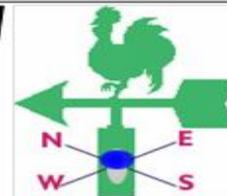




TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 1 2005/06 Cropping Season

September 1 – 10, 2005

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

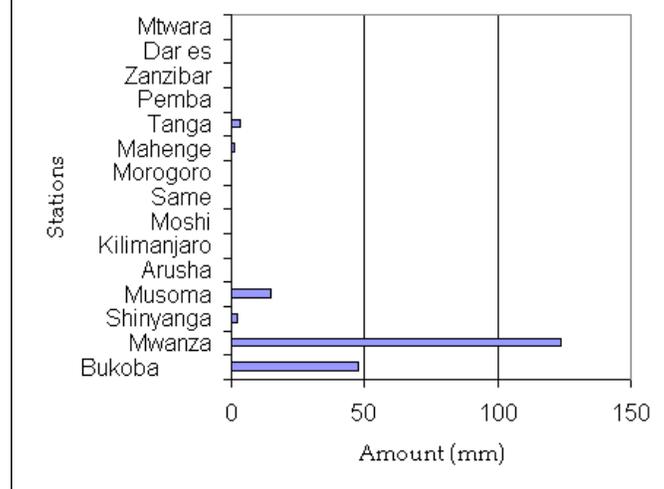
During the dekad 1-10th September, the Mascarene and St. Helena anticyclones and the East African Ridge over the southern hemisphere slackened. This led to the systems in the northern hemisphere- the Azores and Siberian high pressure cells to intensify hence pushing the ITCZ belt southward, thus rendering the active equatorial trough over the northern sector of the country.

RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the period, a few areas observed some rainfall activity. The only useful rainfall recorded was over the Lake Victoria Basin

Significant rainfall fell over the LVB ranging between 2.2 mm over Shinyanga to 123.9 mm over Mwanza. The downpour observed over Mwanza was generally off-season but beneficial (Graph 1). Also there was some slight rain over the Northern coast (NC) and Mahenge, which recorded rainfall amounts

Graph 1: 10 day Rainfall Sep 1 - 10, 2005



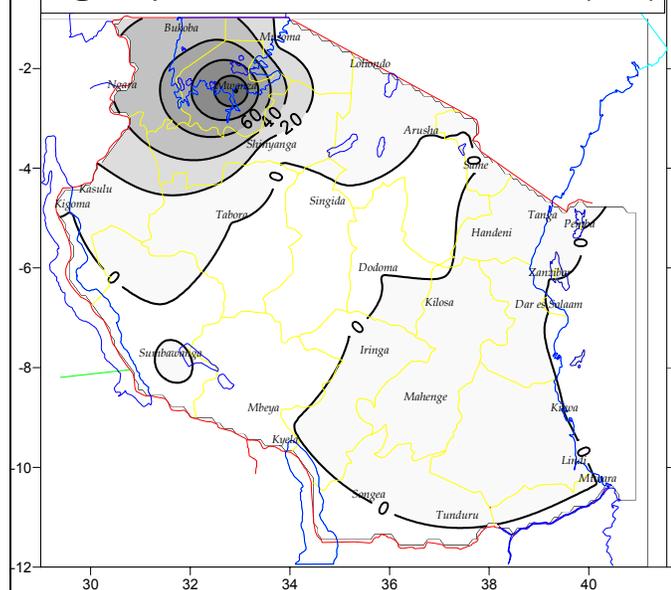
less than 5 mm. The rest of the country observed the seasonal dry conditions.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological

Showers experienced over the LVB generally improved soil moisture conditions for biannual and perennial crops such as bananas and coffee. Moreover, these rains facilitated the ongoing land preparations and planting of short rains (*vuli*) crops in areas which experience *vuli* rains. During the second week of September farmers in about 75% of

Fig. September 1 - 10 Total Rainfall (mm)



(LVB) (Figure 1).

Karagwe and Bukoba districts started planting beans while in Ngara, Muleba and Biharamulo districts farmers were continuing with land preparation. The persistent dry conditions over most parts of unimodal rainfall regime (Central, southwestern highlands and southern regions) increased deterioration of pasture quality and supply, and land encroachment.

Hydrometeorological

Low water levels in rivers and lakes were experienced during the period.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING SECOND DEKAD (11-20TH SEPTEMBER 2005)

The Arabian and Azores anticyclones over the northern hemisphere will continue to intensify indicating that the Inter-Tropical Discontinuity (ITD) and ITCZ will continue to shift southwards and as such, the active convective zone too.

The St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones and the East African ridge will weaken due to passage of frontal systems over southern tip of Africa for entire period of the dekad hence reducing the strength of the South easterly wind flow thus reducing the influx of moisture from the Indian Ocean.

EXPECTED WEATHER DURING SECOND DEKAD (11 – 20TH SEPTEMBER, 2005)

The northern coast particularly Tanga region, the islands of Zanzibar and Pemba, and parts of Dar es Salaam region will feature partly cloudy conditions with occasional rains over few areas and sunny periods. Northeastern highlands will continue to feature partly cloudy conditions with light rains mainly over high grounds and sunny periods. The rest of the Country will have partly cloudy conditions with sunny periods.

Prepared by

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