

## **FORE WARD**

This Agro met Bulletin is prepared and disseminated by the National Meteorological Agency (NMA). The aim is to provide those sectors of the community involved in Agriculture and related disciplines with the current weather situation in relation to known agricultural practices.

The information contained in the bulletin, if judiciously utilized, are believed to assist planners, decision makers and the farmers at large, through an appropriate media, in minimizing risks, increase efficiency, maximize yield. On the other hand, it is vital tool in monitoring crop/ weather conditions during the growing seasons, to be able to make more realistic assessment of the annual crop production before harvest.

The Agency disseminates ten daily, monthly and seasonal weather reports in which all the necessary current information's relevant to agriculture are compiled.

We are of the opinion that careful and continuous use of this bulletin can benefit to raise ones agro climate consciousness for improving agriculture-oriented practices. Meanwhile, your comments and constructive suggestions are highly appreciated to make the objective of this bulletin a success.

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## አህፅሮት

### እ.ኤ.አ ፌብሩዋሪ 2018

በፌብሩዋሪ 2018 የመጀመሪያው አስር ቀናት በአብዛኛው የሀገሪቱ ክፍሎች ላይ ደረቅና ፀሐያማ የአየር ሁኔታ የተስተዋለ ሲሆን ይህም ሁኔታ ዘግይተው ለተዘፋ ሰብሎች ስብሰባና ድህረ ሰብል ስብሰባቸውን ላላጠናቀቁ አካባቢዎች ምቹ ሁኔታን የፈጠረ ሲሆን በሌላ በኩል በሰሜን ሸዋ፣ በደቡብ ወሎ፤ በደቡብ ትግራይ፤ በምዕራብ ወለጋ፣ በጅማ፣ በምሥራቅ ሸዋ፣ በአርሲ፣ በባሌ፣ በከፋ እንዲሁም በጉራጌ አነስተኛ መጠን ያለው ዝናብ ከመዝነቡ ጋር ተያይዞ የነበረው እርጥበት ለበልግ እርሻ የማሳ ዝግጅት፣ ለእንሰሳት የመጠጥ ውሃ አቅርቦት፣ ለአረንጓዴ ተክሎች ልምላሜና ለግጦሽ ሳር ምቹ ሁኔታዎችን የፈጠረ ነበር።

በፌብሩዋሪ 2018 የሁለተኛው አስር ቀናት መጀመሪያ ላይ ደረቅ ፀሐያማና ሞቃታማ የአየር ሁኔታ በአብዛኛዎቹ የሀገሪቱ ክፍሎች ላይ የተስተዋለ ቢሆንም፤ ከአስፋ ቀናት አጋማሽ በኋላ በምዕራብ፣ በመካከለኛውና በደቡብ ኦሮሚያ፣ በደቡብ ደጋማ ስፍራዎች፣ በደቡብ ብሔር ብሔረሰቦችና ህዝቦች ክልል፣ በአማራ፣ በጥቂት የደቡብ ትግራይና የደቡብ አፋር እንዲሁም የምስራቅ ኢትዮጵያን ጨምሮ አንዳንድ አካባቢዎች ላይ የነበረው ከቀላል እስከ ከባድ ዝናብ ከመዝነቡ ጋር ተያይዞ የነበረው እርጥበት ለበልግ ተጠቃሚ ለሆኑት አካባቢዎች ለማሳ ዝግጅት፣ ለእንሰሳት የመጠጥ ውሃ አቅርቦት፣ ለአረንጓዴ ተክሎች ልምላሜና ለጓሮ አትክልት እንዲሁም ለከብቶች የመኖ አቅርቦት ምቹ ሁኔታዎችን የፈጠረ ነበር።

