TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY

DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 27. 2013/14 Cropping Season **Review for June 1-10, 2014 and Outlook for June 11-20, 2014**

HIGHLIGHTS

- The expected seasonal dry conditions over the unimodal areas will be favourable for crop harvesting and storage activities.
- Where strong winds and cold nights are expected, community is advised to take precautionary measures for their safety and property.

SYNOPTIC SUMMARY DURING JUNE 1-10, 2014

During June 1-10, 2014 pressure systems over the northern hemisphere relaxed significantly. The Mascarene high continued to intensify and extended a ridge over most parts of the country which pushed zonal arm of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) further north. As a result mainly dry conditions, strong winds and cool nights were observed over most parts of the country.

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WEATHER SUMMARY DURING JUNE 1-10, 2014

During the period under review, the country received significant rainfall in a few places, mainly areas around Lake Victoria basin and north-eastern highlands in the bimodal areas. The unimodal areas were generally dry over most areas as shown in Figure 1 below, whereby only few places in Kagera, Mara and Kilimanjaro regions in the bimodal areas recorded rainfall greater than 50 mm.

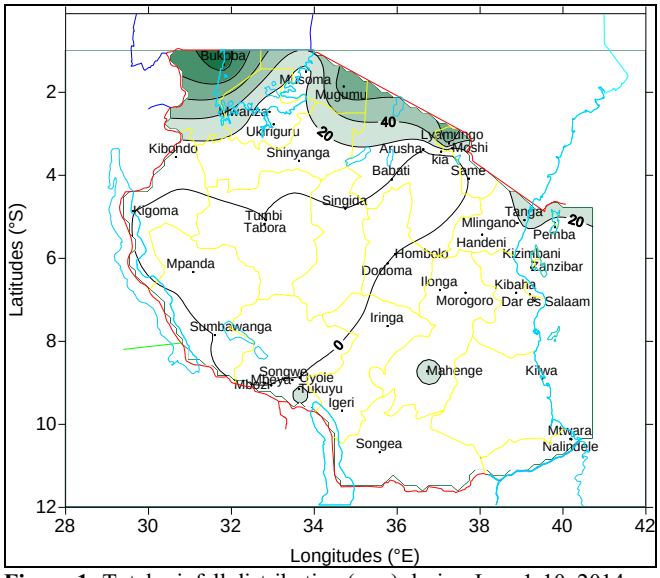

Figure 1: Total rainfall distribution (mm) during June 1-10, 2014.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY DURING JUNE 1-10, 2014

During the period under review, the rainfall received over the bimodal areas was favourable for crops development mostly at final growth stages, including late grown crops. Maize crop over most of the bimodal areas during the period ranged between waxy and full ripeness stages as observed in Mara, Kilimanjaro, Tanga, Coast and Morogoro regions. The crop was generally in average conditions and good harvests are expected. Over the unimodal areas, maize crop was already at full ripeness stage with good condition. Pastures and water availability for livestock and wildlife was generally good over much of the country.

HYDROLOGICAL CONDITIONS DURING JUNE 1-10, 2014

Water levels in dams and river flows discharges were generally normal over most areas of the country.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS DURING JUNE 1-10, 2014

During the period, slight cool temperature conditions prevailed in the country.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC CONDITIONS DURING JUNE 11-20, 2014

During the period, pressure systems over the northern hemisphere are expected to relax significantly while in the southern hemisphere, both the St. Helena and the Mascarene high pressure systems are expected to intensify and to increase the strength of the East Africa Ridge. With these configurations, the ITCZ is expected to be is expected to be pushed further north and be confined mostly in the northern hemisphere. The meridional arm of ITCZ is expected to shift further west to Congo basin influencing reduced weather over western parts of Lake Victoria basin. However, intensification of the southern pressure systems is expected to influence the wind speed regime over most parts of the country. Neutral to warm Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) in South West Indian Ocean, close to Tanzanian coast, are likely to induce embedded convection over some areas and therefore influence

activities especially over the northern strip of coast. This situation is expected to influence mainly dry conditions over most parts of the country with periods of slight wet conditions over few areas of the country.

EXPECTED WEATHER DURING JUNE 11-20, 2014

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Mwanza, Mara, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions including northern parts of Kigoma region): Rain showers and isolated thunderstorms are expected over few areas especially during the second half of the dekad. Cold night and periods of strong winds are also expected over the Lake Victoria Basin. Northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions together with the isles of Unguja and Pemba): Rain-showers are expected over few areas especially during the first half of the dekad. Cold nights and periods of strong wind over few areas are also expected. North Eastern Highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions): Rain-showers over few areas mainly over high ground are expected especially during the second half of the dekad. Cold conditions are expected also expected. Western regions (Kigoma, Rukwa and Tabora regions): Mainly dry conditions and cold nights are expected. Central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions): Mainly dry conditions, cold and chilly weather conditions are expected. South-western highlands (Southern Rukwa, Katavi, Njombe, Iringa and Mbeya region): Mainly dry and cold night conditions are expected. Southern Coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): Mainly dry conditions and cold nights. However, occasional rain-showers are expected during the period. Southern region (Ruvuma region): Mainly dry and cold night conditions are expected.

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL OUTLOOK AND ADVISORY DURING JUNE 11-20, 2014

During the period of June 11-20, 2014, where strong winds and cold nights are expected; for example high grounds in the southwestern and northeastern highlands, community is advised to take precautionary measures for their safety and property. Farmers and livestock keepers are strongly advised to seek professional advice from nearby agriculture/health extension officers.

BIMODAL AND UNIMODAL AREAS

1. Bimodal areas: Areas which experience two rainfall seasons (Oct - Dec/Jan and March – May). These are areas covering Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Geita, Mwanza, Mara, Simiyu and Shinyanga regions including northern parts of Kigoma region), northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions together with the isles of Unguja and Pemba) and northeastern highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions).

2. Unimodal areas: Areas which experience one rainfall season (Nov - Apr). These are areas covering western regions (Kigoma, Rukwa, Katavi and Tabora regions), central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions), southwestern highlands (Njombe, Iringa and Mbeya region), southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) and southern region (Ruvuma region).

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