

NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AGENCY
TEN-DAY AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN
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SUMMARY

During the first dekad of November 2011, rain bearing meteorological phenomenon were prevailed over most parts of the country. As a result parts of Tigray, Amhara, central, southern and western Oromia, Gambella, SNNPR, lowlands of southern and pocket areas of northern Somali, Afar and Benishangul-Gumuz received a considerable amount of rainfall. Moreover, some reporting station reported heavy falls ranging from 30.0 to 63.5 mm of rainfall in one rainy day. The situation might have favored perennial crops, late sown pulse crops that are found at different phenological stages and availability of water for pasture, while the unseasonal rainfall observed might have a negative impact on fully matured Meher crops and harvest activities. On the other hand, Bega rain benefiting areas of southern and south eastern pastoral and agro pastoral areas of the country have got 25.1 to 121.2 mm of rainfall from 1 to 10 days. The situation might have a positive impact on pasture and drinking water availability.

During the second dekad of November 2011, Bega, dry, sunny and windy weather condition prevailed over most parts of the country. The situation might have a positive impact on harvest and post harvest activities. Bega weather which was prevailing over most parts of the country will occur early morning and night cold. On line to this some station from central, eastern and southeastern high lands of the country would report minimum temperature less than zero. This situation would have a negative impact on the normal growth of plants and livestock. On the other hand with the exception of Jinka and Maji reported heavy fall 34.1 and 33.0 mm in one rainy day respectively, rainfall decrease in amount and distribution over Bega rain benefiting areas of southern and south eastern pastoral and agro pastoral areas of the country this might have a negative impact on the availability of pasture and drinking water and water requirement for perennial plants.

1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

11-20 November 2011

RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.1)

Some parts of southern SNNPR received 50-100 mm rainfall. Southern parts of SNNPR received 25-50 mm rainfall. Most parts of SNNPR, southern Oromia, pocket areas of western Amhara, eastern Benshangul Gumuz and western Oromia, and exhibited 5-25 mm rainfall. The rest parts of the country exhibited little or no rainfall.

