



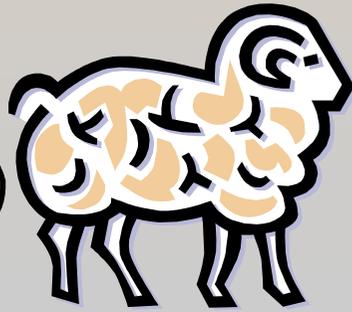
*AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK*

*BELG 2007*

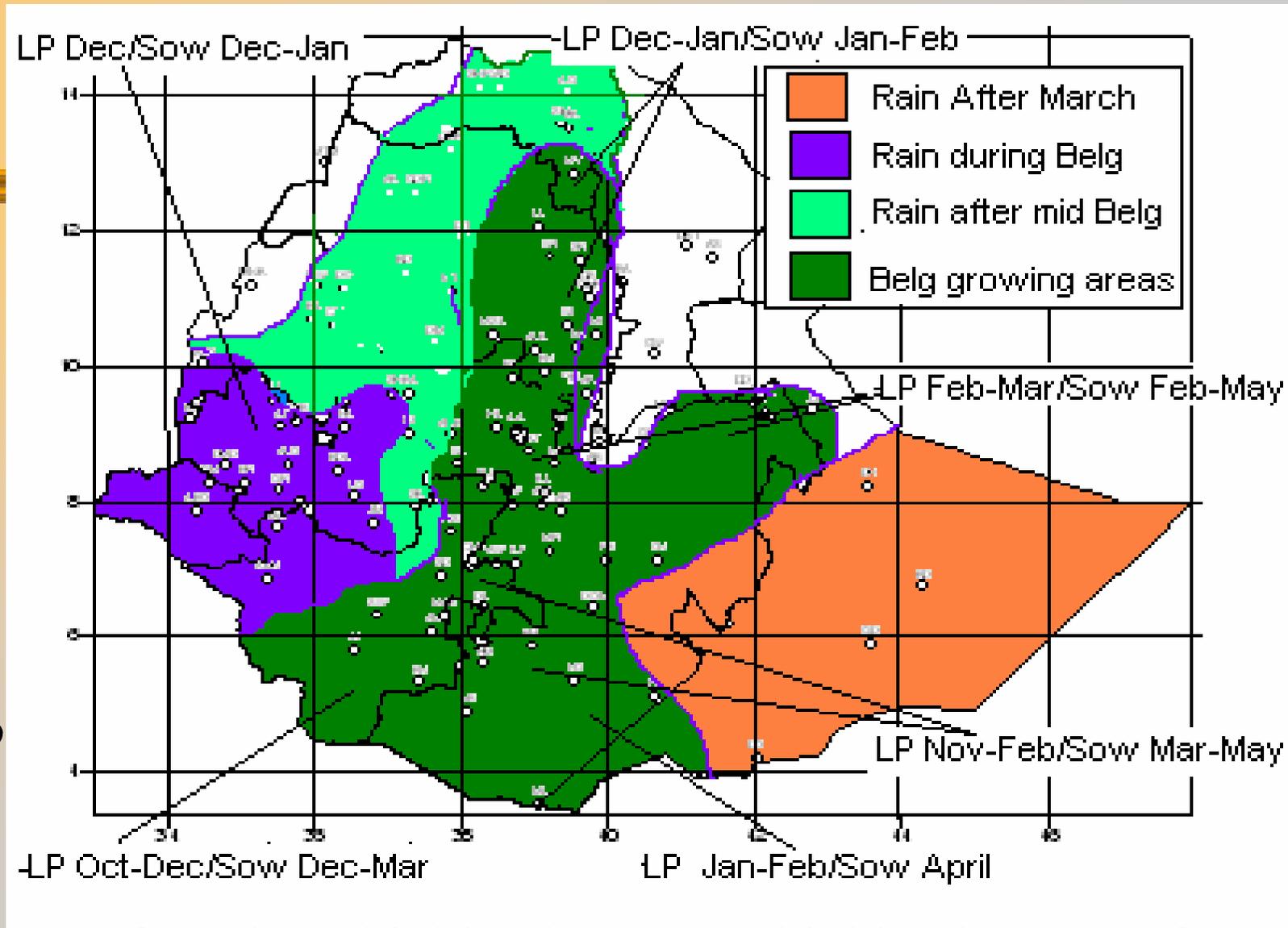
*BY*

*AGROMETEOROLOGICAL TEAM*

*FEBRUARY 1, 2007*



