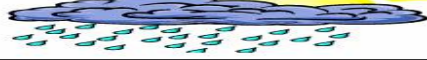




# TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY



## DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 7. 2012/13 Cropping Season

November 1-10, 2012

### HIGHLIGHTS

- *Most parts over bimodal areas experienced wet conditions during the dekad that enhanced crop establishment and development for the Vuli season, while land preparations was the major activity in the unimodal areas.*

### SYNOPTIC SUMMARY

During the first dekad of November 2012, the southern hemisphere St Helena high pressure cell intensified while the Mascarene high pressure cell relaxed. On the other hand, Azores anticyclone, Siberian high and the associated Arabian ridge over the northern hemisphere simultaneously intensified. As a result, the Meridional arm of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) shifted to the east while the zonal arm of the ITCZ moved south wards from its previous position. This setting influenced enhanced rainfall over the Lake Victoria basin, western, south western highland, southern, central, north-eastern highland and the northern coast regions of Tanzania. Cooler sea surface temperatures (SSTs) were observed over the eastern Indian Ocean while warmer SSTs were observed over central Indian Ocean extending towards western Indian Ocean. The overland ridge from Southern Africa relaxed giving a room for the Easterlies towards the Tanzania coastline, thus causing active weather over coastal regions.

### RAINFALL SUMMARY

During this dekad increased levels of rainfall were recorded over most bimodal areas of the country with many stations reporting adequate rainfall amounts. The highest total amount of rainfall for the period was recorded in the southwestern highland areas, notably Tukuyu (304.6 mm), followed by Arusha (195.5 mm), Amani Malaria (165.6 mm), Kigoma (122.3 mm), Kilimanjaro Airport (110.6 mm), Ukiriguru (96.2 mm), Bukoba (87.3 mm), Moshi (82.8 mm), Dar es Salaam (81.0 mm), Mpanda (73.9 mm), Same (66.2 mm), Tanga (64.7 mm), Mahenge (63.3 mm), Lyamungu and Igeri(62.7 mm),

Tumbi (61.9 mm), Musoma (50.8 mm), Songea (49.5 mm), Kibondo (46.5 mm), Babati (43.8 mm), Matangatuani (42.5 mm), Zanzibar (41.7 mm), Handeni (40.6 mm), Ilonga (35.8), Singida (31.7 mm), Mlingano (26.9 mm), Mbozi (25.4 mm) and Mugumu (24.4 mm). Remaining areas received rainfall below 20 mm with a few receiving no rainfall for the period as shown in the Figure below.

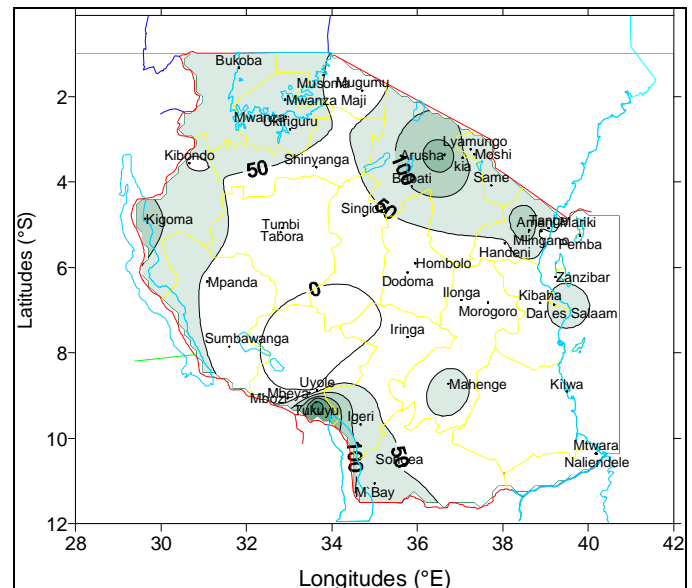


Figure 1: November 1-10, 2012 Rainfall distribution (mm)

### IMPACT ASSESSMENT

#### Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Most bimodal areas across the country experienced wet conditions during the dekad that enhanced field activities particularly planting of crops for the current 'Vuli' season over bimodal sector, while land preparations

was progressing well in the unimodal sector. The early planted crops including maize and beans were in good state at emergence to ninth leaf stage for maize, and flowering to pod filling stage for beans as observed from parts of Kagera and Mara regions. Other areas largely in unimodal rainfall pattern such as central, parts of southwestern highlands, southern region and southern coast experienced less or no rainfall, a condition that is conducive for land preparation as well as collection of farm inputs. Pastures and water availability for livestock and wildlife started to improve slightly over few areas of the country.

### Hydrological Summary

Water levels in dams and river-flow have started improving over some areas in the bimodal regions during the dekad due to ongoing seasonal rains.

### Environmental Summary

Temperatures were generally high over much of the country, warm and humid air mainly over coastal areas occasionally caused some discomfort.

### AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK FOR NOVEMBER 11-20, 2012

Crops mainly over bimodal areas such as Lake Victoria basin, northern Kigoma, northeastern highlands, northern coast and the Islands of Zanzibar are

likely to benefit from the soil moisture improvement expected to continue during the second dekad of November, 2012.

### EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SITUATION DURING NOVEMBER 11-20, 2012

During this period, the southern hemisphere pressure systems including St. Helena and Mascarene highs are expected to continue relaxing while their counterpart to the north are expected to continue intensifying. The ITCZ is thus expected to strengthen over Lake Victoria basin and adjoining areas of western Tanzania, northern coast and re-emerge over north eastern highlands. Easterly to Northeasterly low level winds are expected to dominate during the period over much of the country.

### EXPECTED WEATHER DURING NOVEMBER 11-20, 2012

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mwanza, Mara and Shinyanga regions), western regions (Kigoma and Tabora regions), northeastern highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions), central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions), and southern region (Ruvuma region): Normal to above normal rains are expected. Northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions, the isles of Unguja and Pemba) and southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Iringa and Mbeya regions), and southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): Normal rains are expected during the dekad.

Prepared by

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