በፌብሩዋሪ 2018 የሶስተኛው ባለፉት ስምንት ቀናት በአብዛኛው የበልግ ተጠቃሚ አካባቢዎች የበልግ ወቅት መግቢያ እንደመሆኑ መጠን ከቀን ወደ ቀን እየተጠናከረ ከመጣው ዝናብ ሰጪ ክስተት ጋር ተያይዞ በብዙዎች የሀገሪቱ ክፍሎች ላይ የተሻለ የዝናብ መጠንና ሥርጭት ነበራቸው። በዚህም መሠረት የተመዘገበው የዝናብ መጠን ከሀገሪቱ የቦታ ሽፋን አንጻር ሲገመገም፤ ሰሜን ወሎ፣ ጅማ፣ ሰሜን ሸዋ፣ ቦረና፣ አዲስ አበባ፣ ኢሉ-አባቦራ፣ ምስራቅ ሸዋ ፣ አርሲ፣ በባሌ ፣ ደቡብ ወሎና በምስራቅ ጎጃም፣ ደቡብና ምስራቅ ትግራይ፣ ሰገን ህዝቦች፣ ድሬዳዋና ሐረሪ እንዲሁም ጅግጅጋ ጥሩ እርጥበት አግኝተዋል። ይህም የተገኘው እርጥበት የበልግ እርሻን ቀደም ብለው ለሚጀምሩ አካባቢዎች ለማሳ ዝግጅትና ለዘር ጊዜ የእርሻ ስራ እንቅስቃሴ የተገኘውን እርጥበት በማሳቸው ላይ በማቆየት ለሚጠቀሙት አካባቢዎች ጥሩ

አጋጣሚ እንደነበረ ይታመናል። እንዲሁም ከላይ በተጠቀሱት አካባቢዎች ለሚገኙ አርብቶ አደሮችና ከፊል አርብቶ አደሮች ለመጠጥ ውሀና ለግጦሽ ሳር አቅርቦት የጎላ ጠቀሜታ ነበረው።

በአጠቃላይ ባለፈው የፌብሩዋሪ ወር 2018 በተለይም በመጀመሪያውና በሁለተኛው አሥር ቀናቶች በብዙ የሀገሪቱ ክፍሎች ላይ ደረቅ፣ ፀሐያማና ነፋሻማ የአየር ሁኔታ አመዝኖ የቆየ ሲሆን ይህም ሁኔታ ለበልግ ማሳ ዝግጅት አሉታዊ ተፅእኖ ነበረው። በሶስተኛው አሥር ቀናት ግን በበልግ አብቃይ አካባቢዎች ላይ የተስፋፋ ዝናብ እንደነበር እና ለበልግ ለማሳ ዝግጅት ጥሩ አጋጣሚ ነበረው። ከሀገሪቱ የቦታ ሽፋን አንጻር ሲገመገም ከ25-53 ሚ.ሜ የሚደርስ ዝናብ በሰሜን ወሎ፣ በጅማ፣ በሰሜን ሸዋ፣ በቦረና፣ በአዲስ አበባ እንዲሁም በሰገን ህዝቦች ከ3-4 ቀናት ያህል የዘነበ ሲሆን በኢሉ-አባቦሬ፣ በምስራቅ ሸዋ ፣ በአርሲ፣ በባሌ ፣ በደቡብ ወሎና በምስራቅ ጎጃም፣ በደቡብና ምስራቅ ትግራይ፣ በሰገን ህዝቦች፣ በድሬዳዋና ሐረሪ እንዲሁም በጅግጅጋ ደግሞ ከ5-25 ሚ.ሜ የሚደርስ ዝናብ ከ1-3 ቀናት ያህል አግኝተዋል። ይህም ሁኔታ የበልግ እርሻን ቀደም ብለው ለሚጀምሩ አካባቢዎች የማሳ ዝግጅትና ለዘር ጊዜ የእርሻ ስራ እንቅስቃሴ እንዲሁም ከላይ በተጠቀሱት አካባቢዎች ለሚገኙ አርብቶ አደሮችና ከፊል አርብቶ አደሮች ለመጠጥ ውሀና ለግጦሽ ሳር አቅርቦት እንዲሁም ለቋሚ ሰብሎች የውሃ ፍላጎት መሟላት የጎላ ጠቀሜታ ነበረው ።

## **SUMMARY**

### **February 2018**

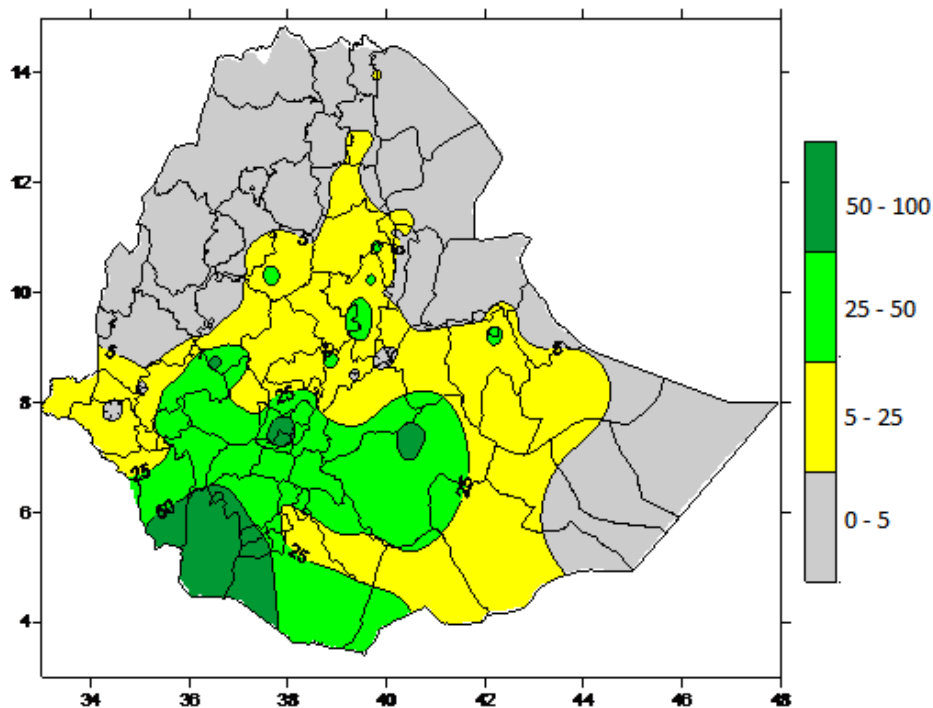
During the first dekad of February 2018 dry and sunny weather condition dominated over most parts of the country. This condition was favorable for those areas that do not finished harvest and post-harvest activities of late sowed crops. On other hand Arsi, Bale, Kafa and some parts of Gurage zones got small amount of rainfall. This rainy and moist condition at above mentioned areas was favorable for land preparation for Belg growing area and the availabilities pastor and drinking water in pastoral and agro-pastoral areas.

During the second dekad of February 2018, According to the information collected from different meteorological stations, during the second dekad of February dry, sunny and hot weather condition has observed across much parts of the country particularly at the earliest time of the dekad. However, after the mid of the dekad the moisture condition was improving over most parts of Belg rain benefiting areas. In line with this, the western and central Oromia, half of SNNPR, Amhara, some places of south Tigray, south part of Afar and eastern part of the country had been experiencing slight to heavy amount of rainfall. This condition could be taken as crucial toward the enhancement of soil moisture and creating conducive condition for land preparation, sowing of crops, germination and development of early planted varieties, and the fulfillment of perennial plant's water need. In addition, it was also positive for the regeneration of pasture and the availability of drinking water for the pastoral and agro pastoral community.

During the third dekad of February 2018, Normally Belg season started after mid February in most parts of Belg growing area of the country. In the current year the rain bearing meteorological phenomenon gradually strengthened from day to day over most part of belg growing areas. In line with this, over north Wello, Jimma, north Shewa, Borena, Addis Ababa, Iluababora, East shewa, Arsi, Bale south Wello, east Gojam, south and east Tigray, Pepole of Segen and Jigjiga, have received in various distribution and amount of rainfall. The situation was positive implication where Belg season land preparation and sowing activates started earlier, the water need of perennial plants and supply of drinking water and pasture over pastoral and agro pastoral areas.

In general, during the month of February 2018, particularly the first and second dekads of ten days dry and windy weather condition prevailed over most parts of the country. This situation might have

negatively affected land preparation of Belg crop. However during third dekads of the month most of Belg growing areas widely received good amount and distribution of rainfall. In line with this north Wello, Jimma, north Shewa, Borena, Addis Ababa and the people of Segen received 25-53 mm of rainfall in three to four days. Iluababora, east Shewa, Arsi, Bale, south Wello, east Gojame, south and east Tigray, people of Segen, Dire dawa, Harary and Jigjiga received 5-25 mm of rainfall in one to three days. The situation might have a positive impact on the area where Belg season land preparation and sowing activates started earlier, water requirement for perennial plants and for the availability of pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agropastoral areas of the country.

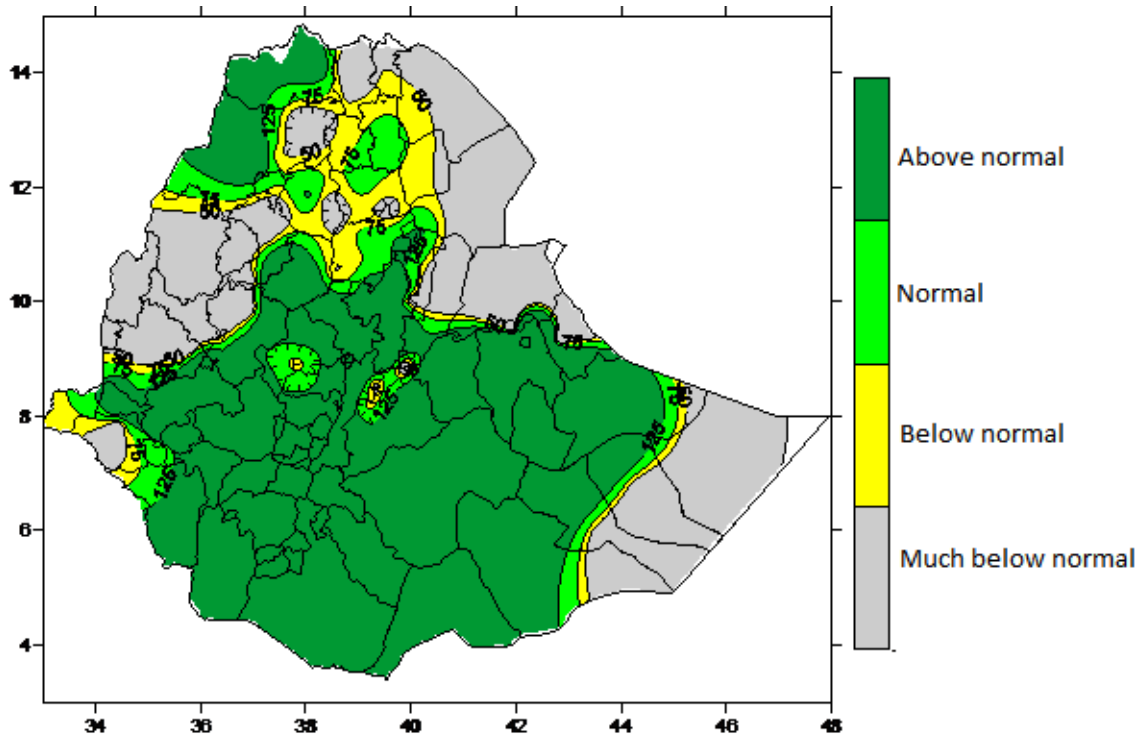


**Fig 1. Rainfall distribution in mm (21 – 28) February 2018**

## **1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT**

### **1.1. Rainfall amount (Fig.1)**

South Omo, south eastern parts of Bench maji, western parts of Segen zone, pocket area of Alaba, Hadya and Bale zone received 50-100 mm of rainfall. Much of Bale Borena, Guji, sidama, welayta, Dawro, Keffa, Bench maji, Sheka, Jima, Gedeo, Ilubabor, Selti, Gurage zone and pocket area of north Shewa, East Gojam and east Harerge received 25-50 mm of rainfall. Gambela, Most parts of central parts of the country, eastern Amhara, southern Tigray and western parts of Somali received 5-25 mm of rainfall. The rest parts of the country experienced little or no rainfall.