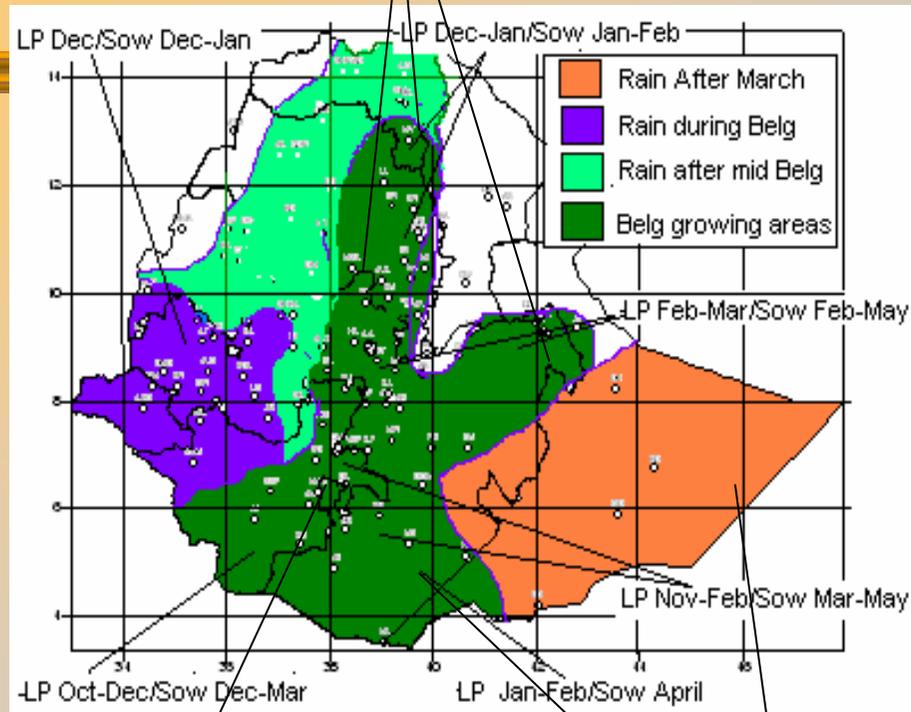
# INTRODUCTION



Central parts of northern highlands, eastern highlands, parts of central, southwestern and southern Ethiopia known as Belg growing areas.

