1-10 AUGUST 2008 Vol. 18 No.22 DATE OF ISSUE AUGUST 12, 2008

SUMMARY

During the third dekad of July 2008, the normal and above normal rainfall dominated over much of Oromia, Amhara, Benshangul-Gumuz, Gambela, western and eastern Tigray, western and southern SNNPR, northern Afar and eastern parts of the country. So, this situation might have a positive impact for meher agricultural activities, general agricultural activities and for availabilities of pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agropastoral areas. On the other hand, the rest parts of Kiremt rainfall benefiting areas, which recived by below normal rainfall. This situation could have a negative impact for meher agricultural activities and general agricultural activities. According to crop phenological report Maize was at ninth leaf stage and Teff was at third leaf stage and slight water logging in some areas of Adelle, Beans was at budding stage and slight hail damage in some areas of Mekane Selam during the third dekad of July.

During the first dekad of Augest 2008, the observed season's rainfall covered much of the country, could have a positive impact to fulfill crop water requirement of long cycle crops, which were sown during the month of April, and attaining at mid- season growing stage and meher agricultural activities (Land preparation, sowing activities and crops at different phenological stages) as well. Moreover, the observed heavy rainfall in most parts of the country, generated overflow of rivers and flash floods in kiremt rain benefiting areas in low-lying areas and river banks This situation resulted in crop damage which were attaining different phenological stages. Thus proper attention should be taken by the farmers in order to mitigate the adverse condition. According to the reporting station, many stations observed heavy fall above 30mm. To mention some stations which observed above 40 mm Gelemso, Arjo, Dangla, Bui, Shaura, Aider, Gore, Abomsa, and Kachise recorded 40.1, 41.1, 45.5, 49.5, 53.7, 55.0, 63.2, 73.0, and 79.2 respectively in one rainy days.

1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

1.1 1-10 August, 2008

1.1.1 RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.1)

Much of Amhara, some parts of south eastern Benshangul-Gumuz, some areas of western and central and pocket areas of eastern Oromia exibited 100-200mm of rainfall. Much of Tigray, western, northern and south eastern Amhara, western Benshangul-Gumuz, much of western and eastern Oromia,
parts of northern SNNPR and parts of northern Somali experienced 50-100mm of rainfall. Parts of eastern tip of Tigray, western Tip of Afar, Gambela, eastern half of SNNPR parts of southern and eastern Oromia exibited 25-50mm of rainfall. Parts of southern Afar, northern Somali, parts of western SNNPR, exibited 5-25mm of rainfall. There was little or no rainfall for the rest parts of the country.

