NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AGENCY

TEN DAY AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

P.BOX 1090 ADDIS ABABA TEL 512299 FAX 517066 E-mail **nmsa@ethionet.et**

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SUMMARY

During the third dekad of may 2008 light to moderate rainfall observed over parts of Tigray, Amhara, Benshangul-Gumuz and Gambela, much of Oromia, Somali and SNNPR. Hence, this situation could have positive impact for pasture and drinking water availability over low lands of Somali and Oromiya. In addition most of western the country and parts of eastern the country exhibited heavy rainfall within one rainy day. This situation might have favored for the ongoing Meher agricultural activities like land preparation and sowing activity.

During the first decade of June 2008, the observed rainfall distribution over Tigray, Amhara, Benshangul-Gumuz, much of Oromia, Dire Dawa including Harari as well as SNNPR favored the ongoing seasons agricultural activates like land preparation and sowing of teff, wheat, barely, cereals and vegetations. Besides, the observed rainfall Condition over western half of the country, which started their Meher agricultural activities earlier had an indispensable contribution for crops this attained at different phonological stage to fulfill their crop water requirements. On the other hand, the prevailed little and dry situation over eastern, south eastern, south and south eastern low lands might have negatively affected the water requirements of lately sown Belg crops. Moreover, it had negative impact on the availability of pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agro pastoral areas. On the other hand, observed heavy fall over parts of west and southwest parts of the country might have not result in any crop and livestock damage.

1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

1.1 1-10 June 2008

1.1.1 RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.1)

Parts of southwestern Amhara, southeastern tip of Benshangul-Gumuz, parts of western Oromia and southern SNNPR recived 100-200mm of rainfall. Much of western and southern Amhara, western, central and eastern Oromia, much of Benshangul-Guz, eastern half of Gambela, and much of SNNPR exbited 50-100mm of rainfall. Parts of western Tigray, eastern Margin and pocket areas of central Amhara, parts of central, eastern and pocket areas of western Oromia exbited 25-50 mm or rainfall. Parts of eastern half of Tigray, western tip of Afar. Tip of eastern Amhara, central Oromia, northern and parts of southwestern Somali exbited 5-25 mm of rainfall. While the rest parts of the country received little or no rainfall.

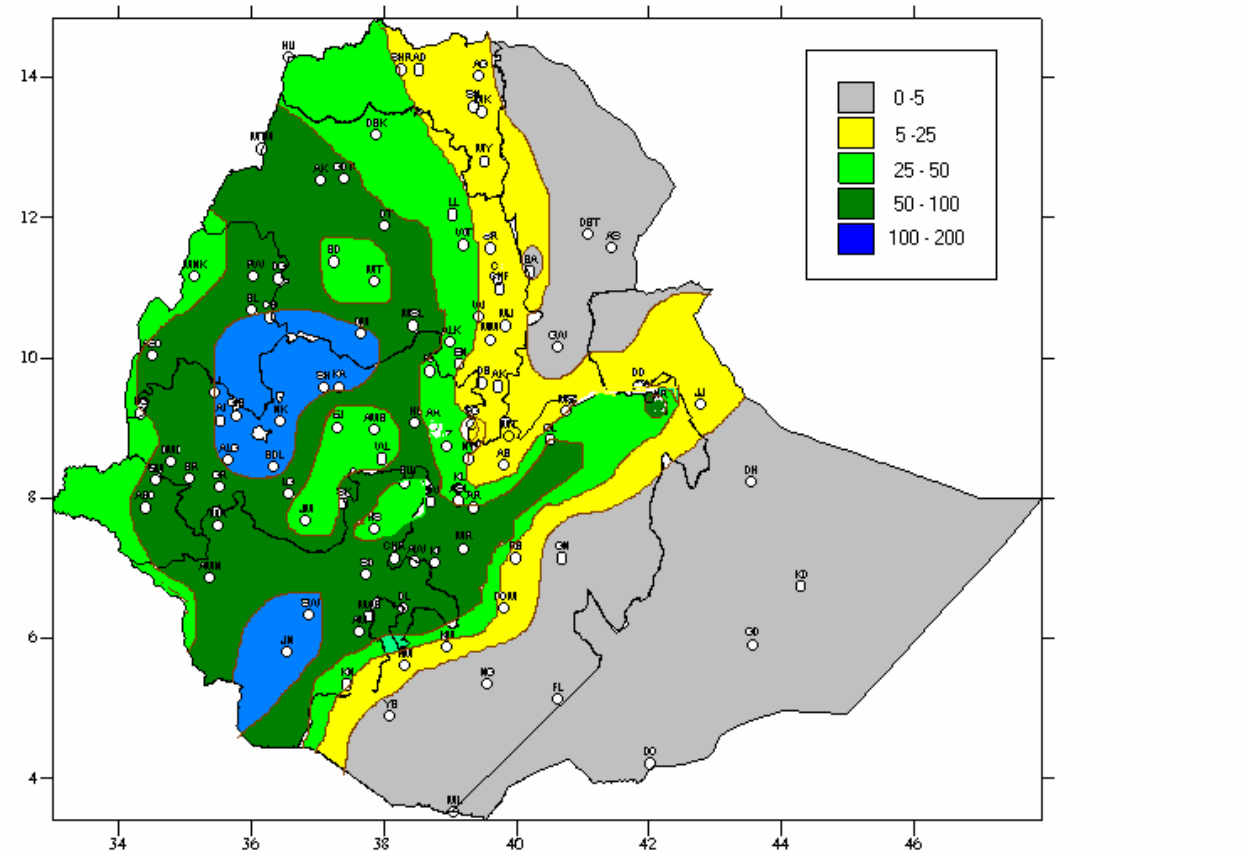

Fig 1. Rainfall distribution in mm (1-10 June 2008)

1.1.2 RAINFALL ANOMALY (Fig. 2)

Most of Afar and Somali, parts of eastern and southern and pocket areas of western Oromiya, tip of southern SNNPR and northern Gambela and pocket area of northern Benshangul-Gumuz received below normal to much below normal rainfall. The rest parts of the country experienced normal to above normal rainfall**.**

