

NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AGENCY
TEN-DAY AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN
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1-10 March, 2012 Vol. 23 No.4 Date of issue March 12, 2012
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SUMMARY

During the third dekad of February 2012, dry and sunny weather condition was prevailed over most parts of the country. The situation might have a negative impact on Belg agricultural activities, availability of water for perennial plants, pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agro pastoral areas and land preparation of long cycle crops. On the other hand, from their cloud coverage over few places of SNNPR and pocket areas of western and central Oromia prevailed 3-12 mm of rain. This might have a positive impact on the improvement of availability of water for perennial plants, pasture and drinking, land preparation for long cycle crops as well as Belg agricultural activities. Besides to this, Koffel, Debre Brehan and Alemaya reported a minimum temperature as low as -2.5, -0.8 and -0.5°C respectively. The situation would have a negative impact on the normal growth and development of plants and livestock.

During the first dekad of March 2012 rain bearing meteorological phenomena was prevailed over SNNPR, southern and western Oromia and few places of Arsi and Bale zone would benefit 5-30mm of rainfall while few places of eastern Oromia, central and eastern Amhara exhibited not greater than 5mm for 2-5 days. This might have a positive impact on the improvement of availability of water for perennial plants, pasture and drinking water, Belg agricultural activities as well as land preparation for long cycle crops. On the other hand much of eastern portion of the country was dominated by dry, windy and sunny weather condition. The situation might have a negative impact on Belg agricultural activities, availability of water for perennial plants, pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agro pastoral areas and land preparation of long cycle Meher crops.

1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

1-10 March, 2012

RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.1)

Pocket areas of western Oromia and southern SNNPR and adjacent southern Oromia received 25-50 mm of rainfall while, Southern half of the country and Pocket area of eastern Amhara experienced 5-25 mm of rainfall. Pocket area of southwestern Oromia and the rest parts of the country exhibited little or no rainfall

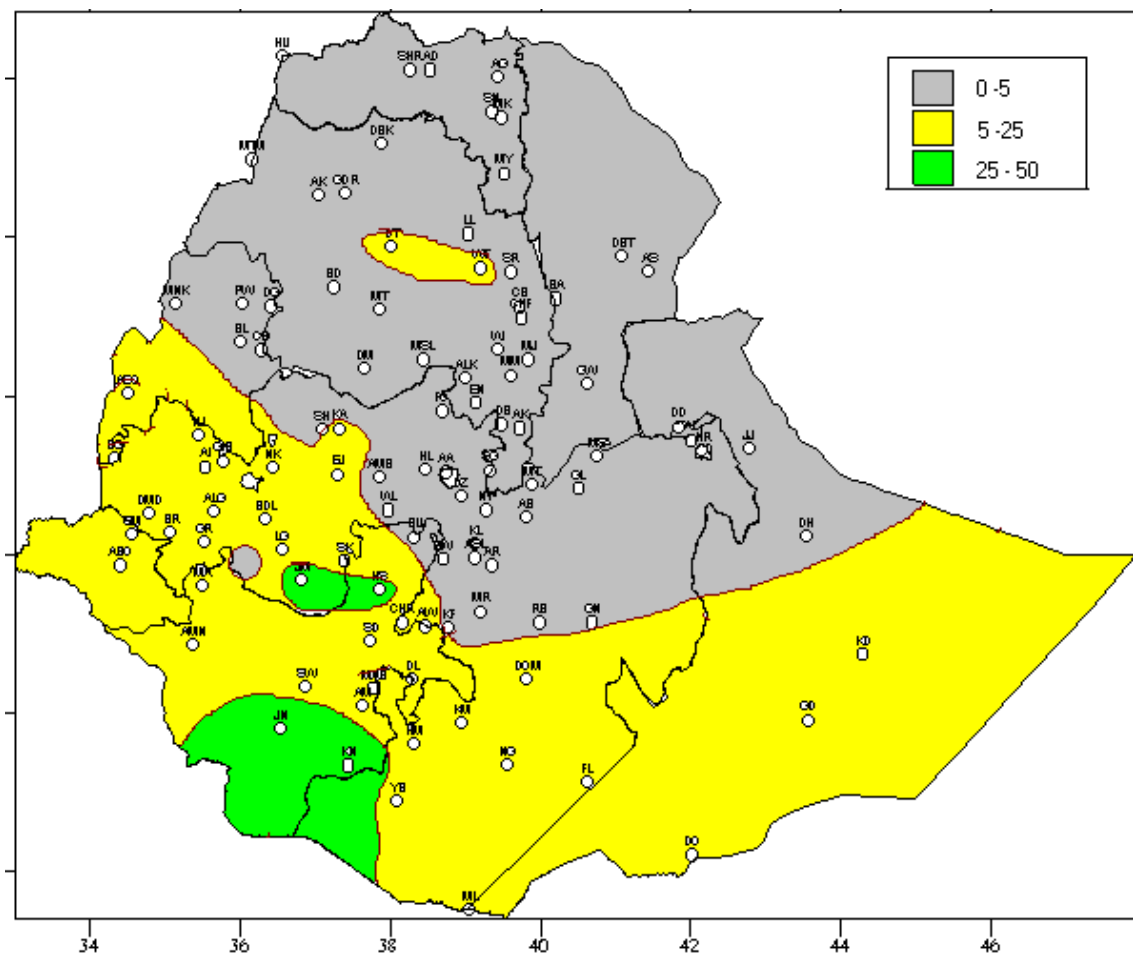


Fig 1 Rainfall distribution in mm (1-10 March 2012)