# INTROD COTD....

5-30 % of annual product from Belg



Contribution of Belg from annual total production

30 –70% of annual product from Belg

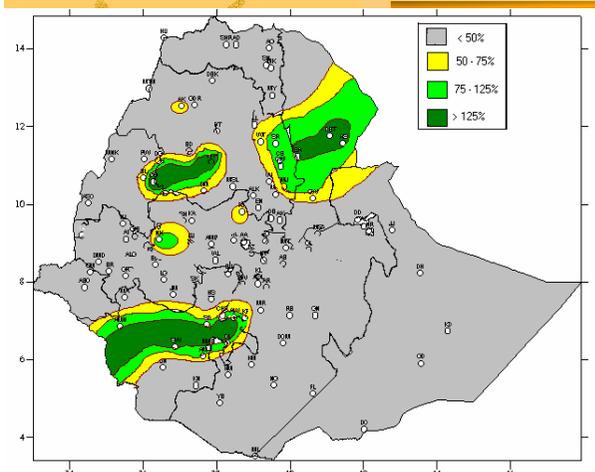
Sowing and water harvesting as of April



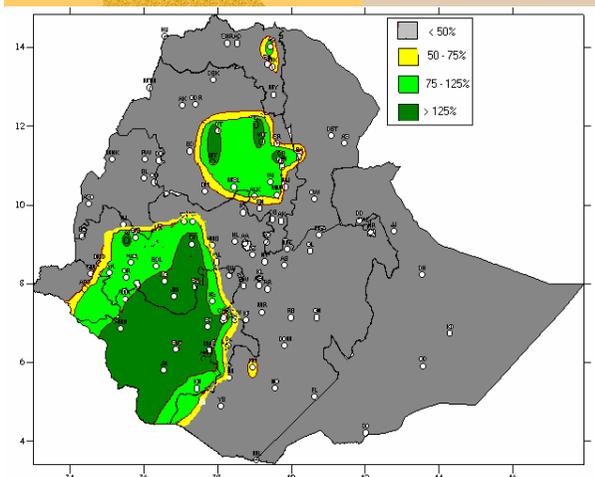
# Actual condition of January 2007



*1- 10 and 11- 20 January 2007*

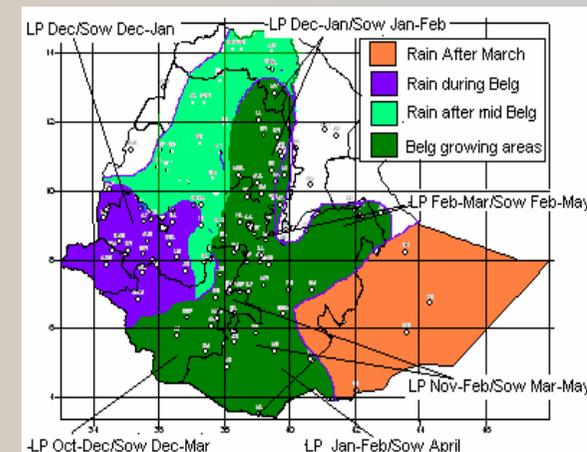


Jan 1- 10, 2007



Jan 11- 20, 2007

Most parts of the reporting stations (about 45-50) received 1 –56 mm of rainfall during 1-25 January 2007, which is significant in terms of land preparation. Some areas like Combolcha, A. Mariam, Mehal Meda, Chira, Jinka, Lalibela, Sawula, Sirinka, Wegel Tena and Sekoru exhibited good amount of rainfall in terms of distribution (for 5 -12 days within 25 days)



NDVI for Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> dekad



# *Normal Activities of January*



## **Land preparation**

- Over some areas of southern Oromia

## **Sowing activity**

- Over some areas of western Ethiopia
- Northeaster like Wegel Tena, Srinka, Bati
- Some areas of South Tigray





# *Summary of analog years (1987, 1992 and 1995)*



## **February**

★ The on-set of Belg was normal

★ Most parts of BG areas received normal to above normal rainfall.



★ Sowing of cereals and pulses was underway in some areas.

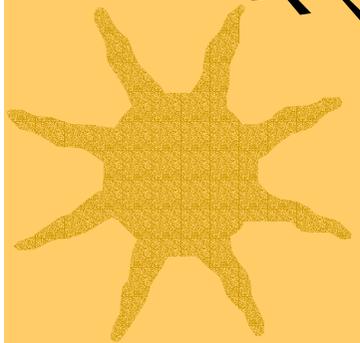


# *Normal Activities of February*



## **Land Preparation**

- Over midlands of southern Ethiopia( K. Mengist , Dolo Mena, ...)



## **Sowing**

- Some areas of central, southern and eastern highlands including South Tigray and some areas of northeastern Amhara





# *Summary of analog years (1987, 1992 and 1995)*



## **March**

- ★ Deficient moisture condition in most parts of BG areas in the case of 1992 and 1995 while the reverse was true in case of 1987.

## **April**

- ★ Good rainfall amount particularly observed during the third dekad of the month favored long cycle crops.



Besides the moisture condition was favorable for pastoral and agro pastoral areas of southern and southeastern Ethiopia.



# *Normal Activities of March*



## **Land Preparation**

- Over southern (Oromia, Yabello, Moyale,...) and central Oromia (Ziway, Kulumsa,...).

## **Sowing**

- Sowing of cereals like maize, pulses like F. bean in most parts of SNNP, southern midlands of Oromia (Kibre Mengist, Dolo Mena,..), eastern Oromia (Gelemso, Mieso, Alemaya,...) including eastern Amhara like Sirinka and some areas of central Ethiopia (Kulumsa, Shola Gebeya,...).





# *Normal Activities of April*



## **Land Preparation**

- Over most parts of long cycle crop growing areas

## **Sowing**

- Sowing of maize and sorghum over most parts of long cycle crop growing areas.
- Sowing of wheat, barley, root crops and pulses over southern Oromia (Yabello, Negelle, Moyale, ...), central Oromia (Mraro, Ziway,..) and most parts of SNNPR.