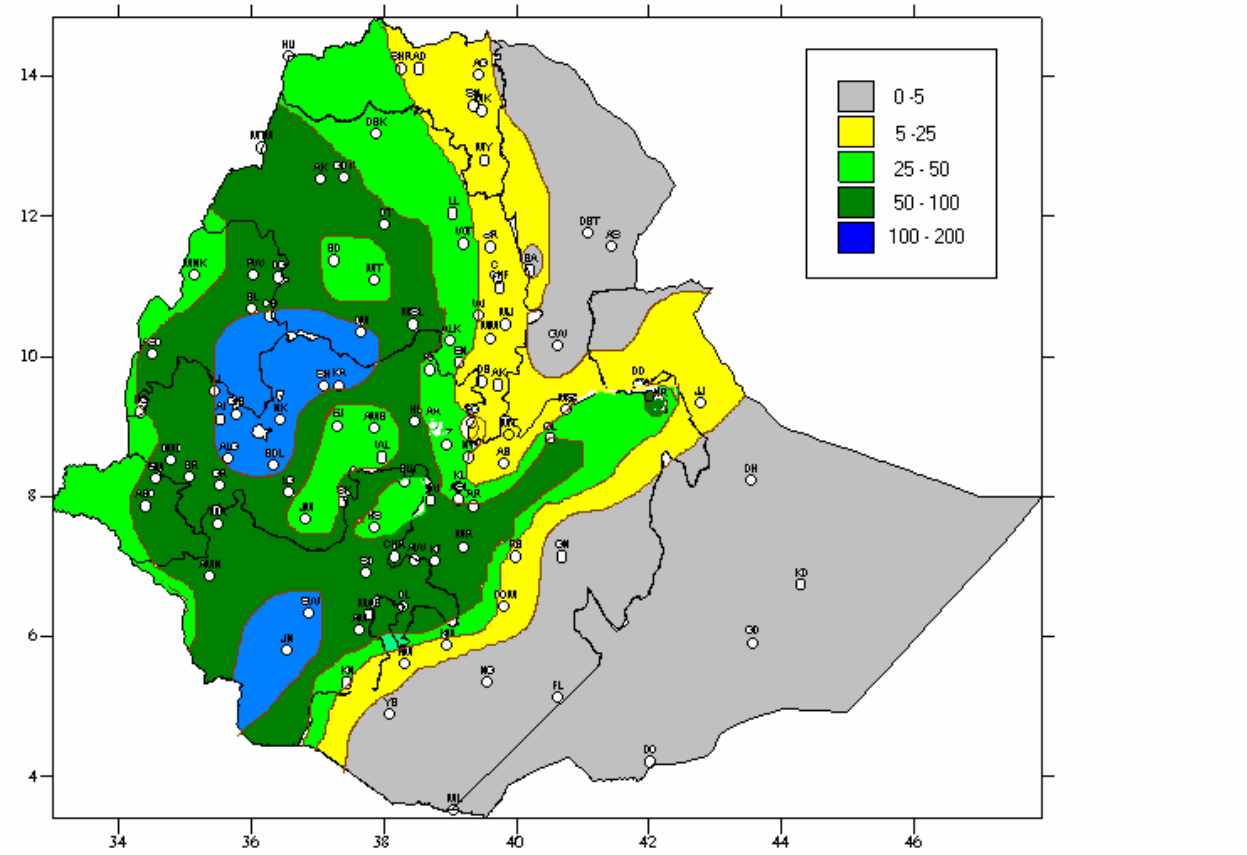

Fig.2 Percent of normal rainfall (1-10 June 2008)

Explanatory notes for the legend:
<50 -- Much below normal
50—75% -- below normal
75—125% --- Normal
> 125% ---- Above normal

1.1.3 TEMPERATURE ANOMALY

Some stations recorded extreme maximum temperature greater than 35^{o} C for 4 -10 days. Gode, Assayta, Dubti, Ellidar, Metema, Mille, Semera and Sheraro recorded extreme maximum temperature as high as 36.8,42.5,45.0,44.3,38.0,44.0,43.0 and 38.0 ^{o}C respectively.

2. WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR THE SECOND DEKAD OF JUNE 2008

In the coming tendays, the Kiremt rain producing systems are expected to have a better strength over western half, central and eastern portions of the nations. As a result, western and central Oromiya, Gambela, Benshangul-Gumuz, western Amhara; western Tigray and northern half of SNNPR are likely to have normal to above normal rainfall. Moreover, eastern and southern Oromia, Dire Dawa and Harari will get near normal rainfall. Eastern Tigray eastern Amhara and adjoing areas of Afar and northern Somali are anticipated to receive rain from their cloud coverage. Nevertheless, much of Afar and southern Samoli will experience dry weather condition.

3. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

3.1 VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

The observed rainfall distribution over Tigray, Amhara, Benshangul-Gumuz, much of Oromia, Dire Dawa including Harari as well as SNNPR favored the ongoing seasons agricultural activates like land preparation and sowing of teff, wheat, barely, cereals and vegetations. Besides, the observed rainfall Condition over western half of the country, which started their Meher agricultural activities earlier had an indispensable contribution for crops that attained at different phonological stage to fulfill their crop water requirements. On the other hand, the prevailed little and dry situation over eastern, south eastern, south and south eastern low lands might have negatively affected the water requirements of lately sown Belg crops. Moreover, it had negative impact on the availability of pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agro pastoral areas. On the other hand, observed heavy fall over parts of west and southwest parts of the country might have not result in any crop and livestock damage. According to crop phenological report please refer Table1

The analysis of moisture status (the relationship between total decadal rainfall and the decadal total reference evapotranspiration) as indicated in fig.3 most parts of western half of the country including south western parts of the country exhibited moist to humid moisture status condition. Thus, most Meher growing areas have benefited from the observed moisture. On the other hand eastern Afar, Somali, southern and southeastern Oromiya experienced dry to very dry moisture status condition.