1.1.2 RAINFALL ANOMALY (Fig. 2)

Parts of southern and pocket areas of western Oromia, Southern Somali, southern and pocket area of eastern SNNPR experienced normal to above normal rainfall while the rest of the country received below to much below normal rainfall.

2. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

The deked under review rain bearing meteorological phenomena was prevailed over SNNPR, southern and western Oromia and few places of Arsi and Bale zone would benefit 5-30mm of rainfall while few places of eastern Oromia, central and eastern Amhara prevailed not more than 5mm for 2-5 days. This might have a positive impact on the improvement of availability of water for perennial plants, pasture and drinking, land preparation for long cycle crops as well as Belg agricultural activities. On the other hand much of eastern portion of the country was dominated by dry, windy and sunny weather condition. The situation might have a negative impact on Belg agricultural activities, availability of water for perennial plants, pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agro pastoral areas and land preparation of long cycle crops.

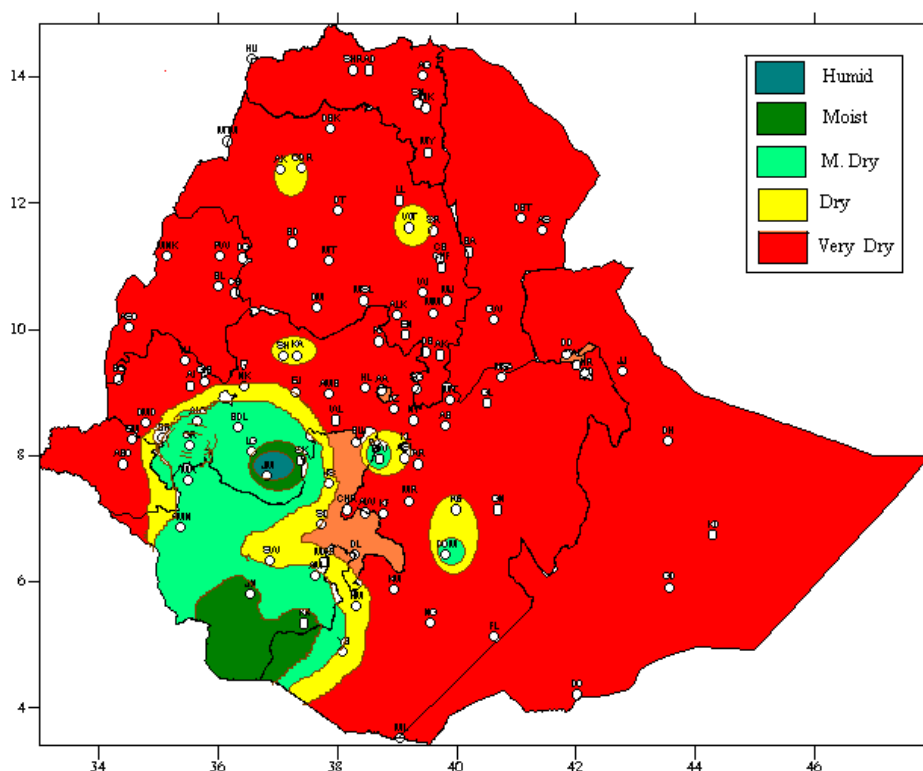


Fig.3 Moisture Status for (1-10 March 2012)

As indicated on fig.3 above, most of SNNPR, parts of western Oromia and pocket areas of central and southern Oromia experienced humid to moist condition, the situation might have favored perennial plants and Belg agricultural activities. While the rest parts of the country exhibited moderately dry to very dry condition. This situation might have negative impact on Belg agricultural activities and availabilities of pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agro pastoral areas.

2.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DEKAD

In coming ten days, rain bearing meteorological phenomena over some places of SNNPR, southern and western Oromia will expected near normal rainfall, while few amount of rainfall will expect over few places of Gambela, central and eastern Oromia, northeastern Amhara, southern Tigray. The situation might have a positive impact for Belg agricultural activities, land preparation for long cycle crops, on the availability of pasture and drinking water, water requirement for perennial plants and land preparation for long cycle Meher crops,. The rest parts of the country will dominate by dry, windy and sunny weather condition in line to this situation might have aggravate forest fire and shortage of water for perennial plants, pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agro pastoral areas. As a result farmers and the concerned bodies should give attenuation to minimize the risk.