TANZANIA METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY

DEKADAL WEATHER REVIEW

No: 8. 2010/11 Cropping Season | November 11-20, 2010

HIGHLIGHTS

Improved soil moisture supply observed during the dekad over the entire country mainly in bimodal areas awakened the previously hampered planting activities

SYNOPTIC SITUATION

During the 2nd dekad of November 2010, the northern hemisphere high pressure cells, the Azores High, Siberian High and the Arabian ridge Intensified at times. This continued to push the zonal component of the rain-band system, the Inter tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) southwards. However, this system remained relatively diffused due to persistence of cold Sea Surface Temperatures (SSTs) off the Somali coast. In the southern hemisphere the St. Helena high, Mascarene High and its associated East African ridge remained slightly strong thus resulting into a sufficient push of moisture from Indian Ocean to the country during the dekad.

RAINFALL SUMMARY

Most parts of the country recorded adequate amounts of rainfall for field crops during the dekad, indicating some improvement to unusually persistent dry conditions previously observed over much of the bimodal sector. Significant amounts of rainfall were reported at Amani 156.8mm, Zanzibar 106.4mm, Kizimbani 96.5mm, Arusha 93.0mm, Mlingano 79.2mm, Moshi 55.7mm, Kigoma 68.5mm, Bukoba 54.7mm, Tanga 53.0mm, Tabora 51.7mm, Kilwa 77.9mm, Kibaha 42.1mm, Kibondo 41.4mm, Lyamungu 57.2mm, DIA 37.1mm, Mwanza 25.8mm, Shinyanga 25.6mm, Same 29.9mm, Morogoro 22.2mm and Musoma 22.0mm. The remaining stations from our sample stations recorded rainfall below 20 mm, as shown in Figure 1 below.

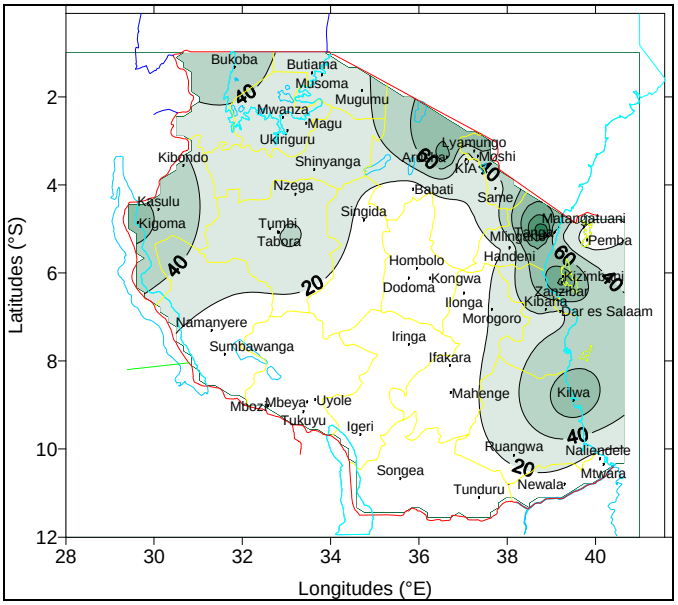

Figure 1: November 11-20, 2010, Rainfall distribution

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Improved soil moisture supply was observed during the dekad over the entire country mainly in bimodal areas reviving previously hampered planting activities. Late planting continued strongly over several areas that experienced delayed *Vuli s*easonal onset, mainly northern coast including Tanga and Coast regions, also Lake Victoria basin including parts of Kagera, Mwanza and Shinyanga regions. The obtained soil moisture levels were also

beneficial for the earlier planted maize and beans crops reported at between emergence and weeding stages and in moderate state over parts of Tarime, Musoma, Biharamulo, Kibondo, Sengerema, Ngara, Misungwi and Pangani districts. In unimodal rainfall areas land preparation was progressing normally.

Improved soil moisture supply will for a while ease the availability of water and pasture for livestock and wildlife mostly over northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara, and Kilimanjaro regions), central (Dodoma and Singida regions) and parts of southern coast regions of the country.

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

Temperatures over most areas in the country were generally warm leading to uncomfortable conditions. The trend is towards warming during coming dekad.

EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING NOVEMBER 21-30, 2010

In the southern hemisphere, the St Helena and Mascarene highs with the associated East African ridge will remain relatively strong. In the northern hemisphere, the Azores high is expected to remain slightly weak while the Siberian high and the associated Arabian ridge are likely to slightly intensify at times. The zonal arm of the ITCZ is expected to remain relatively diffused resulting into isolated rainfall activities over some eastern parts of the country.

An enhanced low level easterly flow is expected over most parts of the Tanzania coast. A weak convergence of north easterlies from northern hemisphere and easterlies from southern hemisphere is expected to happen during the mid of dekad. An enhanced westerly wind flow is also expected through the Congo Basin towards western parts of the country in the beginning of the dekad becoming weak towards the end of the dekad. Low level convergence is therefore expected over Lake Victoria basin, western region and southwestern highlands.

EXPECTED WEATHER OUTLOOK DURING NOVEMBER 21-30, 2010

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mara, Shinyanga and Mwanza regions): Scattered rain-showers and thunderstorms becoming isolated towards the end of the dekad. Western regions (Tabora and Kigoma regions): Scattered rain-showers and thunderstorms are likely but isolated cases will be featured towards the end of the dekad. Northern coast and hinterland (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Tanga and Coast regions, Zanzibar and Pemba Islands): are likely to experience scattered rain showers with isolated cases of thunderstorms. Southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): Scattered rain showers are expected with isolated cases of thunderstorms. North-eastern highlands (Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Manyara regions): Isolated to scattered rain showers are likely. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Mbeya and Iringa regions and Mahenge areas): Scattered rain-showers with isolated cases of thunderstorms are expected. Southern region (Ruvuma region): Isolated rainshowers are expected. Central region (Dodoma and Singida regions): Isolated rain showers activities are expected.

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