#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

During the third dekad of July dry conditions will be conducive for crop harvesting over much of the country, while cold conditions over higher ground areas will delay crops to full maturity.

No: 32 2011/12 Cropping Season

July 11- 20, 2012

#### SYNOPTIC SUMMARY

During the second dekad of July, 2012 southern hemisphere high pressure cells, St Helena and Mascarene anticyclones were intense. Northern hemisphere high pressure cells, Azores and Siberian anticyclones, and the associated Arabian ridge were relatively relaxed. This continued to enhance the movement of the rain-making mechanism i.e. Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) in the northern hemisphere. Slightly warm Sea Surface Temperature (SSTs) conditions were observed over the eastern Indian Ocean and slightly cool SST observed over southwestern Indian Ocean. During the period moisture fetch associated with the southerly to southeasterly low level wind flow prevailed over much of the country and resulted into light rains over much of high grounds of northeastern highlands and coastal areas.

### RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the dekad under review seasonal dry conditions dominated over much of the country, except for pocket areas of the northeastern highlands and coast including the Isles of Zanzibar and Pemba that received light rains. The highest total amount of rainfall for the period was reported at Tanga with 15.9 mm, followed by Mtwara 10.8 mm, Naliendele 10.8 mm, Amani Marikitanda 9.0 mm, Bukoba 8.5 mm, Tukuyu 3.0 mm, Lyamungu 2.8 mm, Zanzibar 2.1 mm, Pemba 2.1 mm and Moshi 1.4 mm. Remaining stations recorded only

fraction of a millimeter with the rest reported absolutely zero rainfall as depicted in Figure 1 below.

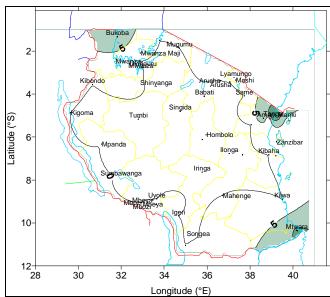


Fig 1: July 11-20, 2012 rainfall distribution (mm)

### **IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

### Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Crop harvesting continued mainly over much of the bimodal and few parts of unimodal sectors, with pocket areas over higher grounds of northern coast, northeastern and southwestern highlands during the dekad reporting near full ripeness stage.

Most maize, beans and paddy crops were at full ripeness stage, thus, harvesting activities continued over Lake Victoria areas mainly in Kagera and Mara regions, high grounds of northeastern highlands and the northern coast, though small pockets reporting crops still at near wax ripeness stage, similarly for parts of southwestern highlands particularly over

Igeri in Njombe district where the wheat crop still at near ripeness. Coffee as well was at harvesting stage over several parts of Lake Victoria basin and northeastern highlands.

Pastures and water availability for livestock during the dekad were generally good.

## **Agrometeorological Outlook**

During the third dekad of July dry conditions will be conducive for crop harvesting over much of the country, while cold conditions over higher ground areas will delay crops to full maturity.

# **Hydrological Summary**

Water levels in lakes, dams and river-flow discharges over most parts of the country were slightly decreasing due to seasonal dry conditions.

# **Environmental Summary**

Temperatures mostly over high ground areas in the country were getting cooler. Likewise, over the coastal belt and inland areas temperatures were slightly getting lower with uncomfortable dusty air. During the third dekad of July periods of cool to cold nights are expected to prevail over high grounds in southwestern and northeastern highlands of the country.

# EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING JULY 21-31, 2012

During the third dekad, the southern systems, St. Helena and Mascarene high pressure systems are expected to intensify while their counterpart northern pressure systems (Azores and Siberian) are expected to relax.

The move will bring about south-north pressure gradient anticipated to shift the ITCZ further north of its current position. Southeasterly to southerly low level winds associated with cold temperatures are further expected to dominate during the period over much of the country.

# EXPECTED WEATHER SITUATION DURING JULY 21-31, 2012

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mwanza, and Mara and Shinyanga regions, western regions (Kigoma and Tabora regions), central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions): Mainly dry and cool night conditions are expected during the dekad. Northeastern highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions) and northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions, the isles of Unguja and Pemba) and southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): Occasional light rains and cool night conditions are expected during the dekad. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Iringa and Mbeya regions) and southern region (Ruvuma region): Mainly dry and cold conditions are expected during the dekad.

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