

SUMMARY

During the third dekad of June 2010, rain bearing meteorological phenomenon was observed over western half and central parts of the country. As a result better and extended rainfall was exhibit over western and central Oromia, Gambela, Benshangul-Gumuz, most parts of Amhara, Tigray and northern parts of SNNPR and eastern portions of the country. The situation might have favored for Meher agricultural activities, land preparation, sowing activities, perennial crops, and pasture and drinking water availabilities over pastoral and agro-pastoral areas. As a result heavy rainfall with in the range of 30.5-137.5mm recorded in one rainy day in some aforementioned areas this might have caused water logging where the soil is clay this might have a negative impact on the agricultural activities. Therefore, care should be taken in order to minimize crop damages.

During the first dekad of July 2010, better kiremt rain bearing meteorological phenomenon was observed over western and central parts of the country. As a result, Benshangul-Gumuz, western and central Oromia, western Amhara, and Gambela exhibited extended rainfall with heavy rain in some places. The situation might have favored Meher agricultural activities, land preparation and sowing of various Meher crops. Moreover, Tigray, eastern Amhara, southern Afar, highlands of southern Oromia, Dira dawa, Harari, northern Somali and northern SNNPR received rainfall. The situation might have favored Meher agricultural activities, prelim crops and pasture and drinking water availability over pastoral and agro-pastoral areas.

1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

1.1 1-10 JULY 2010

1.1.1 RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.1)

Parts of western Oromia and pocket areas of southern Amhara received 100-200 mm rainfall, parts of western and central Oromia, northern half of Gambela, much of Benshangul-Gumuz and parts of southern Amhara experienced 50-100 mm rainfall. Parts of western, northern and eastern Amhara, central Oromia, northwestern SNNPR, southern half of Gambela and western half of Tigray exhibited 25-50 mm rainfall. Eastern half of Tigray, parts of eastern Amhara, eastern and southern Oromia and southeastern SNNPR received 5-25 mm rainfall. The rest parts of the country experienced little or no rainfall.

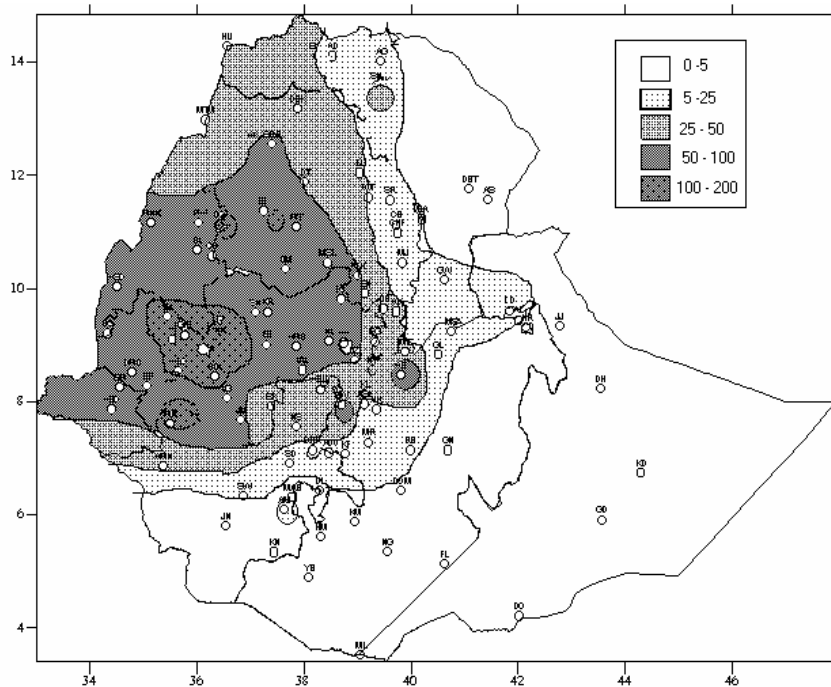


Fig 1.Rainfall distribution in mm (1-10July, 2010)

1.1.2 RAINFALL ANOMALY (Fig. 2)

Gambela, much of Benshangul-Gumuz, parts of western and central and pocket area of southern Oromia, parts of northwestern SNNPR and parts of southern and pocket area of eastern Amhara experienced normal to above normal rainfall. The rest parts of the country exhibited below normal to much below normal rainfall.

