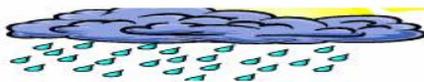




TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 31, 2009/10 Cropping Season

July 1-10, 2010

HIGHLIGHTS

Over unimodal and bimodal rainfall sectors, crop harvesting was the major activity during the past dekad, and good harvest is anticipated.

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the first dekad of July 2010, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems (St. Helena and Mascarene) continued to intensify while the Siberian high pressure system in the northern hemisphere relaxed keeping the rain-making mechanism (ITCZ) further north of Africa and resulting into erosion of the Arabian ridge over the region. The East African Ridge intensified significantly thus maintaining low-level diffluent pattern, leading to a relatively less convective atmosphere over the country. However, Lake Victoria trough caused occasional light rainfall activities over areas surrounding east of Lake Victoria. Near Equatorial Trough (NET) and warmer Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over the Indian Ocean near the coast of Tanzania continued to contribute some favourable rainfall conditions to the northern coastal belt and parts of north-eastern highlands.

RAINFALL SUMMARY

Dry conditions prevailed over most areas of the country however, occasional rains continued to be observed over northern coast (Handeni, Tanga and Matangatuani in Pemba) and over few areas of southwestern highlands (Tukuyu, Mbeya, Uyole and Igeri areas) including northeastern highlands (Lyamungo, Moshi and Same areas). A significant amount of rainfall was recorded at Tukuyu (120.2 mm) and Matangatuani (29.1 mm).

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

During the first dekad of July, farmers over unimodal rainfall areas were finalizing crop harvesting for 2009/10 cropping season, likewise over bimodal rainfall regime areas, farmers were continuing with harvesting of maize, beans, paddy, e.t.c. Crop harvest is anticipated to be good over most of the areas while poor harvest of maize are reported over Magu, Kwimba and Ilonga district, few pockets in Igunga and Nzega districts due to inadequate soil moisture supply enhanced by earlier cessation of the seasonal rains.

Market supply for cassava over several areas continued fairly well.

Pasture and water availability are good and livestock conditions are normal.

Hydro-meteorological Summary

Water levels in lakes, dams and river flows were maintained during the period, thus water availability for human and industrial use, and hydro power generation is good.

Environmental Summary

Cool temperatures over most areas in the country have led to comfortable conditions although over high ground areas cold temperatures were uncomfortable as reported from Mbeya, Mbulu and Meru districts.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING JULY 11-20, 2010

For the coming dekad, the southern hemisphere high pressure systems (the Mascarene and St. Helena together with the associated East African ridge) are expected to continue intensifying while the Azores and Siberian high pressure systems together with the Arabian ridge in the northern hemisphere are likely to relax keeping the ITCZ further northwards. Mainly southerly to southeasterly flow at lower levels is expected over the eastern sector of the country. A trough near the coast of Tanzania coupled with warm SSTs over extreme northern to Somali coast are likely to supply moisture to the northern coastal belt and the high grounds of north-eastern highlands.

EXPECTED WEATHER SITUATION DURING JULY 11-20, 2010

Generally cool nights and mornings are expected to persist over most parts of the country while chilly nights and mornings will dominate over the high grounds.

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera and Mara regions) is likely to experience thundery activities and few showers are likely over the eastern and western part of the Lake basin, while Shinyanga and Mwanza are expected to feature mainly partly cloudy conditions. Northern coast and hinterland (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Tanga and Coastal regions together with the Islands of Unguja and Pemba) are expected to experience occasional showers mainly over the extreme northern coast.

Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): Most areas are expected to experience mainly dry conditions. Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara regions) are expected to experience relatively low temperatures with chilly weather mainly over high grounds. Occasional orographical rainfall is expected over high grounds. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya and Iringa regions) are expected to experience reduced night temperatures associated with chilly weather mainly over high grounds. Light rains are expected over high grounds. Southern region (Ruvuma region) and part of Mahenge are expected to experience occasional light rains over high grounds and near the Lake Nyasa. Kigoma region is expected to feature mainly dry conditions. Central (Dodoma and Singida regions), and Tabora region are expected to feature relatively low temperatures during night and early morning hours. Occasionally windy and dust devil conditions are also likely to occur.

Prepared by

TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY

3rd, 4th 5th & 10th Floors - Ubungo Plaza – Morogoro Road.

P.O. Box 3056 Tel. 255 -(0) 22 – 2460706-8 ; Fax: 255 - (0) 22 – 2460718 E-mail: (1) met@meteo.go.tz (2) agromet1_tz@meteo.go.tz

Dar-es-Salaam UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA