

Summery

During the first dekad of July 2018 the seasonal Kiremt rainfall was continued over the kiremt benefiting areas. In line with this most of meher producing areas adopted good soil moisture condition. This situation had benefited the ongoing meher agricultural activities like, land preparation, meher crop sowing, fulfilling the water requirement for long cycle crops, vegetables, late sowed Belg crops in some areas, permanent trees. In addition the situation benefited the pastoral and agro-pastoral in availabilities of drinking water and rangeland greenness that can use as animal food. On the other hand during the first dekad of July 2018 at some areas heavy fall was recorded. The situation has negative effects on agricultural activities to some extent. According to reports from meteorological station on hazards related to extreme events, during July first dekad the heavy fall around Gonder and Azezo areas caused river over flow and affected properties and line of the precedent.

During the second dekad of July 2018, rain bearing meteorological phenomena was strengthening in amount and distribution over most kiremt rain benefiting areas of the country. In line with this, eastern half and central parts of the country received better rainfall in amount and distribution and this situation also slightly extended over south western and northeastern parts of the country. This situation might have positive impact on moisture requirement of different Meher crops found at various phases of growth, perennial plants, general agricultural activities as well as improved pasture and drinking water availability particularly eastern and northeastern pastoral and agro pastoral parts of the country. On the other hand, extreme heavy fall (30.0 – 108) mm in one rainy day was recorded over northern, western, northwestern and central parts of the country. due to the pronounced widespread and intensified rainfall over some places like Gidayana and Tsitiska areas might resulted in crop and perennial plants damage, which were attaining at different phenological stages. Moreover the observed heavy falls over some places of aforementioned areas may cause flood and water logging on crops field in low lying areas as well as in areas where the soil type is clay.

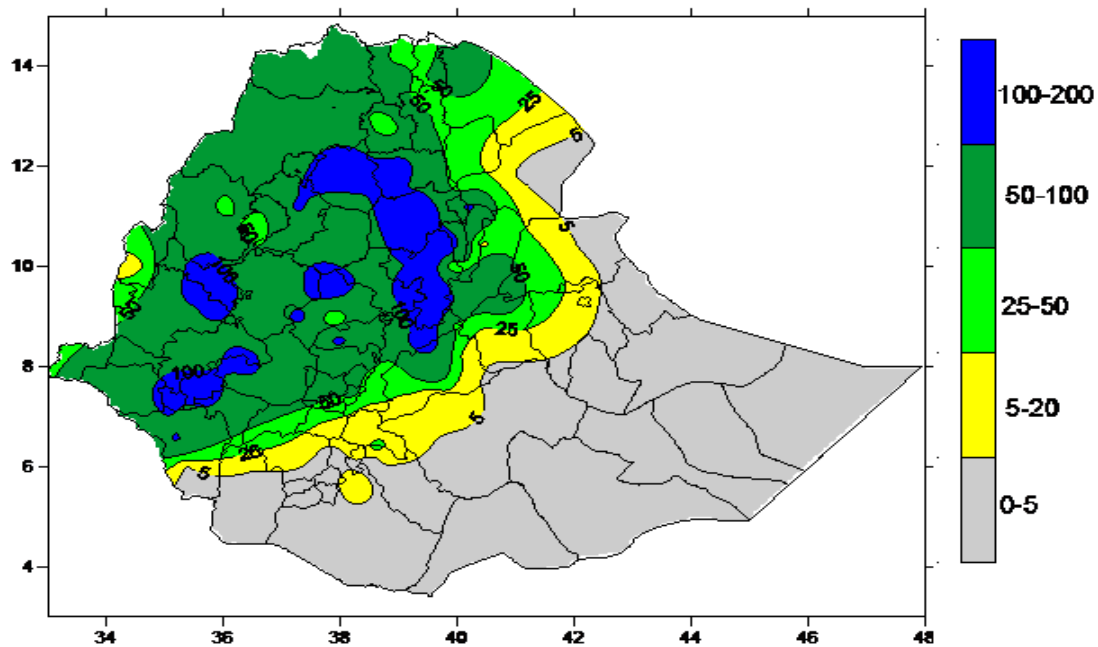


Fig 1. Rainfall distribution in mm (11 – 20 July 2018)