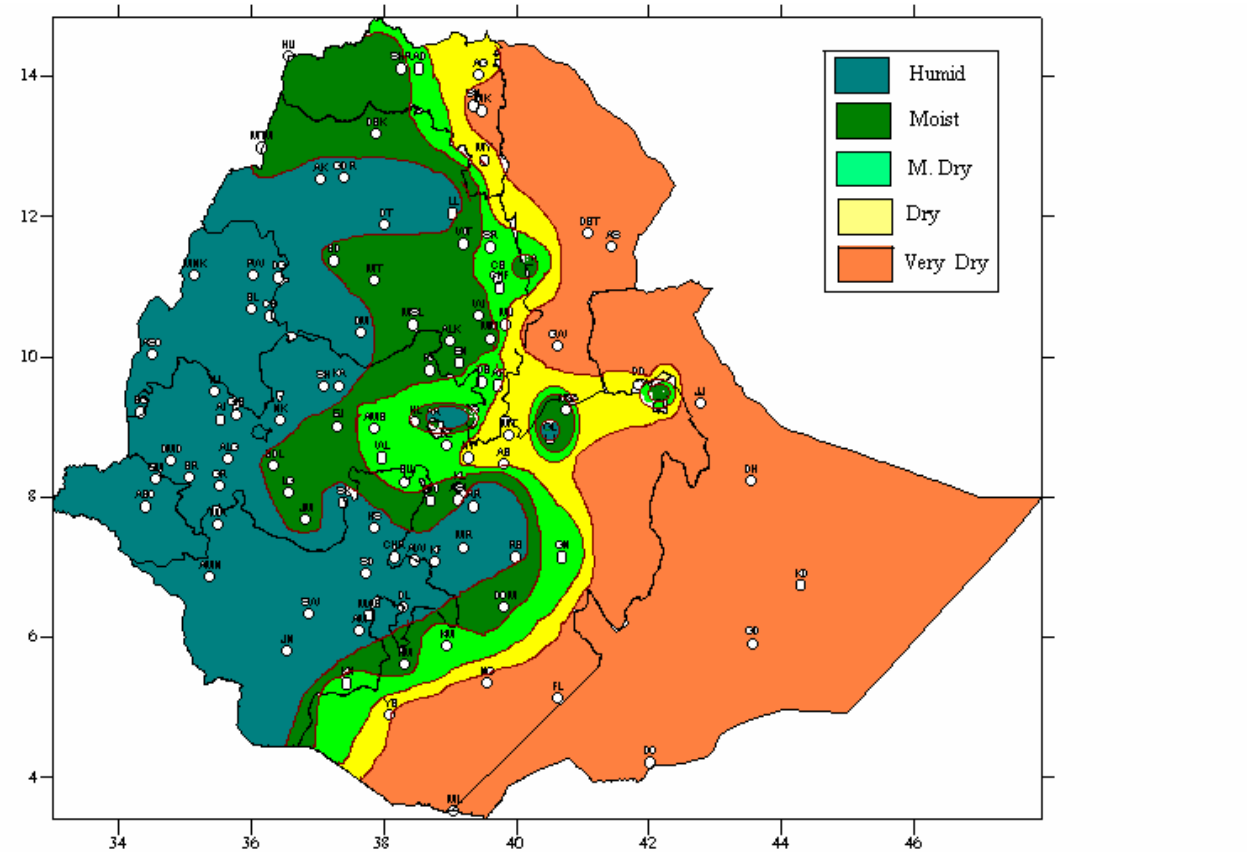

Fig.3 Moisture Status for (1-10 June, 2008)

3.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DEKAD

Normal rainfall are expected over the areas of northwestern and central parts of the country. Moreover, better rainfall are expected over the areas of southwestern and western parts of the country. Near normal rainfall are expected over the areas of central and western Oromia, Benshangul-Gumuz western Tigray, western Amhara, Gambela and much of SNNPR. The expected above normal rainfall over some areas the aforementioned areas, would favor for sowing activities of crops, like, Teff, cereals, maize, sorghum, wheat, and barely from central (Kulumsa, Nazareth, ArsiRobe, Meraro, Ziway, Weliso, Ambo, Fitche, Mehal Meda) from western and northwestern (Shambu, Nekemte, Gimbi). The expected near normal rainfall over the areas of eastern Tigray, eastern Amhara, southern Oromia and adjoing areas of SNNPR, would have a positive impact for the crops which are at different phenological stage and for crop water requirement. In general, the anticipated little rainfall over the areas of eastern Tigray and Amhara, south Oromia and adjoing areas of SNNPR would have a positive contribution for early sown crops interms of water requirement and crops which are at different phenological stages. Moreover it would have a positive contribution for pastoral and agro pastoral areas for the availability of pasture and drinking water.

