

# No. 2, 2009/10 Cropping Season

September 11- 20, 2009

HIGHLIGHTS Ory condition was conducive for extensive land preparation over most of bimodal areas.
• Poor pastures and water availability threaten livestock and wildlife mainly over northeastern highlands and central areas.

# SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the second dekad of September 2009, both southern hemisphere systems (St. Helena and Mascarene anticyclones) were intense enough to sustain a stronger East African Ridge. The Azores anticyclone in the northern hemisphere also intensified resulting to southward movement of the zonal component of the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) in the northern hemisphere over West Africa. On the other hand the Siberian anticyclone was generally weak leading to a diffused zonal component of ITCZ over the Indian Ocean. Low level wind convergence over the Lake Victoria and the extreme western parts of the country supported rainfall activities.

## **RAINFALL SUMMARY**

During the second dekad of September the country continued to experience generally dry conditions except for a few pockets mainly over Lake Victoria basin and northern coast. Shinyanga station reported the highest amount of 26.1 mm for the period, followed by Bukoba 9.7 mm, Tanga 9.3 mm, Mwanza 4.1 mm, Ukiriguru 4.0 mm, Moshi and Tabora each recorded 3.1 mm, Tumbi 2.7 mm, DIA 2.1 mm, Kigoma 1.9 mm and Zanzibar 1.0 mm.

## Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Dry condition that prevailed during the dekad was conducive for extensive land preparation mainly over most of bimodal areas. The dry situation also increased scarcity of pasture and water availability creating a threat to livestock and wildlife as widely pronounced mainly over northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara, and Kilimanjaro regions) and central areas of the country which observed poor rainfall performance during the previous rainfall season.

### Hydrometeorological Summary

Water levels in lakes and dams, and river discharges in their respective catchments declined over most areas of the country as the dry season continued. Water for industrial and domestic purposes should be used sparingly.

## **Environmental Summary**

Night temperatures over most parts of the country continued to be low. As night temperatures get low, care should be taken against the use of charcoal stoves for heating homes as to avoid asphyxiation. Dry windy conditions that prevailed over northeastern highlands, coast, central and western areas increased prospects for diseases including coughs, colds, pneumonia, and asthma.

### EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS SEPTEMBER 21-30, 2009

During the third dekad, the southern hemisphere systems (the St. Helena and the Mascarene anticyclones) are expected to relax, whereas the Azores and Siberian anticyclones in the northern hemisphere are expected to intensify thus allowing for north-south oscillation of zonal component of the ITCZ. The Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) over West Indian Ocean are expected to be warmer than normal with slightly cooling SSTs over the central Indian Ocean. The tropical Pacific Ocean SSTs shows persistent warming in association with the El Nino condition. The East African ridge is expected to relax and retreat southwards. Convergences of wind over Lake Victoria Basin and occasionally over western parts of the country are expected to allow moisture influx over the area.

### EXPECTED WEATHER FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER, 21-30, 2009

The short rains which have started over some areas of the Lake Victoria basin and Kibondo are expected to spread well over the western part of the Lake Victoria during this dekad. However there is a likelihood of suppressed rainfall activities over southern parts of the Lake. The western part of Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera region) is expected to feature increasing cloudy conditions with isolated thundery showers and sunny intervals and occasionally over Mara region. Also northern and western parts of Kigoma region are expected to experience partly cloudy conditions and isolated showers and thunderstorms. Mwanza and Shinyanga regions are expected to feature partly cloudy conditions nd occasional isolated showers. Northern coast and hinterland (Dar es Salaam. northern Morogoro, Tanga, Coastal regions together with the Islands of Zanzibar and Pemba) will generally feature partly cloud conditions nd isolated showers over few areas mainly over the islands. Southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions) are expected to experience mainly dry conditions Northeastern highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara regions) are expected to feature mainly partly cloudy conditions and few light showers highlands. mainly over Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya and Iringa and southern parts of Morogoro region) are expected to feature generally dry condition. Western areas (Tabora, southern Kigoma, southern Morogoro and Rukwa regions) are expected to cloudy feature mainly partly condition. Central (Dodoma and Singida regions) and southern region (Ruvuma region) are expected to feature partly cloudy conditions and long sunny periods.

The day and night time temperatures are expected increase gradually.

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