No. 1, 2010/11 Cropping Season

September 1-10, 2010

HIGHLIGHTS

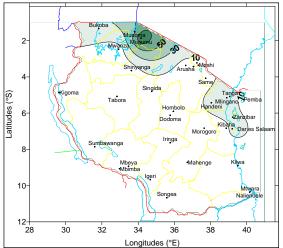
Dry condition continued to persist over most parts of the country making it favorable for land preparation over bimodal rainfall areas mainly Lake Victoria basin and northern Kigoma (Kasulu district).

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the 1st dekad of September 2010, the Azores and Siberian anticyclones together with the Arabian ridge, in the northern hemisphere, intensified occasionally while slight relaxation of the Southern Hemisphere Systems (the Mascarene and St. Helena anticyclones together with the associated East African ridge) occurred. The zonal component of the rain-making mechanism, the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), moved to slightly southwards.

RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the first dekad of September, the country was seasonally dry except for a few areas over Lake Victoria Basin and northern coast which reported rainfall amounts that exceeded 20 mm over some places.



Rainfall distribution during September 1-10, 2010

The highest rainfall amount (87.3 mm) was recorded at Mugumu in Mara region. Stations which reported rainfall amounts exceeding 10 mm were Musoma 45.9 mm, Tanga 31.8 mm, Bukoba 24.0 mm, Mlingano 17.6 mm, Handeni 16.6 mm, Dar es Salaam 15.5 mm and Zanzibar 14.5 mm.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

During the period under review, dry condition continued to persist over almost the whole country making it favorable for land preparation over parts of bimodal areas mainly Lake Victoria basin and northern Kigoma (Kasulu district). Crop planting has started over some parts of Kagera region (Ngara, Muleba, and Karagwe districts) following slight improvement of soil moisture that was reported during the dekad. On the other hand the dry situation has greatly increased scarcity on pastures and water availability for livestock and wildlife as widely pronounced over northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara, and Kilimanjaro regions) and central areas although for central areas it is a common trend during this time of year.

Hydro-meteorological Summary

Water levels in lakes and dams and river flows have declined due to the prevailing dry season, thus water for human and industrial usage, and hydro-power generation should be used sparingly.

Environmental Summary

Cool temperatures over most areas in the country have led to comfortable conditions at night although over areas temperatures altitude cold uncomfortable as reported from Mbeya, Sumbawanga (southwestern highlands), Mbulu and Meru districts (northeastern highlands).

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING SEPTEMBER 11-20, 2010

The coming dekad is likely to be associated with slight relaxation of the southern hemisphere systems (the Mascarene and St. Helena anticyclones together with the East African ridge) while, the Azores and Siberian anticyclones together with the Arabian ridge in the northern hemisphere are likely to continue intensifying occasionally. The general wind flow pattern is expected to be southerly to southeasterly.

EXPECTED WEATHER SITUATION DURING SEPTEMBER 11-20, 2010

The Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mara and Mwanza regions) is likely to experience few showers and thunderstorms. Shinyanga region is likely to experience mainly dry conditions.

Kigoma region is expected to feature mainly partly cloudy condition. However, few showers are expected over northern parts of the region.

Northern coast and hinterland (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Tanga and Coastal regions, Islands of Unguja and Pemba) are likely to experience occasional light showers.

North-eastern Highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara regions) are expected to experiencing relatively low temperatures. Light rains are expected over high grounds.

Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya and Iringa regions) are expected to experience few showers mainly over high grounds.

Southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): Most areas are expected to experience mainly dry conditions with occasional light showers.

Southern region (Ruvuma region) and part of Mahenge are expected to experience outbreaks of light showers mainly over high grounds near the Lake Nyasa.

Central (Dodoma and Singida regions) and Tabora region are expected to feature dry conditions and long sunny periods.

Prepared by TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY

3rd, 4th 5th & 10 th Floors - Ubungo Plaza – Morogoro Road.

P.O. Box 3056 Tel. 255 -(0) 22 – 2460706-8 ; Fax: 255 - (0) 22 – 2460718 E-mail: (1) met@meteo.go.tz (2) agromet1_tz@meteo.go.tz UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA Dar-es-Salaam