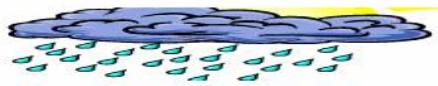




# TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



## DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No. 36, 2009/10 Cropping Season

August 21-31, 2010

### HIGHLIGHTS

During the period under review, farmers over Lake Victoria basin and northern Kigoma have started land preparations for the expected cropping season.

### SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the third dekad of August 2010, the southern hemisphere St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones remained relatively intense while the Siberian anticyclone and the associated Arabian ridge in the northern hemisphere relaxed slightly. The zonal component of the rain-making mechanism Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) gradually migrated southwards of the Great Horn of Africa.

### RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the third dekad of August the country was generally dry as expected. Recorded amounts of rainfall did not exceed 10 mm as reported over Lake Victoria basin where Bukoba reported the highest value of 9.5 mm followed by Mwanza 6.7 mm. Dar es Salaam over the northern coast reported 5.4 mm. Rainfall was also reported over Tanga, Igeri, Lyamungu, Songea, Mtwara, Zanzibar, and Pemba but the amounts did not exceed 5 mm.

### IMPACT ASSESSMENT

#### Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

During the period under review, farmers were through with harvesting activities. Farmers over western Lake Victoria Basin and northern Kigoma have started land preparations for the expected short rains (*Vuli*) season

as reported over Ngara, Karagwe, Biharamulo, Karagwe, and Kasulu districts. The rest have completed their seasonal cropping activities and are now having a breather while planning for the coming cropping season.

Market supply for cassava over several areas continued fairly well. Pasture and water availability have started declining, but livestock conditions are reported to be in good health.

#### Hydro-meteorological Summary

Water levels in lakes and dams and river flows are declining due to the prevailing dry season, thus water for human and industrial usage, and hydro-power generation should be used sparingly.

#### Environmental Summary

Cool temperatures over most areas in the country led to comfortable conditions at night although over high altitude areas cold temperatures were uncomfortable as reported from Mbeya, Sumbawanga (southwestern highlands), Mbulu and Meru districts (northeastern highlands).

### EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING SEPTEMBER 1-10, 2010

The coming dekad is likely to be associated with slightly relaxation of the southern hemisphere Mascarene and St. Helena anticyclones while the Azores and Siberian anticyclones together with the Arabian ridge in the northern hemisphere are likely to intensify occasionally pushing the ITCZ equator ward.

The general wind flow pattern is expected to be southerly to southeasterly.

#### **EXPECTED WEATHER SITUATION DURING SEPTEMBER 1-10, 2010**

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mara and Mwanza regions) is likely to experience few showers and thunderstorms. Shinyanga region is likely to experience mainly dry conditions. Northern coast and hinterland (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Tanga and Coastal regions, Islands of Unguja and Pemba) are likely to experience occasional light showers.

Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): Most areas are expected to experience mainly dry conditions with occasional light showers. Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara regions) are expected to continue experiencing relatively low temperatures. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya and Iringa regions) are expected to experience few showers mainly over high grounds. Southern region (Ruvuma region) and part of Mahenge are expected to experience outbreaks of light showers mainly over high grounds near the Lake Nyasa. Kigoma region is expected to feature mainly partly cloudy conditions. However over Northern parts of the region few showers are expected. Central (Dodoma and Singida regions) and Tabora region are expected to feature dry conditions and long sunny periods.

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