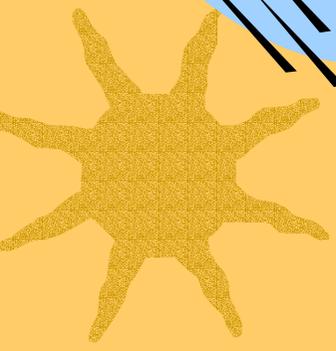
# *Summary of analog years (1987, 1992 and 1995)*

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## **May**

- ★ Wet condition over most parts of Belg and Meher growing areas as well.



## **Belg**

- ★ In general the on-set of Belg was close to in normal most parts of Belg growing areas.
  - ★ Most parts of Belg growing areas received normal to above normal rainfall in all cases.
  - ★ Deficient rainfall condition has been observed over southeastern lowlands including parts of eastern and southern highlands.
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# *Normal Activities of May*

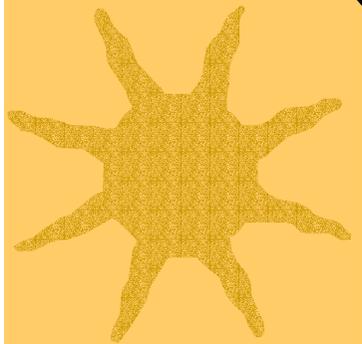


## **Land preparation**

- land preparation over most parts of northwestern Ethiopia.

## **Harvesting**

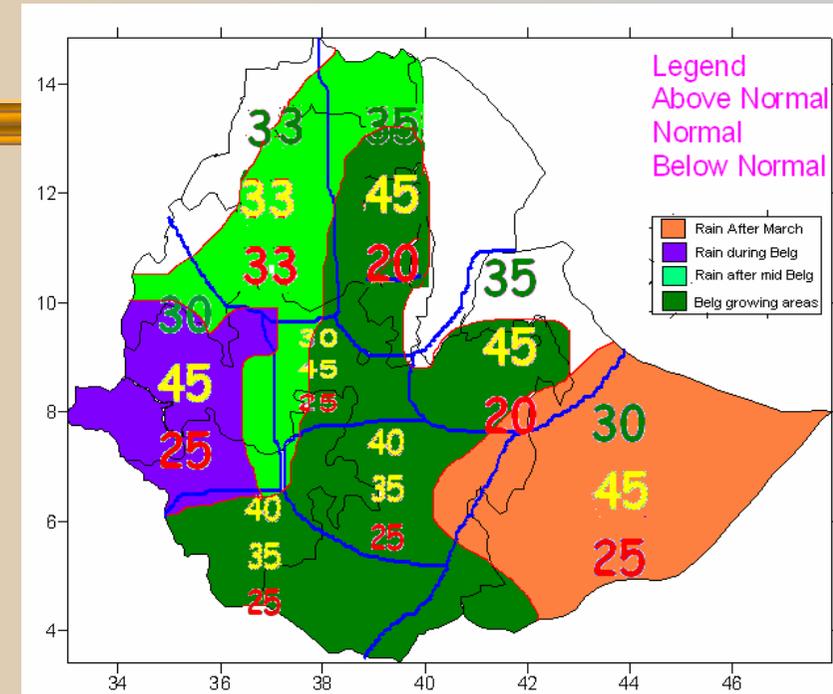
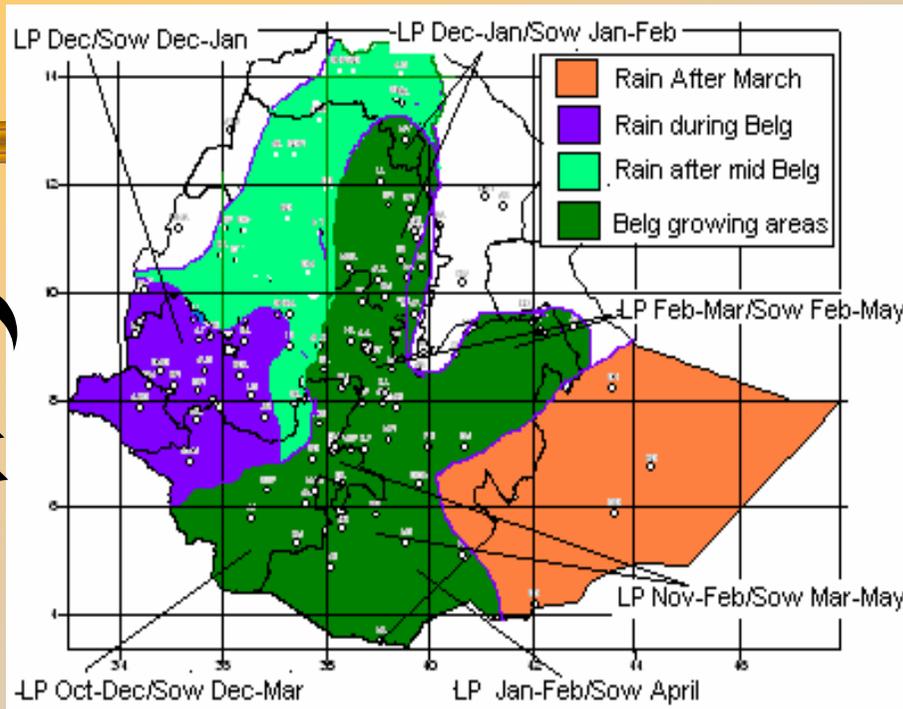
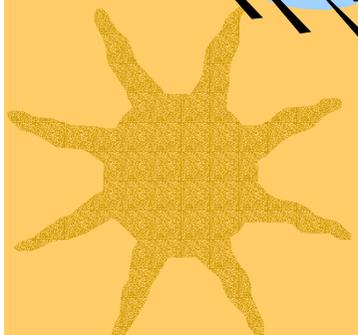
- Harvesting of Belg crops start in some areas of northeastern Ethiopia like Majete.