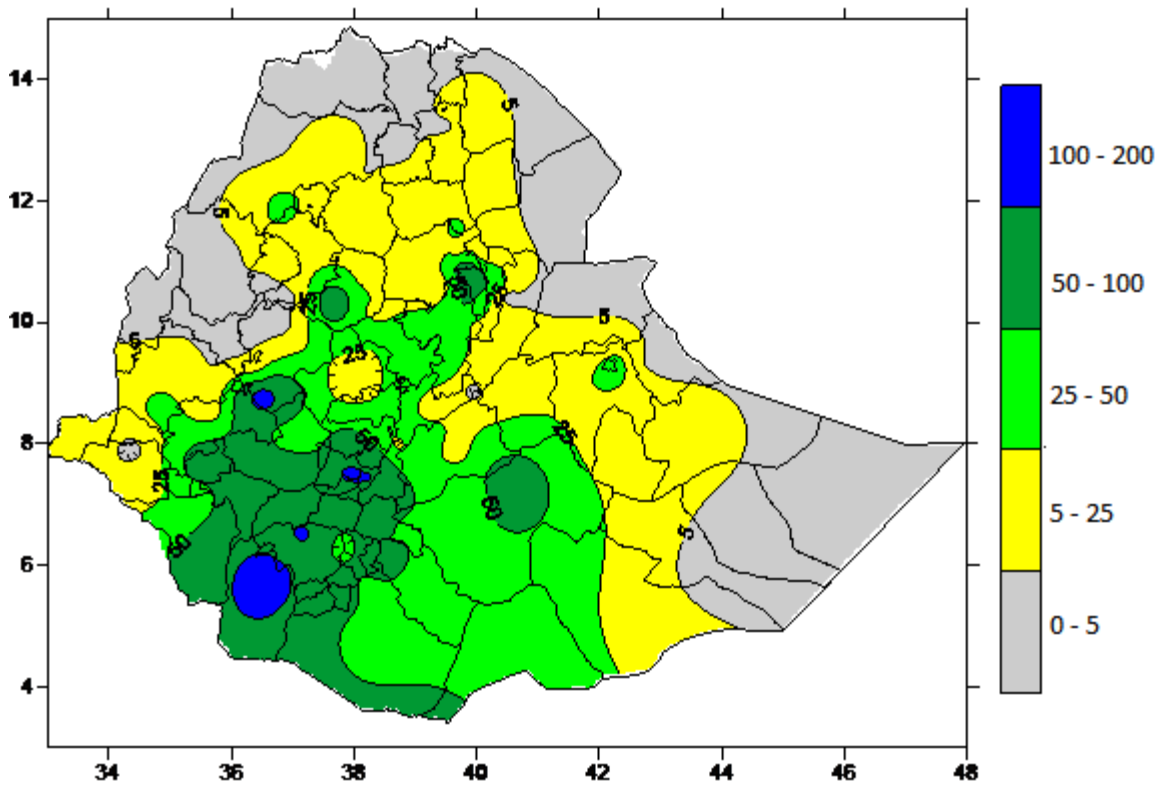


**Fig. 2 Percent of normal rainfall distribution (21 – 28) February 2018**  
**Explanatory notes for the Legend**

- < 50- Much below normal
- 50-75%- Below normal
- 75-125%- Normal
- > 125% - Above normal

**1.1.2 Rainfall Anomaly (Fig. 2)**

Most of southern half, central parts of the country, eastern Amhara, western Tigray and northern Gonder experienced normal to above normal rainfall. The rest parts of the country exhibited much below normal to below normal rainfall.