Table 1. Crop Phenological Report for the fist dekad of June 2008

Station name	Region	Zone	Woreda	Major Crops			Phases		
				1	2	3	1	2	3
Aira	Oromia	Wellega		Maize	-	-	Nl	-	-
Aris Robe	Oromia	Mirab Arsi	Robe	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alemkema	Amahara	Semen Shoa	Alemkema	-	-	-	-	-	-
Assosa	Benishagul	Assosa	Assosa	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ayehu	Amahara	Mirab Gojam	Ankosha	Maize	-	-	Nl	-	-
Bedelle	Oromia	Illubabor	Bedlle	Maize	-	-	Em	-	-
Bullen	Benishagul	Metekel	Bullen	Maize	-	-	Em	-	-
Bui	SNNPR	Guarage	Sodo	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chagni	Amahara	Awi	Guagnua	Maize	Millet	Nug	Nl	-	-
Chira	Oromia	Jimma	Gera	Maize	-	-	Ta	-	-
Dangila	Benishagul	Awi	Dangila	Maize	-	-	P/S	-	-
Debre Tabor	Amahara	Dabub Gonder	Debre Tabor	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dolomana	Oromia	Bale	Mena	Maize	Teff	-	Ta	TL	-
Enewary	Amahara	Semen Shoa	Mortenajiru	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fitche	Oromia	Semen Shoa	Girarjarso	Teff	-	-	-	-	-
Gelemeso	Oromia	Mira Haraghe	Habro	Maize	-	-	Nl	-	-
Hossaina	SNNPR	SNNPR	Lemu	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kachise	Oromia	Mirab Shoa	Gindeberet	-	Teff	-	-	-	-
Lalibela	Amahara	Semen Wollo	Lasta	-	-	-	-	-	-
Limugent	Oromia	Jimma	Limukosa	-	-	-	-	-	-
Majate	Amahara	Semen Shoa	Mizan antakiya	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mehal Meda	Amahara	Semen Shoa	Gira mider	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nedjo	Oromia	Mira Wollega	Nedjo	Maize	Sorghum	-	Nl	Tl	-
Pawe	Benishagul	Metekele	Pawe liyu	-	Sorghum	-	-	-	-
Shaura	Amahara	SemenGonder	ALEF.T	Maize	-	-	Em	-	-
Shambu	Oromia	HoroWollega	Horo	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shire	Tigiray	Mirab Tigray	Endasilasie	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sirinka	Amahara	Semen Wollo	Habru	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sokoru	Oromia	Jimma	Sokoru	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shola gebeya	Amahara	Semen Shoa	Hagaramariam	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wagel Tena	Amahara	Semen Wollo	Delanta	Wheat	-	-	-	-	-
Waliso	Oromia	D.Mirab Shoa	Waliso	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ziway	Oromia	Misrak Shoa	Jidocombolcha	Maize	-	-	Em	-	-

Key :

P/S= Plant/Sow
Em=emerge
Tl=Third leaf
Fl=Fifth leaf
Sl=Seventh leaf
Yr=Yellow ripe
Nl= Ninth leaf
El= Elongation
Ta = Tassel
Ti=Tiller
Sh=shoot
Bs= Berry soft
Bh= Berry hard
Ph= Pin heading
Ea= Earing
He= Heading
Bu= budding
Fl=Flower
R = ripeness
Cr= Consumer ripeness
Gr= Green ripeness
Wr= Wax ripeness
Yg r= yellow green ripeness
Lgr =light green ripeness
Dr= dark ripeness
Fr= Full ripeness
H =Harvested
NA -Data not available