



TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 32 2006/07 Cropping Season

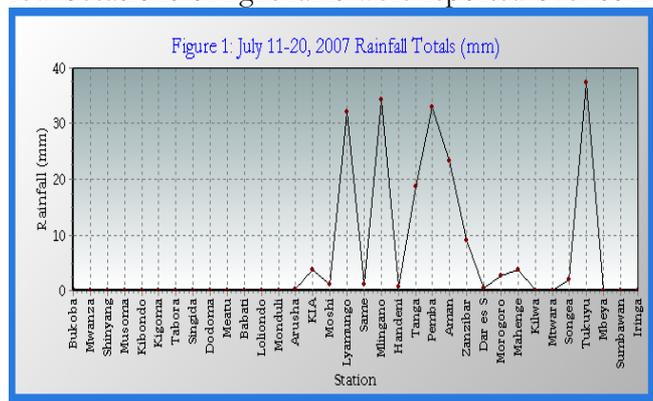
July 11-20, 2007

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the period 11th to 20th July, the southern hemisphere systems (St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones, and the East African ridge) were relaxed, hence allowing southeasterly flow dominance over the coastal strip. The Azores and Arabian anticyclones in the northern hemisphere were also relaxed, maintaining the position of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) to be located at between latitude 10°N and 25°N. The persistence of a weak trough over Lake Victoria had influenced light thunderstorms over the Lake Victoria Basin.

RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the period, the country was dominated by normal seasonal dry weather conditions although a few occasions of light rains were reported over some



parts of the high grounds of northeastern and southwestern highlands, northern coast, Islands of Zanzibar and Pemba. Figure 1 indicates that during a 10 day period a few stations reported rainfall amounts which exceeded 30 mm, with Tukuyu in the southwestern highlands recorded the highest amount of 37.4 mm, followed by Mlingano 34.3, Pemba 33.0 mm, and Lyamungo 32.1. Tanga in the northern

coast reported 18.7 mm. Some other few areas reported rainfall less than 5 mm.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

During the period soil moisture levels continued to fall further over many areas due to seasonal dry conditions across the country, except over a few localized areas of northern coast, northeastern highlands, the Islands of Pemba and Zanzibar, and southwestern highlands (Tukuyu) that reported some off-seasonal soil moisture replenishments.

Harvesting activities have been completed over most areas except over a few pocket areas of elevated lands in southwestern highlands (Njombe district) and northeastern highlands (Tarime and Loliondo districts). Generally, the 2007 crop harvest over most of bimodal rainfall areas is anticipated to be less than the 2006 crop. As for 2006/07 preliminary food crop production forecast based on field crop status in May 2007 indicates that poor harvests are anticipated over some localized areas in the regions of Arusha (Monduli district), Kilimanjaro (Mwanga and Same districts), Manyara (Mbulu and Simanjiro districts), Pwani (Rufiji), Singida, Tabora (Uyui district), Shinyanga (Bariadi, Kishapu, and Meatu districts), and Lindi (Liwale district) as reported by Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Co-operatives, AGSTATS for food security 2007).

Cassava and sweet potatoes were progressing well at various growth stages, while market supply for both crops was good.

Pasture conditions and water availability for livestock and wildlife was still at satisfactory level across the country, although the decrease in supply is anticipated as dry season continues.

Hydrometeorological Summary

Low humidity and prevailing winds during third dekad of July will result into higher evaporation rates leading to a reduction in water levels in rivers, lakes and dams. Water for domestic and industrial purposes should be used sparingly.

Environmental Summary

Nights and mornings are chilly due to prevailing low temperatures and windy conditions. In high altitude areas where temperatures get low, heating up of homes by using charcoal stoves, firewood, etc, should be done with great care to avoid asphyxiation from carbon monoxide.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING JULY 21 – 31, 2007

During the dekad, the southern hemisphere systems (St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones and the East

African ridge) are expected to remain relatively intense, with southerlies becoming south easterlies dominating over the northern coast. The Azores and Arabian anticyclones in the northern hemisphere are expected to relax.

EXPECTED WEATHER DURING JULY 21 – 31, 2007

The country is expected to feature dry and cold weather conditions with isolated light rains over northern coast and its hinterlands, northeastern highlands and southwestern highlands, mainly over high grounds. Lake Victoria Basin will feature thundery showers over few areas. Further outlook; the cold conditions over the country is expected to warm up slightly.

Prepared by
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