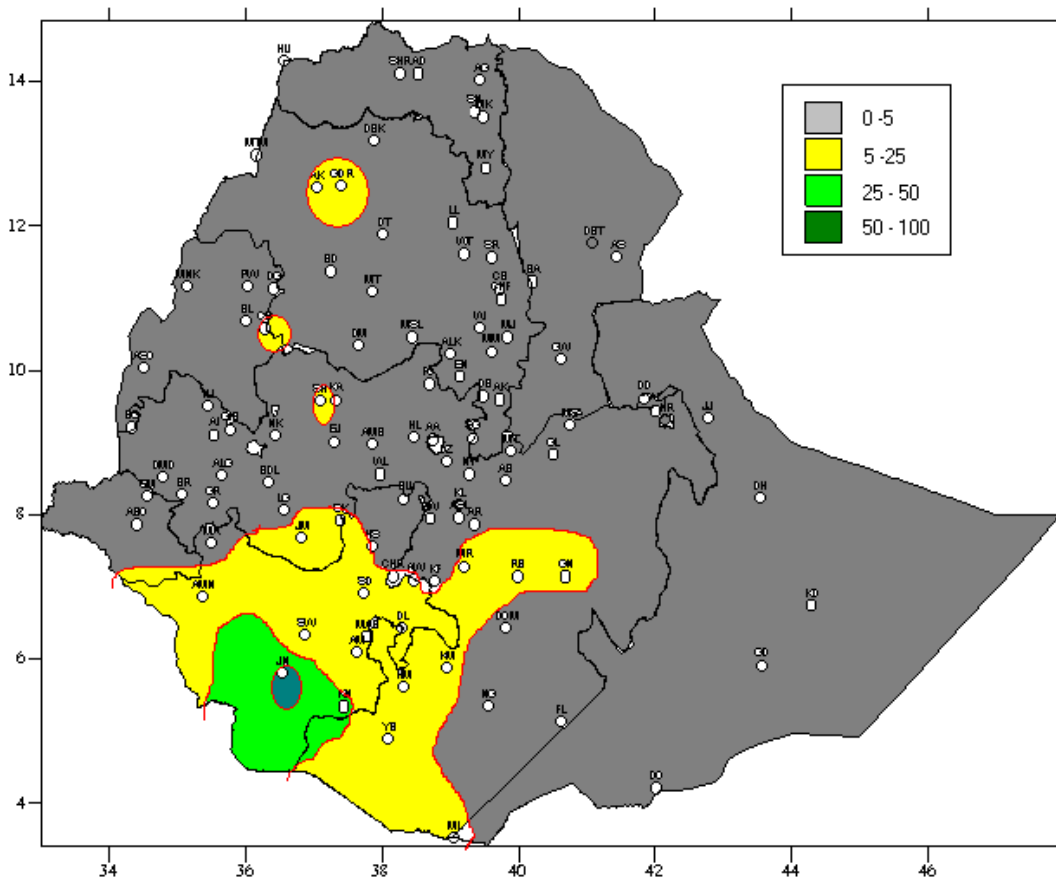


Fig 1 Rainfall distribution in mm (11-20 November 2011)

1.1.2 RAINFALL ANOMALY (Fig. 2)

Most of south eastern and southern SNNPR, southwestern Oromia received normal to above normal rainfall. The rest of the country experienced below normal to much below normal rainfall.

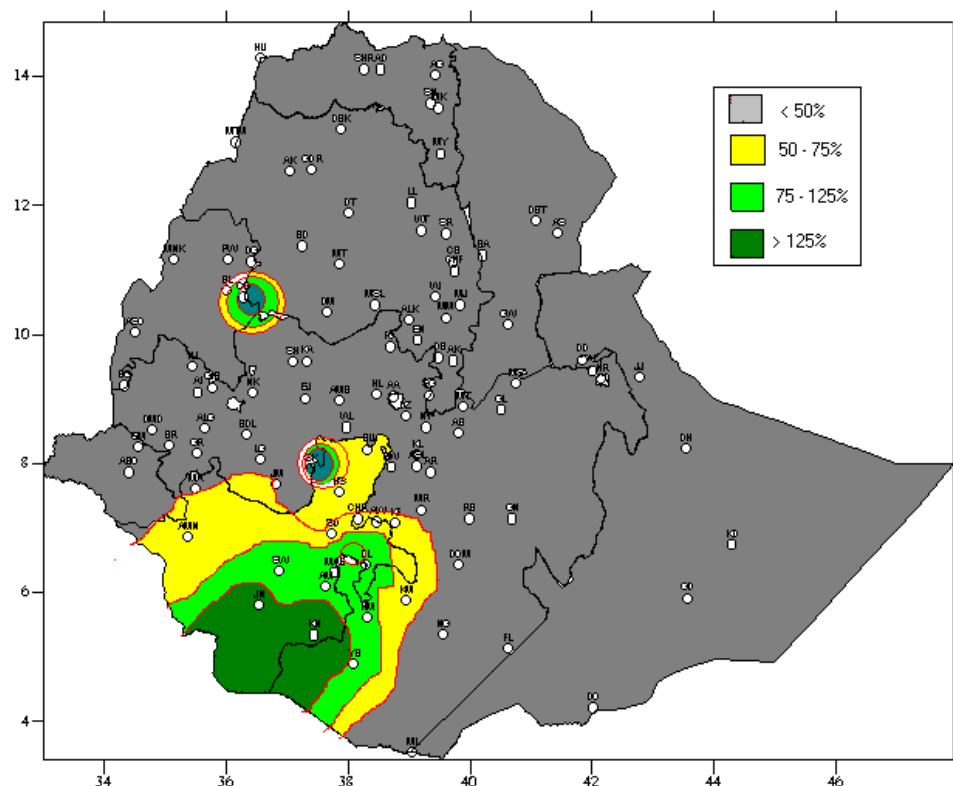


Fig.2 Percent of normal rainfall (11-20 November 2011)

Explanatory notes for the legend:

<50 -- Much below normal
50—75% -- below normal
75—125% --- Normal
125% ---- Above normal

1.1.3 TEMPERATURE ANOMALY

Some stations over eastern and western lowlands of the country recorded extreme maximum temperature greater than 35⁰C. Among the reporting stations: Awash Arba, Gewane, Humera, pawe, Semera and Mankush recorded, 36.0, 39.8, 40.0, 35.5, 41.0 and 36.0⁰C respectively, while Debre Zite, Robe, Alemaya, Amba ariam, Arsi Robe, Dangla, Debark, Debre Berhan, Fiche, Jijiga, Koflle, Mehal Meda, Shola Gebeya and Wegel Tena recorded minimum temperature as low as 4.0, 4.0, -1.5, 3.8, 3.0, 4.5, 5.0, 0.0, 3.5, 0.3, -0.2, 1.5, 5.5 and 1.0 ⁰C. These extreme situation might have a negative impact on the normal growth and development of plants and livestock.

2. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

The dekad under review, Bega, dry, sunny and windy weather condition prevailed over most parts of the country. The situation might have a positive impact on harvest and post harvest activities. Bega weather which was prevailing over most parts of the country will occur early morning and night cold. On line to this some station from central, eastern and southeastern high lands of the country would report minimum temperature less than zero. This situation might have a negative impact on the normal growth of plants and livestock. On the other hand with the exception of Jinka and Maji reported heavy fall 34.1 and 33.0 mm in one rainy day respectively, rainfall decrease in amount and distribution over Bega rain benefiting areas of southern and south eastern pastoral and agro pastoral areas of the country this might have a negative impact on the availability of pasture and drinking water and water requirement for perennial plants.

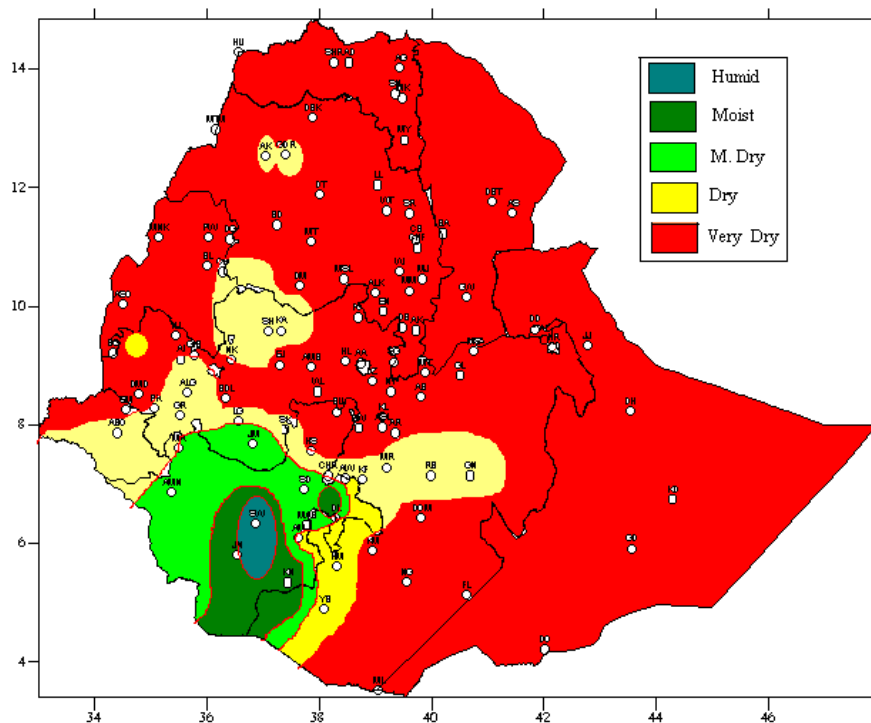


Fig.3 Moisture Status for (1-10 November 2011)

As indicated on the moisture status map above, most of SNNPR and some parts of southwestern Oromia exhibited moist to humid condition. Most parts of SNNPR and margin of southwestern and southern Oromia experienced moderately dry condition. The situation might have favored pasture and drinking water availability over pastoral and agro postural areas. The rest parts of the country exhibited dry to very dry condition which might have a positive impact for harvest and post harvest activity.

2.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DEKAD

In coming ten days, moist air will favor in some parts of southern and southwestern Oromia, Gambella, SNNPR, southern part of Somalia, high lands of Bale and Arsi and few place of eastern and northeastern parts of the country will expect rainfall. The situation expected to favor Meher crops not yet fully matured, perennial plants, pasture and drinking water. On the contrary, the situation will have a negative impact on harvest and post harvest activities of Meher crops. Hence, we advice farmers and the concerned bodies to be cautious and harvest on time in order minimize crop loses.