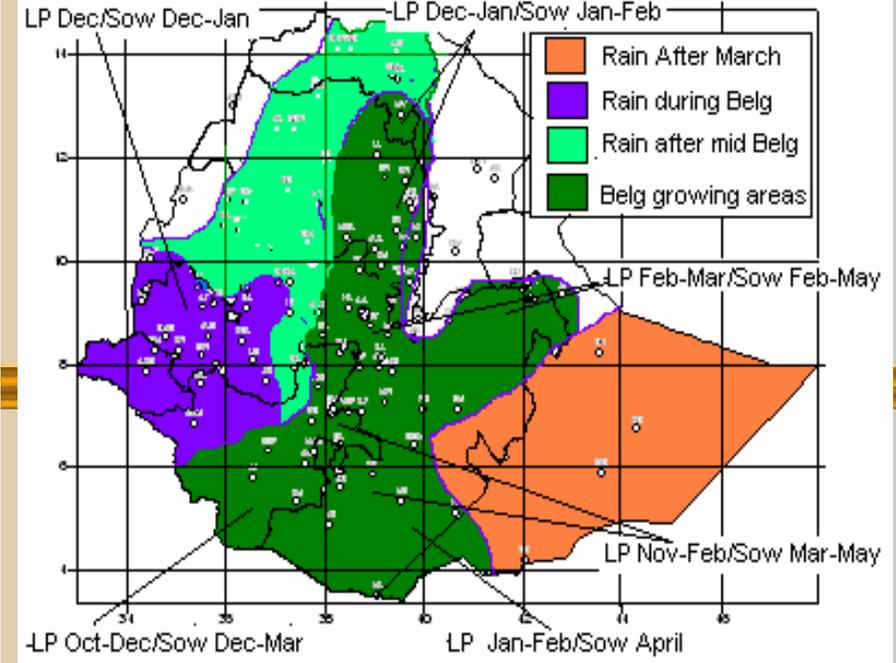
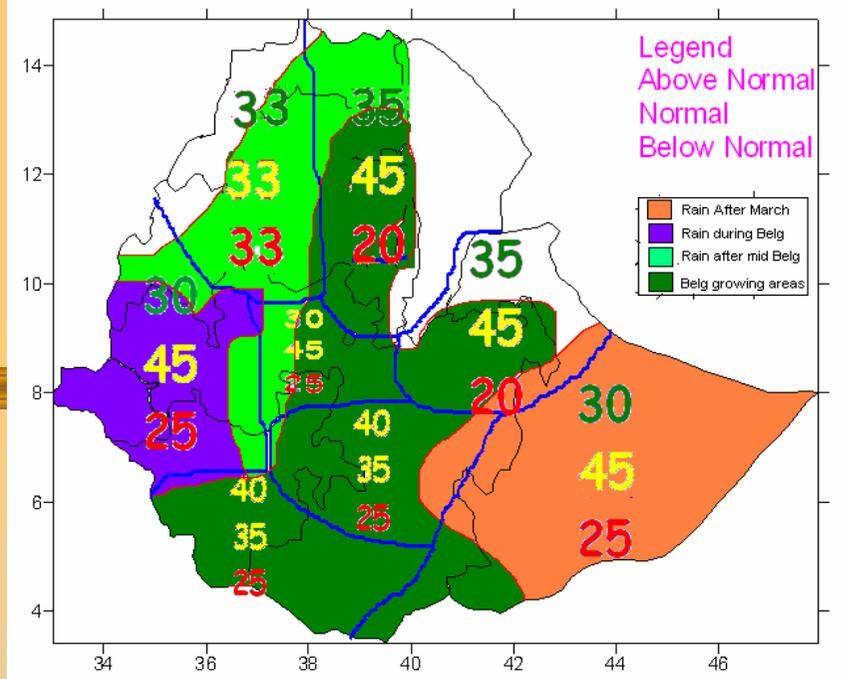
## **Sowing**

- Starting of sowing activities of Meher crops over central Ethiopia ( Kofele, Bui, Ziway, Kachice,...), some areas of SNNPR (Wolayta, G/Gofa, South Omo, Dawro, Gurage, Bench/Maji,...)

# Agro meteorological outlook for the coming Belg 2007

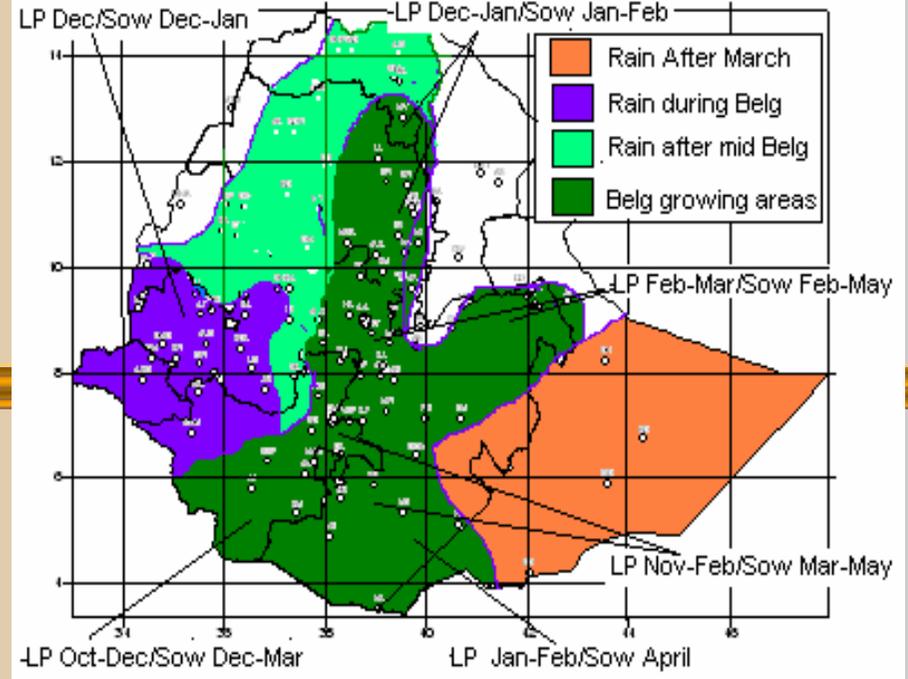
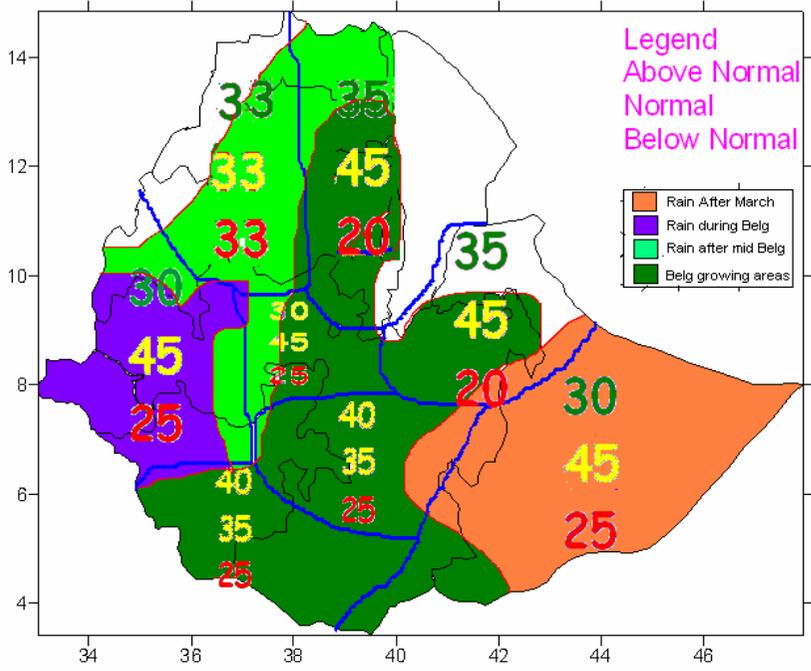


