



# TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



## DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 28 2006/07 Cropping Season

June 1-10, 2007

### SYNOPTIC SITUATION

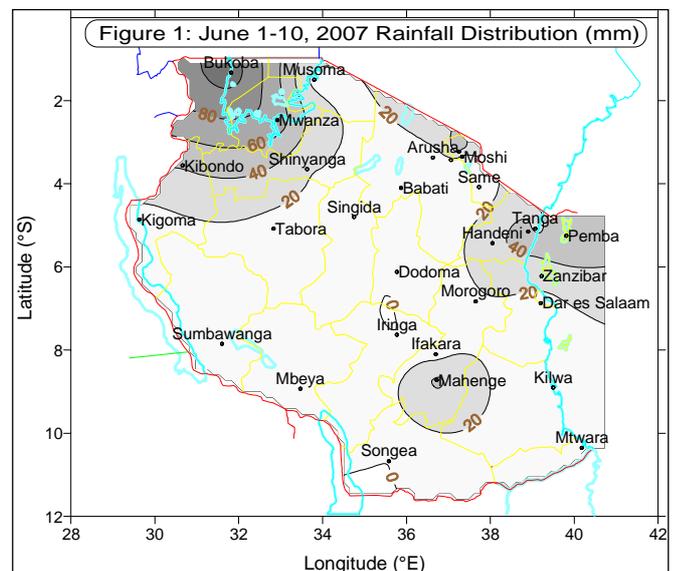
During the period 1<sup>st</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> June, the southern hemisphere systems, the St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones, and East African ridge intensified resulting into the domination of southeasterly flow over the coastal strip turning to easterly flow over inland. However, at the beginning of the dekad the southern hemisphere sub-tropical anticyclones were relaxed allowing the Near Equatorial Trough (NET) to persist over northwest Indian Ocean, hence influencing rainfall activities over northern coast and hinterlands, and northeastern highlands. The Azores and Arabian anticyclones in the northern hemisphere were relaxed, allowing the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) to shift slightly further north. The Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) were cooling. The southeasterly turning to easterlies over inland coupled with a weak lake trough enhanced rainfall activities over the Lake Victoria Basin. Otherwise southeasterly winds dominated over most part of the country.

### RAINFALL SUMMARY

Figure 1, shows that during the first dekad of June 2007 much of the country was generally dry except for a few areas over the Lake Victoria basin, northern Kigoma region and northern coast where the reported 10-day rainfall amounts exceeded 40 mm. Much of the rainfall activities were confined over Kagera region in the western Lake Victoria basin where the reported ten-day rainfall exceeded 100 mm. Bukoba reported the highest rainfall amount of 110.3 mm followed by Mwanza 73.1 mm.

Generally, dry conditions persisted over unimodal rainfall regime areas; the central, western,

southwestern highlands and southern regions following normal cessation of seasonal rains in those areas as indicated in Fig. 1.



### IMPACT ASSESSMENT

#### Agrometeorological

Declined soil moisture levels was experienced over much of the country during the period, indicating a normal decreasing trend for this time of year as the dry season sets in. Over the bimodal regime further decrease of soil moisture has resulted into a very poor crop performance over some parts of the northern coast and northeastern (Same, Simanjiro, Loliondo, and Monduli districts and lowlands of Rombo district), though some areas including Pangani in northern coast were hit by surplus soil moisture during the period due to flash flood which caused water logging in many fields. Generally, maize crop over bimodal areas was between tasselling and ripeness stages and in moderate to poor growth states while cassava and sweet potatoes at various growth stages continued well. Over the unimodal areas maize

crop was at harvesting maturity with some farmers reported to have started harvesting.

Generally the paddy crop was reported performing moderately across the country while cassava crop was observed at various growth stages and in good state.

Pasture conditions and water availability for livestock and wildlife continued to be adequate across the country.

**Hydrometeorological**

Water levels in lakes, and rivers and dams are good over much of the country. However, water for industrial and domestic purposes should be used sparingly as the dry season has started.

**Environmental**

The country experienced generally cool temperatures and comfortable conditions.

**EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING JUNE 11 - 20, 2007**

During this dekad, the Azores and Arabian anticyclones in the northern hemisphere are expected to relax.

The sub-tropical anticyclones and East African ridge over the southern hemisphere are expected to intensify allowing cold dry southerly winds to dominate over most part of the country.

The SSTs are also expected to cool, hence reducing rainfall activities over the northern coast, northeastern highlands and the Lake Victoria Basin. However, lake effects may influence isolated thundershowers over the Lake Victoria Basin.

**EXPECTED WEATHER DURING JUNE 11 - 20, 2007**

Northern coast and northeastern highlands are expected to feature partly cloudy conditions with light rains mainly over high grounds and sunny periods. Lake Victoria basin is expected to feature partly cloudy conditions with thundershowers over few areas and sunny periods. The rest of the country is expected to feature partly cloudy conditions with sunny periods. Further outlook is the intensification of cold southerly flow resulting into lower temperatures over most parts of the country.

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