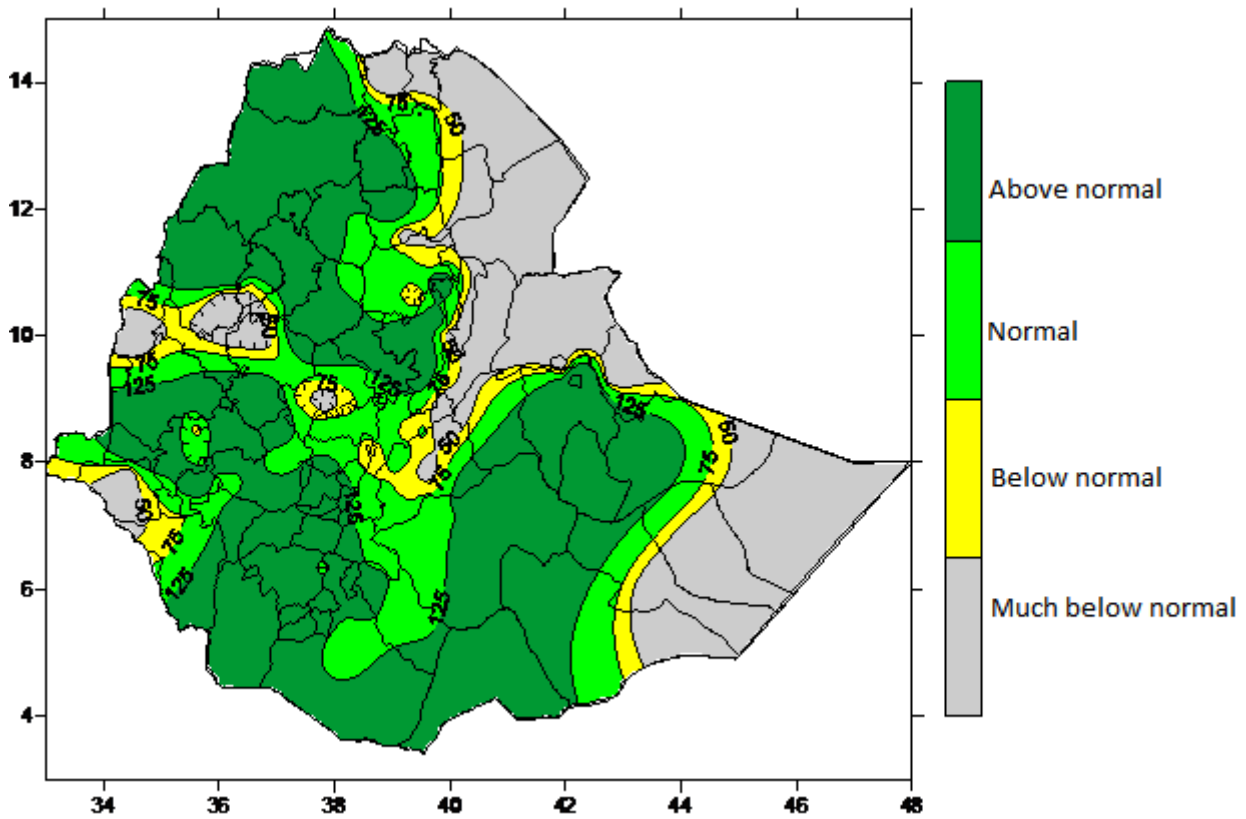


**Fig. 3 Rainfall distribution in mm for the month of February, 2018**

## **1.2 February, 2018**

### **1.2.1 Rainfall distribution (Fig.3)**

Parts of South Omo, Pocket area of Hadya, Gamo Gofa and east Wellega received 100-200 mm of rainfall. Most parts of Dawero, Kefa, Welayta, Hadya, Slti, Sidama Gedee, Segen zone, Most parts of Borena, Bench maji, Sheka, west wellega, Jimma, Gurage and Bale received 25-50 mm of rainfall. Most of central central parts of the country, Borena, Guji, Liben, Bale, Ilubabor, east Wellega and pocket area of eastern harerege, north Wello and north Gonder received 25-50mm of rainfall. Gambela, west Wellega, east wellega, most parts of, Amhara, southern Tigray, western half of Afar and Somali received 5-25 mm of rainfall. The rest parts of the country experienced little or no rainfall



**Fig. 4 Percent of Normal Rainfall distribution for the month of February, 2018**

**Explanatory notes for the Legend:**

**< 50 -Much below normal**

**50-75%- Below normal**

**75-125%- Normal**

**> 125% - Above normal**

**1.2.2 Rainfall Anomaly (Fig. 4)**

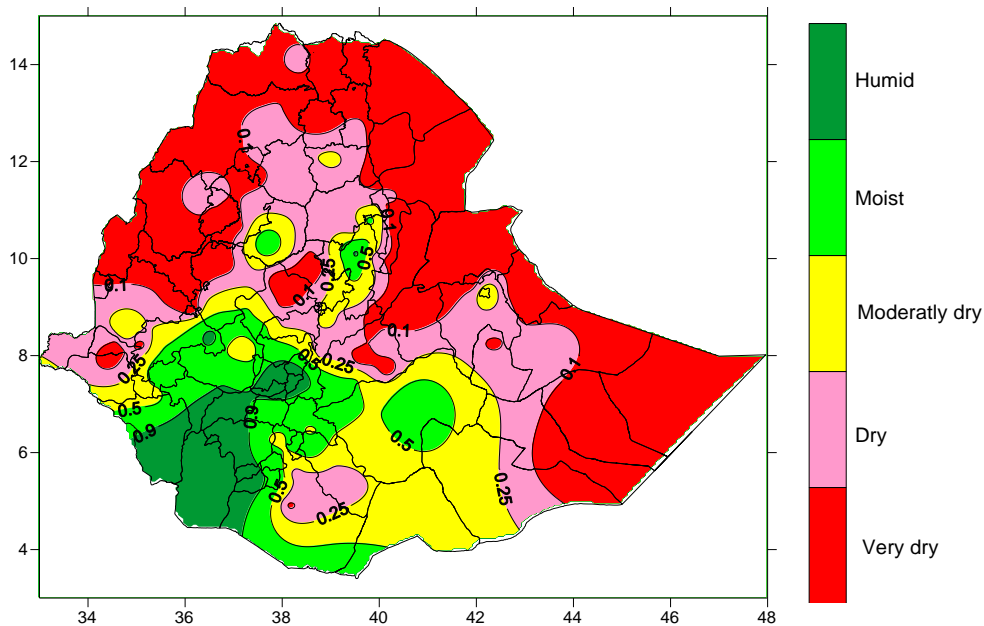
Except Afar, northern and south eastern Somali, some parts of Gambella, parts of Asossa, Metekel and north Shewa experienced normal to above normal rainfall.