1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

1.1. Rainfall amount (Fig.1)

As indicated on fig 1. Above during second dekad of July 2018 most parts of south Gonder, south Wello, Zone5 of Afar region and some parts of Kamashi, north Wello, north Shewa, Sheka and Godere zones and pocket area of southwest Shewa, west Shewa, Arsi and Bench Maji received more than 100mm of rainfall. Whereas most of western half of the country including, most of Tigray, Amhara and Gambela regions, Western Oromia, Arsi, Jimma, Illubabor, Bench maji, Keffa, Yem, Gurage, Alaba zones and Zone 1 of Afar region received 50-100mm of rainfall. Some part of east of central & South Tigray, south of west Tigray, Zone2 of Afar, some parts of Afar Zone2, 1 and 5, Shinile, west and east Harerge, parts of Arsi, Hadiya, Wellayta, Dawro small areas of Gambela zone3, Asossa, Agew Awi, 25-50mm rainfall. Some part of Afar zone 1, 2&4, Shinele, east and west harerge, southern Arsi, most of Bale region, sidama, GamoGofa, and pocket of south Omo, western Asosa experienced 5-25mm of rainfall. The rest parts of the country experienced less than 5mm or no rainfall.

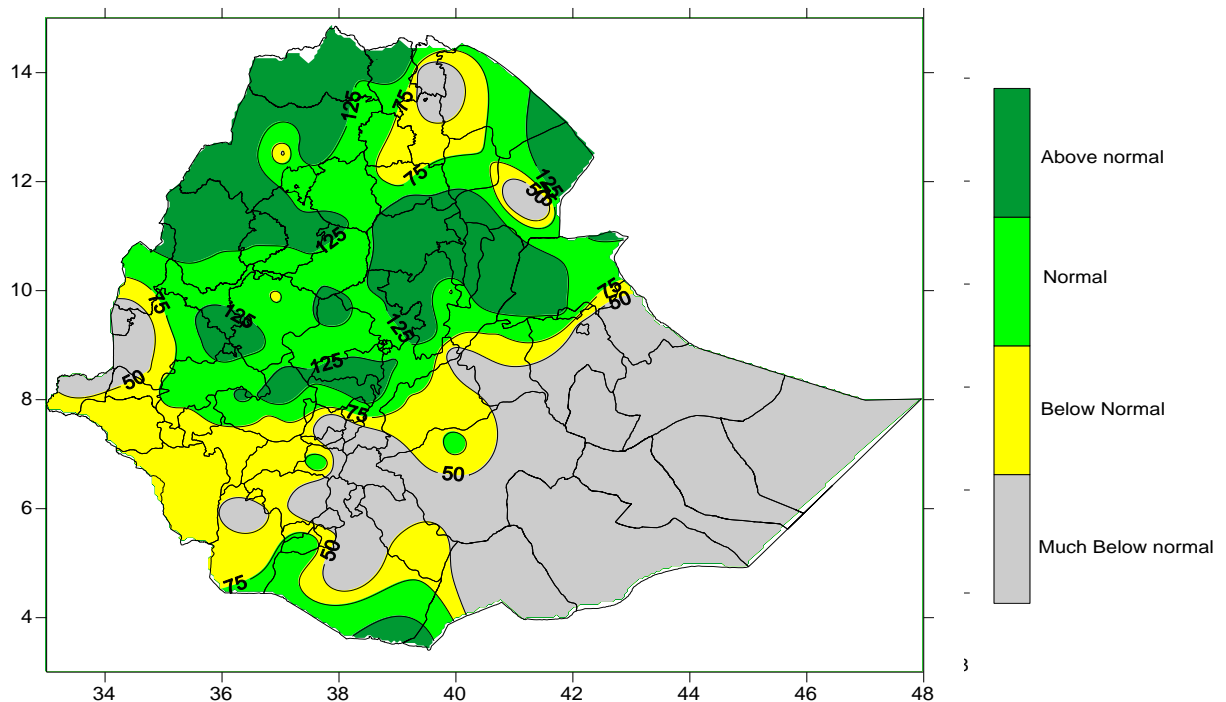


Fig 2. Percent of normal rainfall distribution (11-20 July, 2018)

Explanatory notes for the legend:

< 50 -- Much below normal

50—75% -- below normal

75—125% --- Normal

>125% ---- Above normal

1.2 RAINFALL ANOMALY (Fig.2)

Some parts of west & central Tigray, Oromia special zone, south & north Wello, Bahir Dar, Metekel, Agew Awi, Afar zone, 2, 3 & 5, Shinle, north & south Shewa, North & south Gonder, Assosa, Kamashi, west Wellega, Illubabur and Gurage exhibited normal to above normal rainfall. The rest parts of the country exhibited below normal to much below normal rainfall.

2. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

2.1. VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

During the second dekad of July 2018, rain bearing meteorological phenomena was strengthening in amount and distribution over most kiremt rain benefiting areas of the country. In line with this, eastern half and central parts of the country received better rainfall in amount and distribution and this situation also slightly extended over south western and northeastern parts of the country. This situation might have positive impact on moisture requirement of different Meher crops found at various phases of growth, perennial plants, general agricultural activities as well as improved pasture and drinking water availability particularly eastern and northeastern pastoral and agro pastoral parts of the country. On the other hand, extreme heavy fall (30.0 – 108) mm in one rainy day was recorded over northern, western, northwestern and central parts of the country. due to the pronounced widespread and intensified rainfall over some places like Gidayana and Tsitiska areas might resulted in crop and perennial plants damage, which were attaining at different phenological stages. Moreover the observed heavy falls over some places of aforementioned areas may cause flood and water logging on crops field in low lying areas as well as in areas where the soil type is clay.

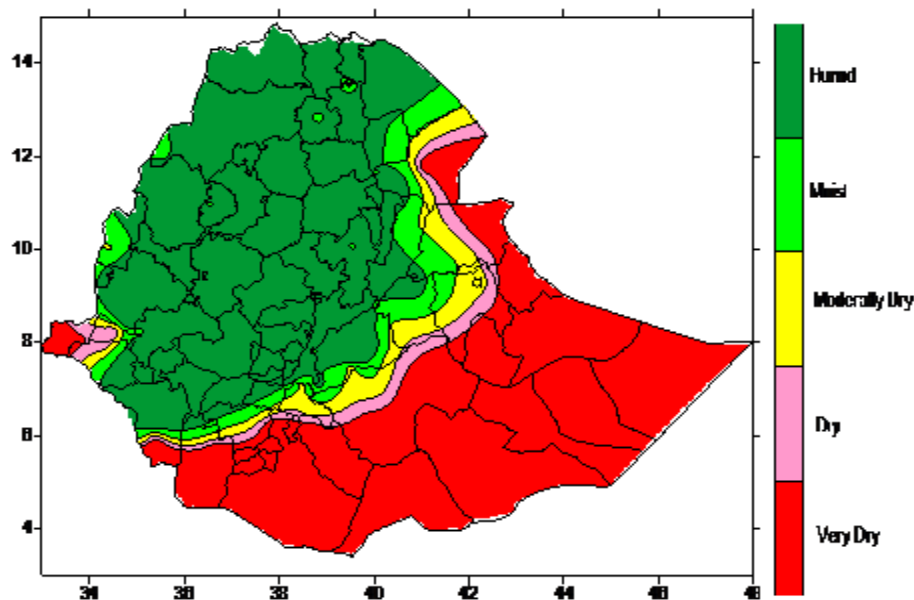


Fig. 3 moisture status Distribution (11 - 20, July 2018)

As indicated on the moisture status map above, Except some parts of northern Somali, southern Afar, western Gambela and southern and south eastern Ethiopia experienced moist to

humid moisture condition which might have favored ongoing agricultural activities, water availability for meher crops found at different stages of growth, perennial plants, drinking water and pasture availability over pastoral and agro pastoral areas.

2.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DECKED

In the coming third dekad of May 2018, the meteorological forecast information indicates that the rainfall activity is expected to continue over most of Kiremt rainfall benefiting areas of the country. In line with this, Oromia region of eastern and western Wellega, Jimma, Illubabur, all zone of Shewa, west & east Harergie, Addis Ababa, Amhara region of west & east Gojam, north & south Gonder, Bahirdar zuria, Awi zone, northern Shewa and south and north Wello, all zones of Tigray, Gambela, Benishangul zones, SNNPR regions of Gurage, Hadya, Wellaita, Dawro, Gamogofa and Sidama zones are likely to get mostly near normal and over some places receive above normal rainfall. This situation is expected to improve moisture requirement of Meher crops found at different phases of growth and perennial plants as well as enables farmers to lately plant Meher crops in the northern parts of the country. Besides, the improvement of moisture condition over eastern and north eastern parts of the country may play significant role to enhance the soil moisture and to ensure the supply of pasture and drinking water in the areas. However, the expected heavy fall over some areas of Meher producing areas would have a negative impact on crop fields' particularly over low-lying areas and anticipated to generate flash floods due to raise water levels across the river banks. Thus, proper attention should be undertaken to minimize the risk in areas where there is no proper drainage system and low-lying areas making furrow and channel in order to reduce the effect of excess rain. Moreover, the expected excess and continuous moisture on crop fields may favor for the infestation of weeds and outbreak of pest and disease. Thus, the concerned personnel should take proper precaution and take regularly visit crop fields' to mitigate the effect. On the other hand Dire dawa and Harary, Afar region of zone 3, 4, and 5, Arsi and Bale zones and Somali region of Jijiga and Shinile zones expected to receive few rainfall and the rest parts of the country are predominantly remain under dry condition. Therefore, farmers and pastoralist who are living in those areas should be properly managing to utilize the available moisture in efficient and effective manner by applying recommended agronomic practices.