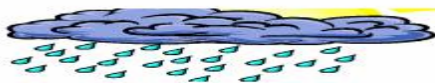




TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 3, 2009/10 Cropping Season

September 21- 30, 2009

HIGHLIGHTS

Dry condition that prevailed during the dekad was conducive for extensive land preparation mainly over most of bimodal areas

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the third dekad of September 2009, both southern hemisphere high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) were relatively intense contributing to the persistence of East African Ridge. The Siberia anticyclone in the northern hemisphere remained weak thus holding the zonal component of Inter-tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), north of East Africa. On the other hand the Azores high pressure system was generally moderate. Low level wind convergence over the western part of Lake Victoria and the extreme western part of the country supported some rainfall activities.

RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the third dekad of September the country continued to experience generally dry conditions except over few areas in Lake Victoria basin, northern coast and western areas. Bukoba reported the highest amount of 56.5 mm followed by Mwanza 51.7 mm, Shinyanga 26.9mm and Kibondo 14.8mm. Other stations that received rainfall recorded amounts of less than 10mm for the period, as for Ukiriguru 6.6mm, Musoma 2.8mm, Moshi 2mm, Kigoma 1.8mm, Pemba 1.2mm, Tumbi 1.1 mm and Tabora 0.5mm.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Dry condition that prevailed during the dekad was conducive for extensive land preparation mainly over most of bimodal areas. Also due to dry condition there is more scarcity of pasture and water creating a threat to livestock and wildlife mainly over northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara, and Kilimanjaro regions) and central areas which observed poor rainfall performance during the previous rainfall season.

Hydrometeorological Summary

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

Environmental Summary

Night temperatures over most parts of the country continued to be low. Dry windy conditions that prevailed over northeastern highlands, coast, central and western areas increased prospects for diseases including coughs, colds, pneumonia, and asthma.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS OCTOBER 1-10, 2009

During the dekad, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) are expected to relax slightly, whereas the Azores and Siberian high pressure system in the northern hemisphere are expected to slightly intensify thus allowing the ITCZ to slightly move southwards. The Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over West Indian ocean are expected to be warmer. The East African ridge is expected to relax and retreat southwards. Wind convergence over Lake Victoria Basin and occasionally over western parts of the country is expected to allow moisture influx over the area. Towards the end of this dekad the seasonal wind flow patterns are expected to be organized and allow moisture influx in the region.

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

The short rains which started over some areas of the Lake Victoria basin and Kibondo are expected to progress well during this dekad. A delay onset of Vuli rains is expected over the northern coast and parts of northeastern highlands. Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera Mara and Mwanza regions and Kibondo) is expected to feature cloudy conditions with showers and thunderstorms and sunny periods occasionally including Western Shinyanga.

Northern coast and hinterland (Dar es Salaam, northern Morogoro, Tanga, Coastal regions together with the Islands of Unguja and Pemba) will experience a delay onset for the Vuli rains however a few showers are expected mainly over the extreme northern coast. Southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) are expected to experience mainly partly cloudy condition. Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara regions) are expected to feature mainly partly cloudy conditions and sunny conditions. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya and Iringa and southern parts of Morogoro region) are expected to feature generally dry condition. Western areas (Tabora, Southern Kigoma, southern Morogoro and Rukwa regions) are expected to feature mainly partly cloudy condition however few areas of Tabora region are expected to experience isolated thunderstorms. 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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