## 2. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

### 2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

Generally, February is the first month of Belg season, particularly the first and second dekads of ten days dry and windy weather condition prevailed over most parts of the country. This situation might have negatively affected land preparation of Belg crop. However during third dekads of the month most of Belg growing areas widely received good amount and distribution of rainfall. In line with this north Wello, Jimma, north Shewa, Borena, Addis Ababa and the people of Segen received 25-53 mm of rainfall in three to four days. Iluababora, east Shewa, Arsi, Bale, south Wello, east Gojame, south and east Tigray, people of Segen, Dire dewa, Harary and Jigjiga received 5-25 mm of rainfall in one to three days. The situation might have a positive impact on the area where Belg season land preparation and sowing activates started earlier, water requirement for perennial plants and for the availability of pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agro pastoral areas of the country.



**Fig. 5 moisture status for the month of February, 2018**

As moisture status map shown above, parts of north eastern, southern and south western parts of the country experienced humid to moist moisture condition. This situation was favored Belg season land preparation and sowing activities and availabilities of pasture and drinking water. The rest parts of the country experienced moderately dry to very dry moisture condition.

## **2.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING MONTH**

In normal condition, March month rain bring meteorological starts to intensify and the Belg rain befitting areas starts to get Belg season rainfall and it is time for land preparation and cropping time for Belg crop producing areas. In the coming March 2017 according to meteorological forecasts in the upcoming March month it is expected that rain bring meteorological features will start to strength over Belg rain benefiting area. In line with this Belg rain befitting areas expected to get from slight medium rainfall. Hence the situation has positive advantage for improvement of soil moisture condition, land preparation and sowing activities of Belg agriculture. However the moist air that inter to the country will reduce during the month and their might be dry days in March 2018. This condition may negatively affect the ongoing Belg season agricultural activities. Hence it is advice the water conservation mechanism and soil protection should implemented by concerned bodies.

## DEFNITION OF TERMS

**ABOVE NORMAL RAINFALL:** - Rainfall in excess of 125% of the long term mean

**BELOW NORMAL RAINFALL:** - Rainfall below 75 % of the long term mean.

**NORMAL RAINFALL:** - Rainfall amount between 75 % and 125 % of the long term mean.

**BEGA:** - It is characterized with sunny and dry weather situation with occasional falls. It extends from October to January. On the other hand, it is a small rainy season for the southern and southeastern lowlands under normal condition. During the season, morning and night times are colder and daytime is warmer.

**BELG:** - Small Rainy season that extends from February to May and covers southern, central, eastern and northeastern parts of the country.

**CROP WATER REQUIREMENTS:** - The amount of water needed to meet the water loss through evapotranspiration of a disease free crop, growing under non-restricting soil conditions including soil water and fertility.

