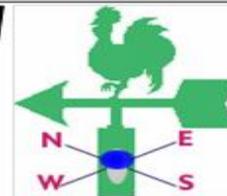




TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 28

2005/06 Cropping Season

June 01 - 10, 2006

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the period 01 – 10th June, coastal areas continued to experience light showers mainly over northern coast. These activities were the result of advection of moist air mass from the Indian Ocean due to weak East African ridge associated with weak Mascarene and St. Helena high pressure cells. Lake Victoria basin was dominated by isolated thunderstorms caused by the Lake Victoria and Congo troughs. Northeastern highlands featured isolated light rains due to long track of southeasterly to easterly moist winds. Western areas, southwestern highlands, southern regions experienced dry conditions caused by the weak overland ridge emanating from sub-tropical high pressure cell (Mascarene high).

RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the period, most of the country experienced normal seasonal dry weather although some areas observed occasional light rains not

exceeding 20 mm in a dekad (Figure 1). Dry weather conditions were predominant over western and central sectors (areas enclosed by 0 mm isohyet) than the eastern sector of the country. Rainfall activities were concentrated mainly over the coastal belt where the highest rainfall amount reported was 73.5 mm at Kilwa Masoko (southern coast) followed by 60 mm at Pemba Airport (northern coast).

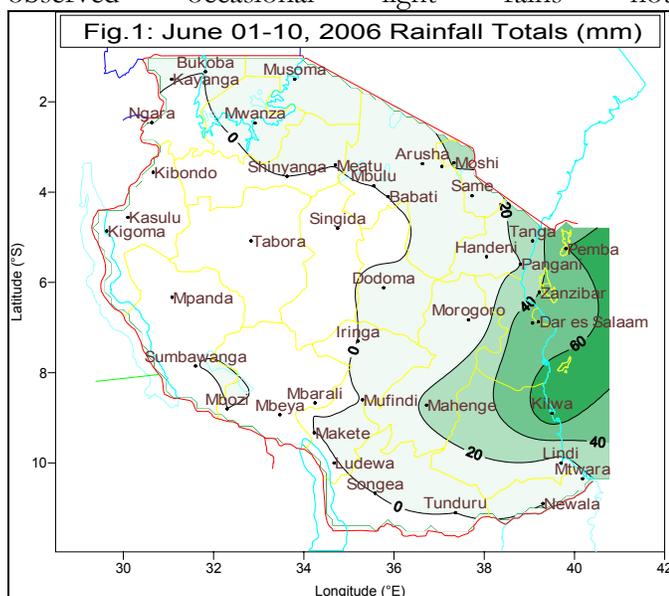
IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological

Soil moisture levels during the dekad continued to decline over most parts of the country except for the coastal belt where rains boosted soil moisture. Low soil moisture levels coupled with sufficient insolation (more bright sunshine hours) created favourable conditions for dry down crops, crop harvesting and storage. The increase in soil moisture over the coastal areas on one hand was beneficial to late grown crops, perennials and growing sweet potatoes, but on the other hand hampered drying and harvesting of matured crops.

Over western, southwestern highlands and southern areas maize crop was in good state between wax ripeness over high ground fields and dry down stage over lowland areas where crop harvesting continues. Over bimodal rainfall areas (northeastern highlands, northern coast and Lake Victoria basin) maize crop was in good state between wax ripeness and full ripeness stages, harvesting of the crop started over some areas of the districts of Mbulu and Babati in Manyara region and Meatu in Shinyanga region. Harvesting of beans continued over districts of Karagwe and Ngara in Kagera region.

The paddy crop was in good state between wax ripeness and full ripeness stages whereby harvesting of the crop was reported over many areas across the



country, although over the coastal regions harvesting was hampered by the boosted soil moisture. Cassava crop continued well and market supply was good.

Pasture and water for livestock/wildlife generally maintained a satisfactory level across the country.

Expected dry conditions in the country during second dekad of June will accelerate crops to maturity and favour drying of matured crops, crop harvesting and storage.

Hydrometeorological

Water levels in rivers, lakes and dams have remained at average levels. Water for domestic and industrial purposes should be used sparingly.

Environmental

Nights and mornings are getting chilly due to low temperatures and windy conditions that have set in. In south western highlands, charcoal stoves should not be used to heat up homes to avoid asphyxiation from carbon monoxide.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING JUNE 11 – 20, 2006

Arabian and Azores high pressure cells are expected to remain relatively weak over the northern hemisphere while over the southern hemisphere the

St. Helena and Mascarene high pressure cells, and the East African ridges are expected to remain intense. The near equatorial trough will remain active over the northern coastal areas. The southeasterly monsoon (SE) flow south of 5°S becoming southwesterly monsoon (SW) flow north of 5°S over the eastern coast of East Africa will persist.

EXPECTED WEATHER DURING JUNE 11 – 20, 2006

Northern coast and Islands of Zanzibar and Pemba will continue to experience partly cloudy conditions with occasions of light morning rains over few areas and sunny periods during afternoon hours. Lake Victoria basin will feature partly cloudy conditions with light thundershowers mainly over Kagera region and sunny periods.

Southern, central and southwestern highlands will experience partly cloudy conditions with chilly weather at night and early morning hours followed by sunny periods in the afternoon. Northeastern highlands will experience partly cloudy conditions with light rains mainly over high grounds and chilly weather during morning hours followed by sunny periods in the afternoon.