✎ The expected normal onset of Belg 2007 would have positive impact on the early season's agricultural activities in areas where Belg activities start earlier. Therefore appropriate measures should be taken ahead of time in order to exploit the expected good moisture condition.



## Agro met outlook contd.....

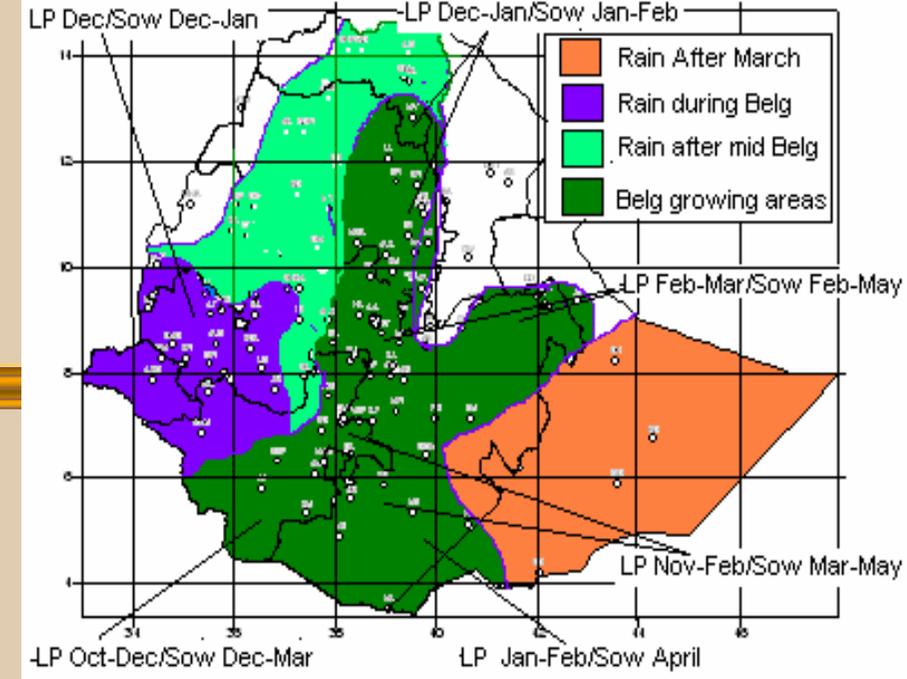
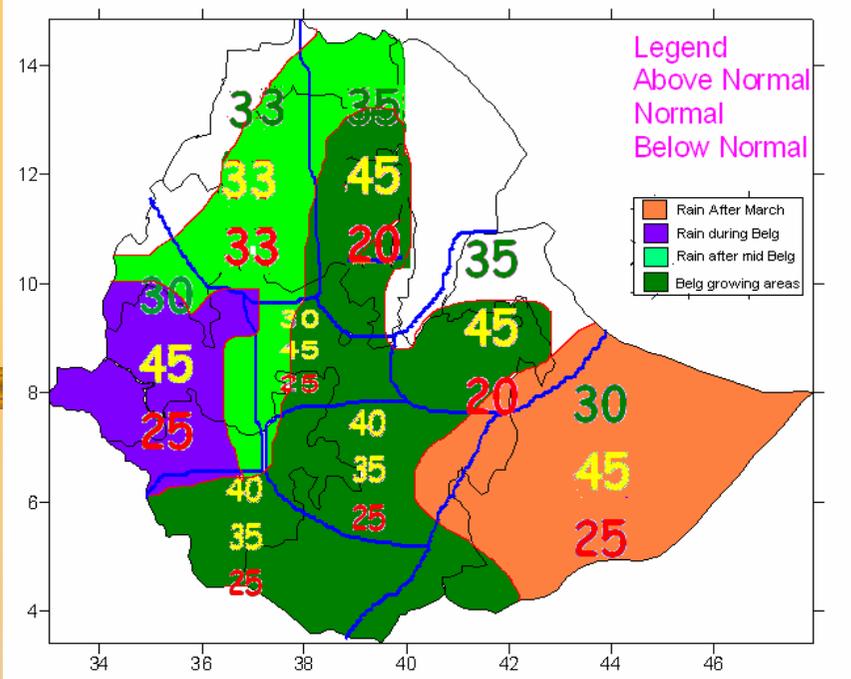
✍ The expected moist condition and 75 - 80% probability of Belg rainfall over most parts of the country would favor the upcoming season's agricultural activities.