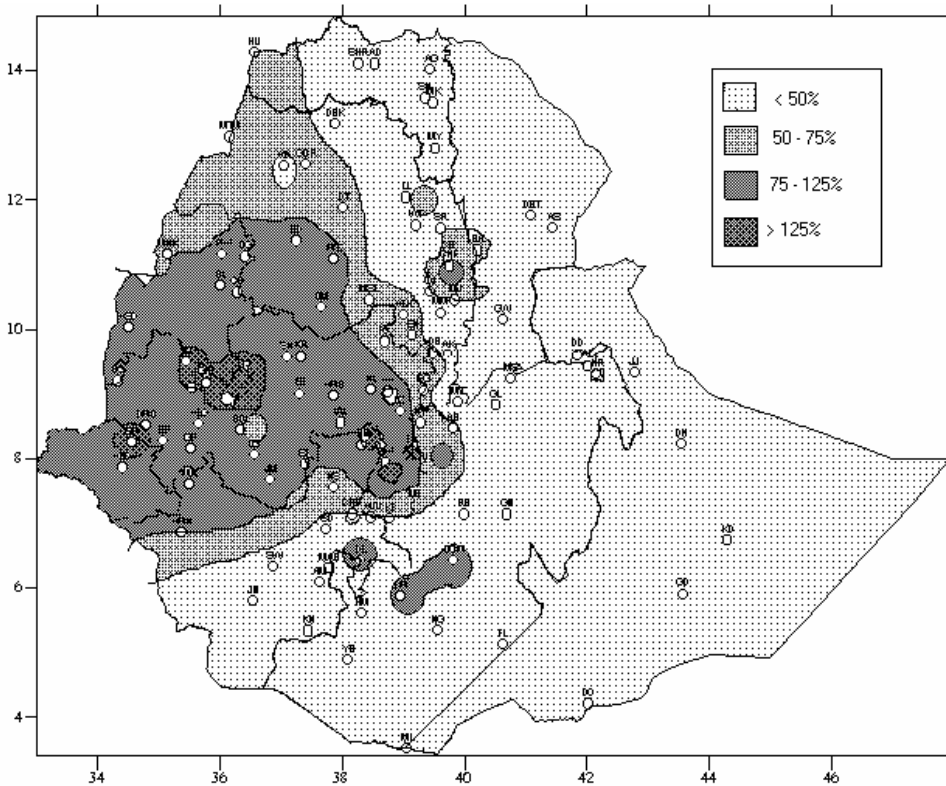


Fig2. Percent of normal rainfall distribution (1-10July, 2010)

Explanatory notes for the legend:

<50 -- Much below normal

50—75% -- below normal

75—125% --- Normal

> 125% ---- Above normal

1.1.3 TEMPERATURE ANOMALY

Some stations over lowlands of the country recorded extreme maximum temperature greater than 35 °C, for almost the entire days of the dekad. Among reporting stations: Nuraera, Shewarobit, Semera, Hummera, Gewane, Dubit, cheffa and Assayita recorded 36, 36.6, 44, 39.9, 45.4, 35.5, 45, 36 and 45 °C respectively. The situation might have a negative impact on the normal growth and development of plants and livestock.

2. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

The better kiremt rain bearing meteorological phenomenon was observed over western and central parts of the country. As a result, Benshangul-Gumuz, western and central Oromia, western Amhara, and Gambela exhibited extended rainfall with heavy rain in some places. The situation might have favored Meher agricultural activities, land preparation and sowing of various Meher crops. Moreover, Tigray, eastern Amhara, southern Afar, highlands of southern Oromia, Dira dawa, Harari, northern Somali and northern SNNPR received rainfall. The situation might have favored Meher agricultural activities, prelim crops and pasture and drinking water availability over pastoral and agro-pastoral areas.

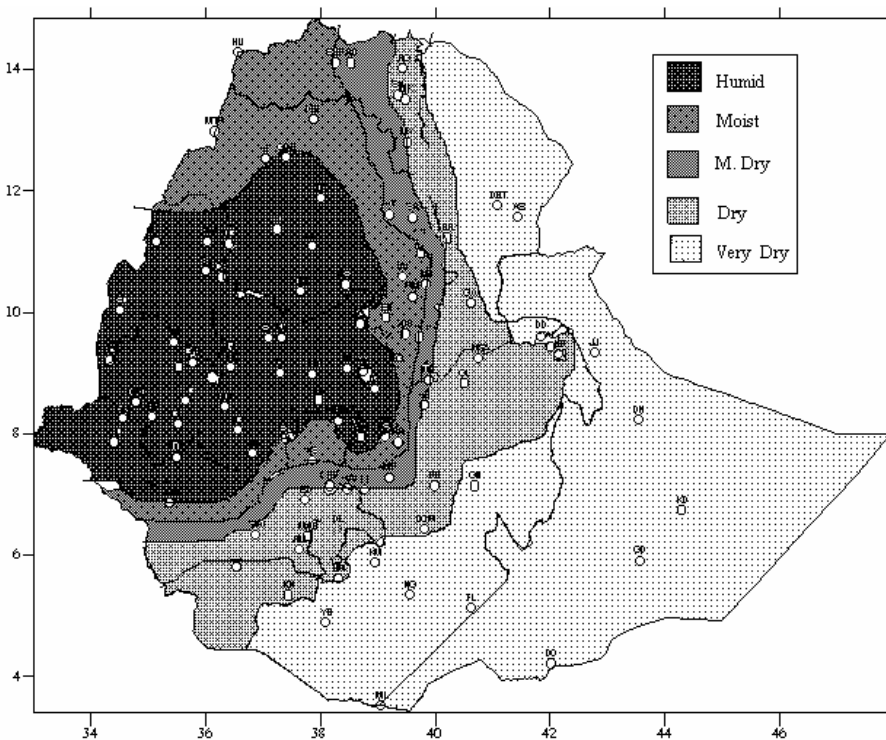


Fig.3 Moisture Status for (1-10 July, 2010)

As indicated on fig.3 above, Benshagul-Gumuz, Gambela, northern SNNPR, western and central Oromia, much of Amhara and western half of Tigray experienced humid to moist condition, While the rest parts of the country exhibited moderately dry to very dry condition. The situation might have favored Mehere agricultural activities as well as availability of drinking water and pasture as well as long cycle crops.

2.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DEKAD

In the coming dekad, rain bearing meteorological phenomenon will be better strengthen over western half and central parts of the country. Generally, most of Benshangul-Gumuz, western and central Amhara, western Tigray, western and central Oromia, Gambela, and northern half of SNNPR, expected normal to above normal rainfall. Moreover, eastern Amhara, eastern Tigray, Afar, and highlands of southern Oromia will expect near normal rainfall. The situation will have a positive impact for Meher agricultural activities, perennial crops and pasture and drinking water availabilities over pastoral and agro-pastoral areas. How ever in the above mentioned areas heavy and consecutive fall might have caused water logging which caused negative impact on the agricultural activities.