

No: 29 2011/12 Cropping Season

June 11-20, 2012

### HIGHLIGHTS

- *Most crops were at full ripeness with a few at wax ripeness stage and generally in moderate to good state as for bimodal sector and over higher grounds of the unimodal sector like Igeri in Njombe district in the southwestern highlands.*

### SYNOPTIC SUMMARY

During the second dekad of June, 2012, southern hemisphere high pressure cells, St Helena anticyclone intensified slightly while Mascarene anticyclone relaxed slightly. Northern hemisphere high pressure cells, Siberian high and the associated Arabian continued to relax slightly. This continued to enhance the northward movement of the rain-making mechanism i.e. Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) in the northern hemisphere. Slightly warm Sea Surface Temperature (SSTs) conditions were observed over the Eastern Indian Ocean while slightly cool conditions were observed over southwestern Indian Ocean; this resulted into southerly to southeasterly low level wind flow over the country, enhancing rainfall over some parts of Lake Victoria basin and coastal regions.

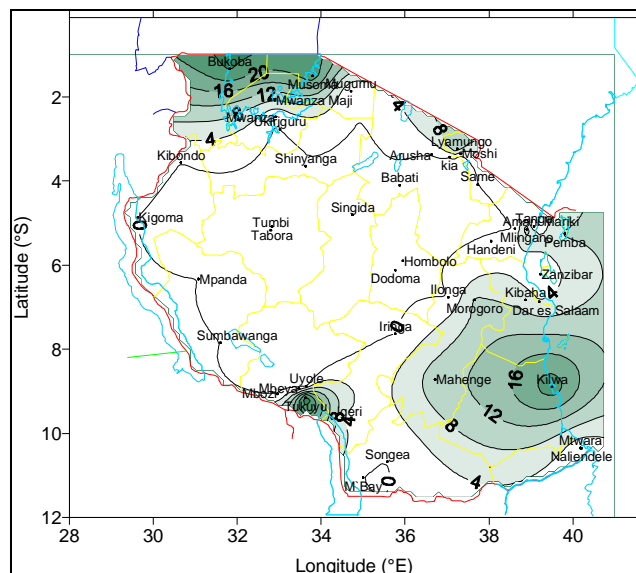


Fig 1: June 11- 20, 2012 Rainfall distribution (mm)

### RAINFALL SUMMARY

During the second dekad of June, 2012 few rainfall activities were observed over some parts of Lake Victoria basin, north-eastern highlands, coastal belt and over small pockets of southwestern highlands of the country with many stations recording much less rainfall amounts falling below 30 mm for the period. The highest total amount of rainfall was observed at Tukuyu station 28.1 mm, followed by Bukoba 24.4 mm, Kilwa Masoko 22.6 mm, Musoma 22.5 mm, Lyamungu 13.2 mm, Mlingano 11.4 mm, Mahenge 10.4 mm, Morogoro 8.5 mm, Pemba 8.4 mm, Kibaha 6.6 mm and Julius Nyerere International Airport 4.1 mm. Remaining areas were generally dry, as shown in Figure 1 below.

### IMPACT ASSESSMENT

#### Agrometeorological and Crop Summary

Most maize and beans crops entered full ripeness stage and in moderate to good state as for Lake zone areas mainly in Kagera and Mara regions, high grounds of northeastern highlands and the northern coast, contrary to the crop performance over low ground areas that was caused by higher degree of soil moisture deficits. As for unimodal sector crops were reported at maturity to harvesting stage, except for wheat over southwestern highlands notably Igeri in Njombe district that was at milk stage and in good state. Paddy crop over both bimodal and unimodal sectors were at tasselling to harvesting stages, and in good state. Coffee and cotton both as cash crops were at harvesting stage over Lake Victoria basin as well as northeastern highlands.

Pastures and water availability for livestock during the dekad were generally good.

### Agrometeorological Outlook

Some of the late grown crops over bimodal sector will be affected by inadequate soil moisture supply expected during the period, though the situation is greatly conducive for harvesting activities currently continuing over several areas of the country.

### Hydrological Summary

Water levels in lakes, dams and river-flow discharges over most parts of the country were slightly decreasing as seasonal dry conditions prevail.

### Environmental Summary

Temperatures mostly over high ground areas in the country were fairly cool. Likewise, over the coastal belt and inland areas temperatures were slightly getting lower with uncomfortable dusty air. During the third dekad of June periods of cool to cold nights are expected to prevail over high grounds in the southwestern and northeastern highlands of the country.

### EXPECTED SYNOPTIC SYSTEMS DURING JUNE 21-30, 2012

During the coming dekad, southern systems, St. Helena and Mascarene high pressure systems are expected to continue intensifying. Northern systems, Azores and Siberian high pressure systems, are expected to continue relaxing.

Therefore, the ITCZ is expected to continue migrating towards north from its current position. Southerly to southeasterly low level winds associated with cold nights are expected to dominate over most part of the country during this dekad. This pattern is expected to favor rainfall activities over several parts the country mainly Lake Victoria Basin, northeastern highlands, northern coast regions, Unguja and Pemba Isles, and high grounds of southwestern highlands and southern region.

### EXPECTED WEATHER DURING JUNE 21-30, 2012

Lake Victoria Basin (Kagera, Mwanza, and Mara and Shinyanga regions), northeastern highlands (Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara regions), northern coast (Dar es Salaam, Morogoro and Tanga regions, the isles of Unguja and Pemba): Normal rainfall patterns and cold nights conditions are expected. Western regions (Kigoma and Tabora regions) and central areas (Dodoma and Singida regions): Mainly dry and cold nights conditions are expected. Southwestern highlands (Rukwa, Iringa and Mbeya regions) and southern region (Ruvuma region): Mainly dry conditions with periods of rainfall over high grounds and cold nights are expected. Southern coast (Mtwara and Lindi regions): Mainly dry conditions and occasional rainfall and cold nights are expected.

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