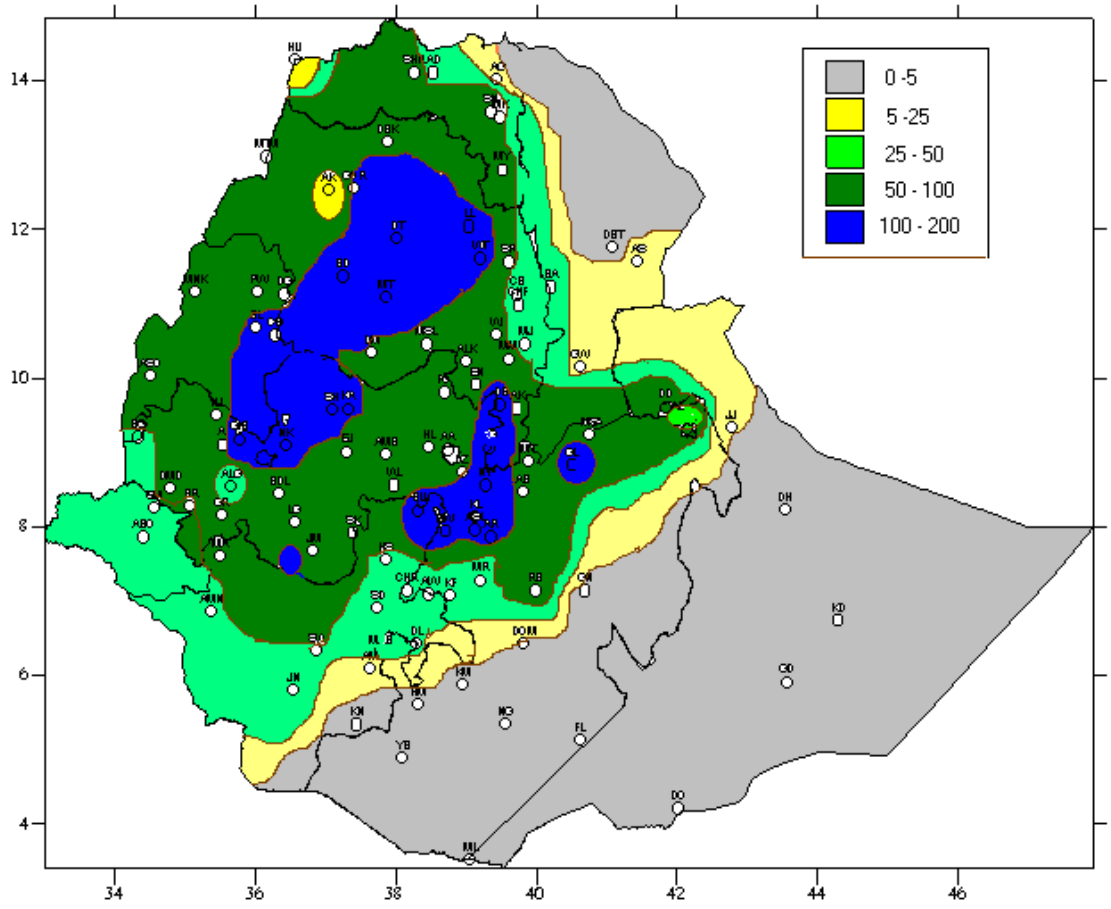


Fig 1. Rainfall distribution in mm (1-10 August 2008)

1.1.2 RAINFALL ANOMALY (Fig. 2)

Normal to above normal rainfall has been observed over southern Tigray, much of Amhara, parts of eastern Benshangul-Gumuz, much of Oromia, much of SNNPR, .The rest part of the country experienced below to much below normal rainfall.

