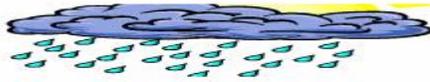




TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 36, 2008/09 Cropping Season

August 21-31, 2009

HIGHLIGHTS

Dry condition prevailed over much of the country during the dekad resulting into further decline of pastures and water availability mainly for livestock and wildlife.

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the third dekad of August 2009, both Southern Hemisphere systems (St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones) were intense contributing to the persistence of the East African Ridge towards the region. The high pressure cells over South African tip and developments of cold front systems continued to allow southerly to southeasterly wind flow associated with cold air advection towards the country. A persistent divergent wind pattern at low levels during much of the period continued to suppress cloud and rainfall formation over most areas. The Azores and Siberian anticyclones in the Northern Hemisphere were relaxed, however occasional intensification was also observed resulting to north-south fluctuation of the zonal component of the ITCZ in the Northern Hemisphere.

RAINFALL SUMMARY

During this dekad of August the whole country was generally dry except for a few pockets over coastal areas, southwestern highlands and Lake Victoria basin which received some rainfall. Tukuyu lead by recording the highest for the period 42.6mm followed by Bukoba 41.1mm, Amani 29.2mm, Ilonga 28.8mm, Zanzibar 18.8mm, Lyamungo 16.7mm, Tanga 13.6mm, Ukiriguru 5.8mm and Matangatuani 5.2mm. The rest reported zero rainfall except for a few including; Mlingano, Kibondo,

Mahenge, Musoma and Handeni stations each recorded light rainfall below 2mm.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Persistent dry condition over much of the country resulted into further decline of pastures and water availability for livestock and wildlife. The situation was more pronounced over northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara, and Kilimanjaro regions) and central areas due to poor rainfall performance during the previous rainfall season although it is normal over central areas during this time of the year.

Hydrometeorological Summary

Water levels in lakes and dams, and river discharges in their respective catchments were declining over most areas as the dry season continues. Water for industrial and domestic purposes should be used sparingly.

Environmental Summary

Night temperatures over most parts of the country continued to be low. As night temperatures get low, care should be taken against the use of charcoal stoves for heating homes as to avoid asphyxiation. Dry windy conditions that prevailed over northeastern highlands, coast, central and western areas increased prospects for diseases such as coughs, colds, pneumonia, and asthma.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS SEPTEMBER 1-10, 2009

During this dekad, the Southern Hemisphere Systems (the St. Helena and the Mascarene anticyclones) are expected to remain intense, whereas the Azores and Siberian anticyclones in the Northern Hemisphere are occasionally expected to slightly intensify thus allowing north-south oscillation of zonal component of the ITCZ. The SSTs over South West Indian Ocean are expected to be slightly warmer. The tropical Pacific Ocean SSTs shows persistent warming in association with the developing Elnino condition. The East African ridge is expected to slightly retreat southwards. Wind convergence over Lake Victoria Basin is expected to allow convective cloud development over the area.

EXPECTED WEATHER FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER, 1-10, 2009

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mara and Mwanza regions) is expected to feature partly cloudy conditions with isolated thundershowers and sunny

periods mainly over western parts of Lake Victoria Basin and occasionally over the Northern parts of Kigoma. It should be noted that these are pre-seasonal rains common during this time of the year. Shinyanga region is expected to feature generally partly cloudy conditions. Northern coast and hinterland (Dar es Salaam, northern Morogoro, Tanga, Coastal regions together with the Islands of Unguja and Pemba) will generally feature partly cloud condition and isolated showers over few areas mainly over the extreme Northern coast. Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) are expected to experience mainly partly cloudy conditions. Northeastern Highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara regions) are expected to feature mainly partly cloudy conditions and few light rains mainly over the highlands. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya and Iringa and southern parts of Morogoro region) are expected to feature generally dry conditions with few light rains over highgrounds. Western areas (Tabora, Southern Kigoma, Southern Morogoro and Rukwa regions), Central (Dodoma and Singida regions) and Southern region (Ruvuma region) are expected to feature partly cloudy conditions and long sunny periods.

Prepared by

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