## Agro met outlook contd.....

 The expected better performance of rain particularly during the month April would favor long cycle crops like maize and sorghum over central and western Oromiya, most parts of northern half of SNNPR, Southern Benishangul - Gumuz and Gambela.





## Agro met outlook contd.....

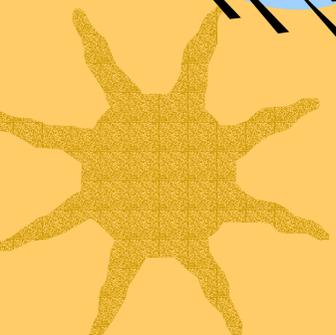
The expected normal cessation of Belg rain from most parts of Belg growing areas would favor early Meher season's agricultural activities like land preparation and sowing activities where the activities are under question.





## Agro met outlook contd.....

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- ✍ The anticipated 20 - 33% probability of below normal Belg rainfall and erratic nature of Belg rainfall distribution particularly over the lowlands would have negative impact on crop water requirements and favor the outbreak of pest and diseases as well.
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## *Agro met outlook contd.....*



✍ Therefore, the concerned personnel should design appropriate alternate measure ahead of time to minimize risks of water stress expected over the lowlands.

✍ Besides, appropriate preparedness measures and precaution should be undertaken to take judicious pest control measures ahead of time to minimize risks due to adverse weather condition.



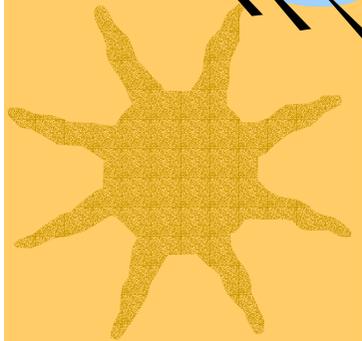


## Agro met outlook contd.....

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- ✍ The anticipated normal conditions of mean maximum temperature would have positive contribution for the normal growth and development of plants in terms of thermal requirements of the plants.



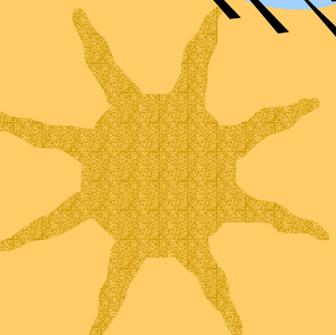


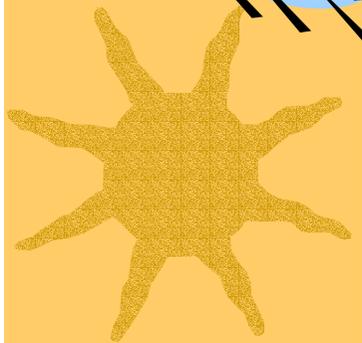
## Agro met outlook contd.....

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 Last but not least, judiciously use and interpretation of seasonal weather forecast according to the specific conditions of Belg growing areas has paramount importance in order to take appropriate measures in space and time. Thus, the concerned personal should give appropriate attention to use the forecast efficiently. Besides, considering other conditions like the on set of the season, the distribution of rainfall throughout the season and cessation of rainfall in terms of crop type, phenological phase of the crop, soil types of the area, etc. is very important in order to get sound output.





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*THANK YOU*