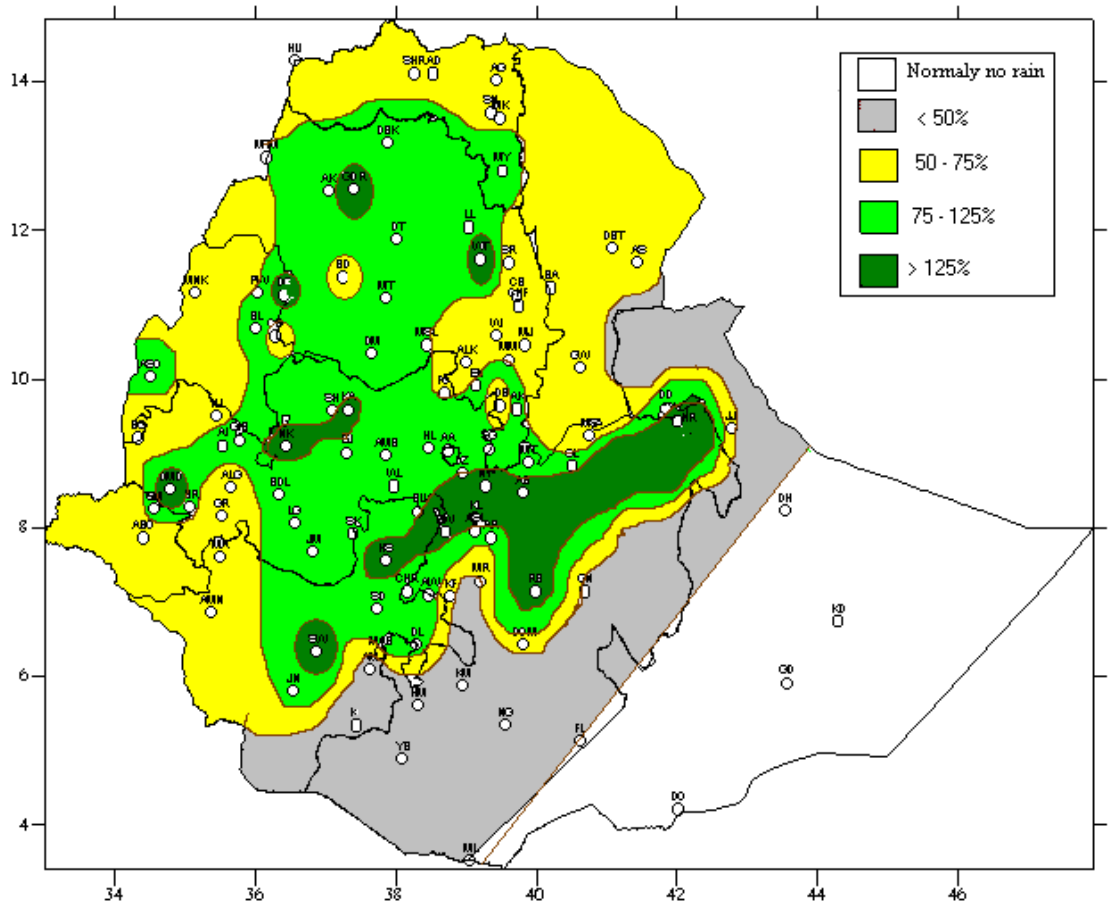


Fig.2 Percent of normal rainfall (1-10 August 2008)

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. DireDawa, Gode, Mille, Assayta, Dubti and Semera reported extreme maximum temperature as high as 36.0, 36.2, 41.0, 42.5, 43.0 and 43.0 ^{o}C respectively.

2. WEATHER OUTLOOK FOR THE SCEOND DEKAD OF AUGUST 2008

The coming ten days, the Kiremt rain-bearing systems are expected to have better potency across much of the seasonal rain benefiting areas. As a result, most potions of the Kiremt rain-benefiting areas will have wide spread rain showers.

In general, much of Afar, eastern Oromya, and southern portions of SNNPR, northern Somali, Harari and Dire Dawa as well as Bale zone will get close to normal rainfall. Similarly, Amhara, Tigray, Benshangul-Gumuz, Gambela, western and central Oromya, Addis Ababa and northern half of SNNPR are likely to get normal to above normal rainfall. In line with this, heavy falls are likely occurred over some places of the aforementioned areas.

3. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

3.1 VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

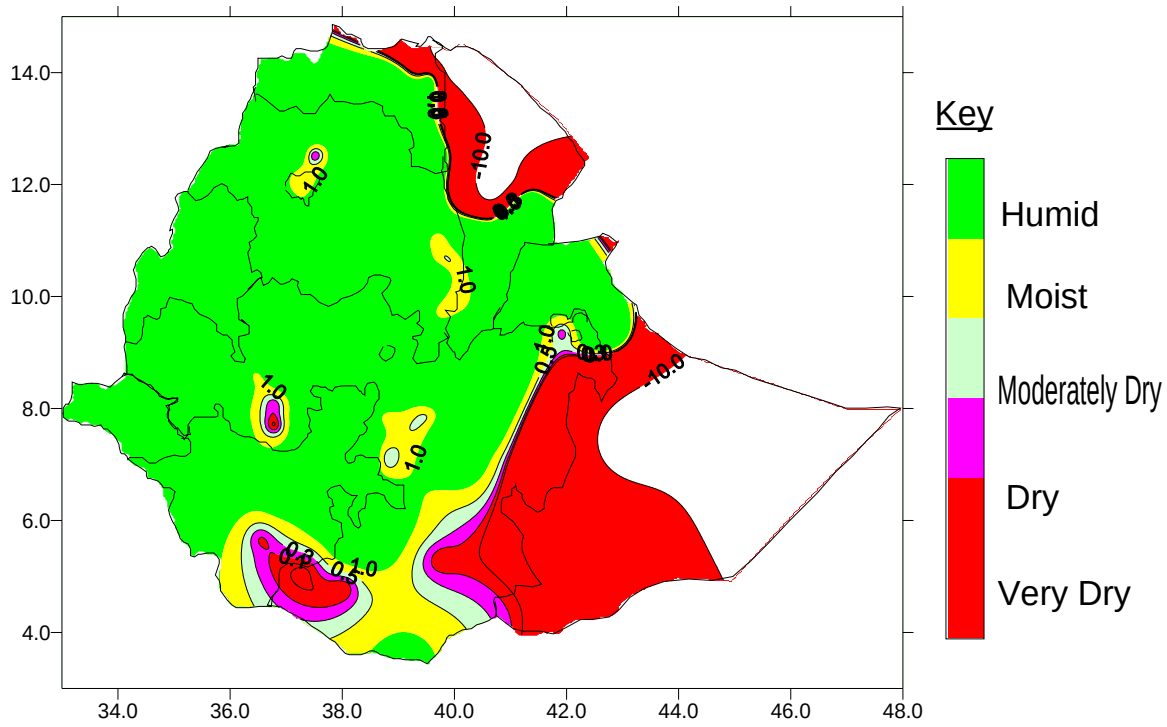
the observed season's rainfall covered much of the country, could have a positive impact to fulfill crop water requirement of long cycle crops, which were sown during the month of April, and attaining at mid- season growing stage and Meher agricultural activities (Land preparation, sowing activities and crops at different phenological stages) as well. Moreover, the observed heavy rainfall in most parts of the country, generated overflow of rivers and flash floods in Kiremt rain benefiting areas in low-lying areas and river banks This situation resulted in crop damage which were attaining different phenological stages. Thus proper attention should be taken by the farmers in order to mitigate the adverse condition. According to the reporting station, many stations observed heavy fall above 30mm. To mention some stations which observed above 40 mm Gelemso, Arjo, Dangla, Bui, Shaura, Aider, Gore, Abomsa, and Kachise recorded 40.1, 41.1, 45.5, 49.5, 53.7, 55.0, 63.2, 73.0, and 79.2 respectively in one rainy days.

According to crop phenological report please refer table1

The analysis of moisture status (the relation ship between dekadal rainfall and the dekadal total reference evapotranspiration) as indicated in fig3. Better moisture are observed over most parts of meher growing areas and full-fill the water requirement of crops. Moreover, the observed better moisture favor the perennial crops and for the availability of pasture and drinking water for pastoral and agropastoral areas.

.

Fig. **3 Moisture status Map for August 1-10/2008**



3.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DEKAD

The anticipated normal to above normal rainfall over some areas of Amhara, Tigray, Benshangul-Gumuz, Gambela, western and central Oromia, Addis Ababa and southern parts of SNNPR would have a positive contribution for the ongoing meher agricultural activities. However, the expected heavy fall accompanied with hail over some areas and places may result in flash floods over low-lying areas. In order to alleviate such adverse condition, prevention technique like channeling had better strengthened over the flood prone areas. Besides the expected near normal rainfall over much of Afar, eastern Oromia, southern parts of SNNPR, northern Somali, Harari , DireDawa and Bale zone would create a positive contribution for the availability of pasture and drinking water for pastoral and agropastoral areas and for early sown long cycle crops and crops which are at different phenonlogical stage as well.

