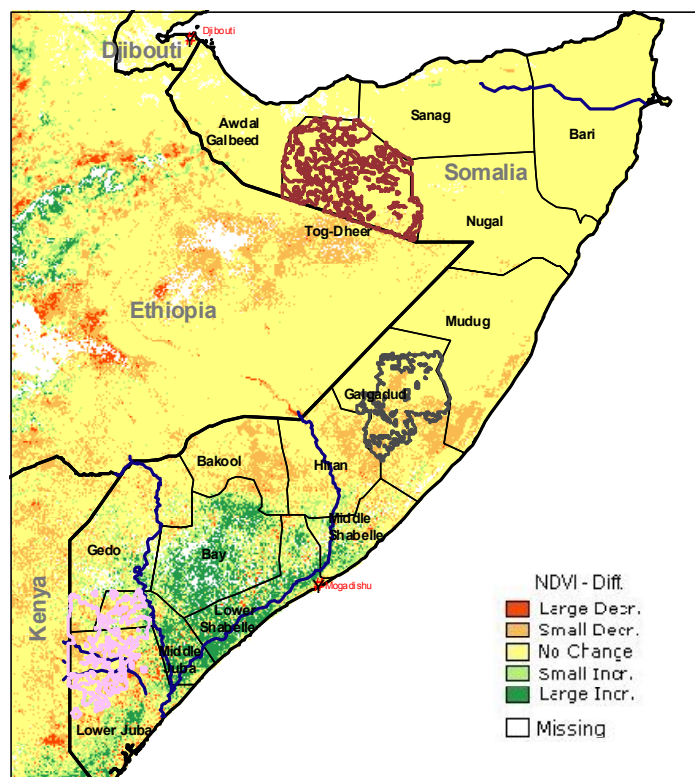
10-day cumulated rainfall

Period: August 2004 Dekad: I
Data derived from ECMWF model
Produced by METEOCONSULT

A technical description of the Gu production forecast can be found here:
<http://mars.jrc.it/bulletin/Somalia/2004/>



Pastoral areas



Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI)
 Absolute difference w.r.t. previous year (Act. – Prev.)
 Period: August 2004 Dekad: I

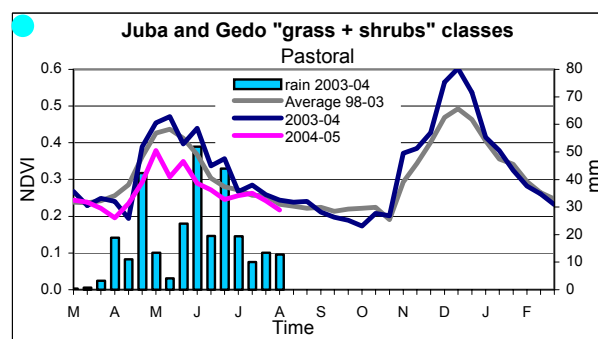
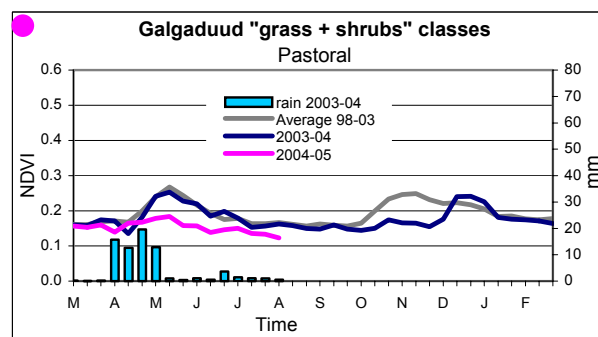
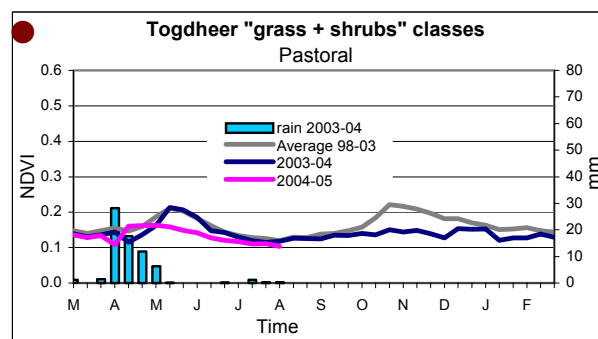
Highlights

Pastures

The dryness of the northern and central pastoral areas has not improved so far during the *Gu* season. Following at least two very dry years this situation leads to extremely hard conditions for livestock and pastoralists.

Legend: Food crop situation:

 Very bad;  Bad;  Near Normal;  Good;  Very Good



MARS-Food provides regular 10-daily updates on the progress of the 2004 crop seasons. This bulletin is available also through the "Crop and Rangeland Monitoring Network for the Greater Horn of Africa": <http://marsunit.jrc.it/Africa/>

All MARS-Food crop monitoring products are also accessible through the "Risk & Vulnerability" section of the JRC Digital Map Archive: <http://dma.jrc.it>

Comments and remarks for improvement of this bulletin are welcome.

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