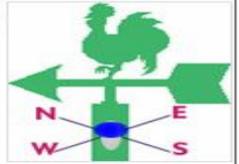
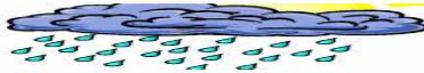




# TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



## DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 1, 2008/09 Cropping Season

September 1-10, 2008

### SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the dekad, the St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones together with the East African ridge relaxed particularly in the first half of the dekad. This situation allowed localized convergence of moist air from the Indian Ocean particularly over the northern coast. Generally the Azores and Siberian anticyclones over the northern hemisphere remained relaxed thus keeping the zonal and meridional components of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) away from the country.

### RAINFALL SUMMARY

During September 1-10, dry conditions persisted over much of the country, which is normal condition for the time of the year, except for very few localized

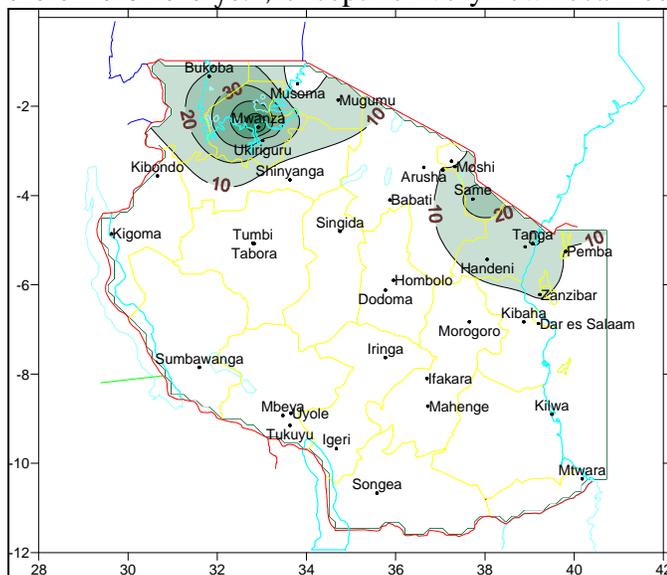


Figure indicating rainfall distribution (mm) during September 1-10, 2008.

areas over Lake Victoria basin, northeastern highlands and along the northern coastal belt that

had occasions of light rainshowers. The highest 10-days rainfall amount was received at Mwanza 62.7 mm followed by Ukiriguru 25.1 mm, Same 23.6 mm, Tanga 22.2 mm, Bukoba 20.5 mm, and Mugumu 19.0 mm. Generally, much of the country remained seasonally dry as shown in the Figure.

### IMPACT ASSESSMENT

#### Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

The 2008/09 new cropping season has started over some areas with a bimodal rainfall pattern, where farmers were involved in land preparation as reported over Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera region), western, northeastern highlands, northern coast). The rest of the country particularly the unimodal rainfall regime areas were in the breather period whereby farmers among other things engaged themselves in acquiring farm inputs for the next farming season. During the period also observed pockets where few farmers were finalizing harvesting of crops for the last cropping season (2007/08) such as wheat, maize and coffee over northeastern highlands (Lyamungu, Simanjiro), southwestern highlands (Njombe), as well as coffee over Lake Victoria basin.

Market supply for cassava over several areas of the country continued fairly well, while pasture condition and water availability for livestock and wildlife were moderate.

#### Hydrometeorological Summary

Low humidity and windy conditions persisted during the dekad resulting into higher evaporation rates and further reduction in water levels in lakes, and dams, and river discharges. In view of that, water for domestic and industrial purposes should be used sparingly.

### Environmental Summary

Night temperatures remained low over most parts of the country as the cool season continues. In high altitude areas where temperatures occasionally drop too low, the heating up of homes by use of either charcoal or firewood should be done with great caution to avoid asphyxiation from carbon monoxide.

### EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING SEPTEMBER 11-20, 2008

During the second dekad of September, the northern hemisphere anticyclones (Azores and Siberian) are expected to intensify slightly while the St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones are expected to relax. Occasional intensification of the Azores anticyclone is expected to influence more to the weather over the Lake Victoria basin where low level wind convergence is expected. The Sea Surface Temperatures are expected to be near neutral conditions over the global Oceans, resulting to normal weather conditions over most parts of the country.

### EXPECTED WEATHER DURING SEPTEMBER 11-20, 2008

The Lake Victoria basin is expected to feature partly cloudy to cloudy conditions with isolated showers and thundery activities. Occasional advection of moist air mass from the Indian Ocean is expected to develop a few showers over the northern coast, isles of Zanzibar and Pemba together with northeastern highlands. The central regions, southwestern highlands, western and southern areas are expected to feature mainly partly cloudy conditions and sunny periods with occasional light rains over high grounds. The remaining areas are expected to feature partly cloudy conditions and sunny periods. Daily maximum temperatures are expected to be higher over the western sector of the country (Tabora, Kigoma and Shinyanga) and northern coast areas.

*Prepared by*

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