Table1. crop Phenological report for 1-10 August, 2008

Station name	Region	Zone	Woreda	Major Crops			Phases		
				1	2	3	1	2	3
Adet				Wheat	Barley	Teff	Ti	Sh	Sh
Aris Robe	Oromia	Mirab Arsi	Robe	Teff	-	-	P/S	-	-
Alemkema	Amahara	Semen Shoa	Alemkema	Teff	-	-	S	-	-
Assosa	Benishagul	Assosa	Assosa	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adelle				Maize	Barley	Teff	Nl	Ti	Tl
Ayehu	Amahara	Mirab Gojam	Ankosha	Maize	pepper	wheat	Fl	Sl	Em
Aykel				Barley	Teff	-	Ti	P/S	-
Bati				Teff	-	Peas	Tl	-	-
Bedelle	Oromia	Illubabor	Bedlle	Maize	Teff	-	-	Em	-
Bullen	Benishagul	Metekel	Bullen	Maize	Millet	-	Fl	Ti	-
Bui	SNNPR	Guarage	Sodo	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chagni	Amahara	Awi	Guagnua	Maize	-	Nug	Nl	-	P/S
Chira	Oromia	Jimma	Gera	Maize	-	-	Fr	-	-
Dangila	Benishagul	Awi	Dangila	Maize	Teff	-	Em	Em	
Debark				Wheat	Maize	-	P/S	-	-
Debre Tabor	Amahara	Dabub Gonder	Debre Tabor	-	-	-	-	-	-
Debre Birhan	Amahara			Barley	-	-	Sh	-	-
Dolomena	Oromia	Bale	Mena	Maize	Teff	-	Fr	H	-
Dilla	SNNPR			Coffee	Maize	-	-	Wr	-
Enewary	Amahara	Semen Shoa	Mortenajiru	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fitche	Oromia	Semen Shoa	Girarjarso	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gelemeso	Oromia	Mira Haraghe	Habro	Maize	-	-	Wr	-	-
Ghion				Maize	Nug-	Teff	-	Fl	Tl
Gimbi	Oromia			Maize	Teff	-	Fl	Tl	-
Hossaina	SNNPR	SNNPR	Lemu	Maize	Wheat	-	Fl	Tl	-
Kachise	Oromia	Mirab Shoa	Gindeberet	Teff	-	-	Em	-	-
Lalibela	Amahara	Semen Wollo	Lasta	Teff	-	-	Em	-	-
Limugent	Oromia	Jimma	Limukosa	Teff	-	-	Em	-	-
Majate	Amahara	Semen Shoa	Mizan antakiya	Teff	-	Maize	Tl	-	Em
Mehal Meda	Amahara	Semen Shoa	Gira mider	Wheat	Barley	Beans	P/S	P/S	P/S
Motta				Teff	-	-	Em	-	-
Nedjo	Oromia	Mira Wollega	Nedjo	Maize	Sorghum	Millet	Fl	Sh	Ti
Mekane Selam				Wheat	Teff	Beans	Tl	P/S	Bu
Pawe	Benishagul	Metekele	Pawe liyu	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shaura	Amahara	SemenGonder	ALEF.T	Maize	Teff	-	-	Em	-
Shambu	Oromia	HoroWollega	Horo	Teff	Barley	-	Em	P/S	-
Shire	Tigiray	Mirab Tigray	Endasilasie	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sirinka	Amahara	Semen Wollo	Habru	Teff	Maize	Millet	P/S	P/S	P/S
Sokoru	Oromia	Jimma	Sokoru	Maize	Teff	-	Ta	-	-
Shola Gebeya	Amahara	Semen Shoa	Hagaramariam	Wheat	Beans	Flax	-	Em	Fl
Wagel Tena	Amahara	Semen Wollo	Delanta	Wheat	Barley	Beans	Em	Em	Em
Ziway	Oromia	Misrak Shoa	Jidocombolcha	Maize	Wheat	-	Nl	Tl	-

Key :

P/S= Plant/Sow
Em=emerge
Tl=Third 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
- Data not available