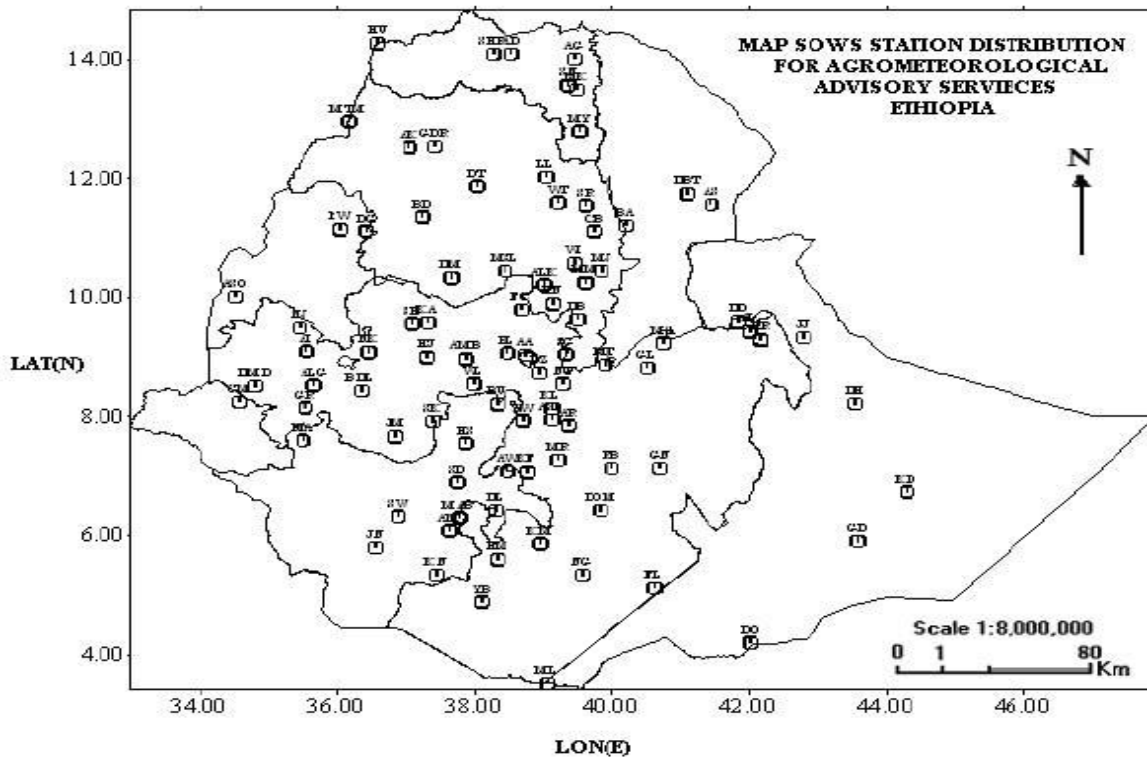
**DEKAD:** - First or second ten days or the remaining days of a month.

**EXTREME TEMPERATURE:** - The highest or the lowest temperature among the recorded maximum or minimum temperatures respectively.

**ITCZ:** - Intertropical convergence zone (narrow zone where trade winds of the two hemispheres meet).

**KIREMT:** - Main rainy season that extends from June to September for most parts of the country with the exception of the southeastern lowlands of the country.

**RAINY DAY:** - A day with 1 or more mm of rainfall amount.



Station	CODE	D. Markos	DM	Hossaina	HS	M/Selam	MSL
A. Robe	AR	D. Zeit	DZ	Humera	HU	Nazereth	NT
A.A. Bole	AA	D/Dawa	DD	Jijiga	JJ	Nedjo	NJ
Adigrat	AG	D/Mena	DOM	Jimma	JM	Negelle	NG
Adwa	AD	D/Odo	DO	Jinka	JN	Nekemte	NK
Aira	AI	D/Tabor	DT	K.Dehar	KD	Pawe	PW
Alemaya	AL	Dangla	DG	K/Mingist	KM	Robe	RB
Alem Ketema	ALK	Dilla	DL	Kachise	KA	Sawla	SW
Alge	ALG	Dm.Dolo	DMD	Koffele	KF	Sekoru	SK
Ambo	AMB	Dubti	DBT	Konso	KN	Senkata	SN
Arba Minch	AM	Ejaji	EJ	Kulumsa	KL	Shambu	SH
Asaita	AS	Enwary	EN	Lalibela	LL	Shire	SHR
Asela	ASL	Fiche	FC	M.Meda	MM	Shola Gebeya	SG
Assosa	ASO	Filtu	FL	M/Abaya	MAB	Sirinka	SR
Awassa	AW	Gambela	GM	Maichew	MY	Sodo	SD
Aykel	AK	Gelemso	GL	Majete	MJ	Wegel Tena	WT
B. Dar	BD	Ginir	GN	Masha	MA	Woliso	WL
Bati	BA	Gode	GD	Mekele	MK	Woreilu	WI
Bedelle	BDL	Gonder	GDR	Merraro	MR	Yabello	YB
BUI	BU	Gore	GR	Metehara	MT	Ziway	ZW
Combolcha	CB	H/Mariam	HM	Metema	MTM		
D. Berehan	DB	Harer	HR	Mieso	MS		
D. Habour	DH	Holleta	HL	Moyale	ML		