

## **SUMMARY**

During the third dekad of May 2010, rain bearing meteorological weather phenomenon strengthened over western half of the country. As a result, western Amhara, Benishangul-gumuz, western Oromia, SNNPR and Gambela including southern high lands received light to heavy rain which covered many part of these areas. This situation might have favored Meher agricultural activities; land preparation sowing of Meher crops, improvement of pastures and water supply for pastoral and agro pastoral areas. Moreover, eastern, southern and central Oromia, eastern Amhara, eastern and southern Tigray and southern Somali exhibited rains in some areas. The situation is also favored Belg crops those not yet matured, pasture, perennial plants and availability of pasture and water over agro pastoral areas.

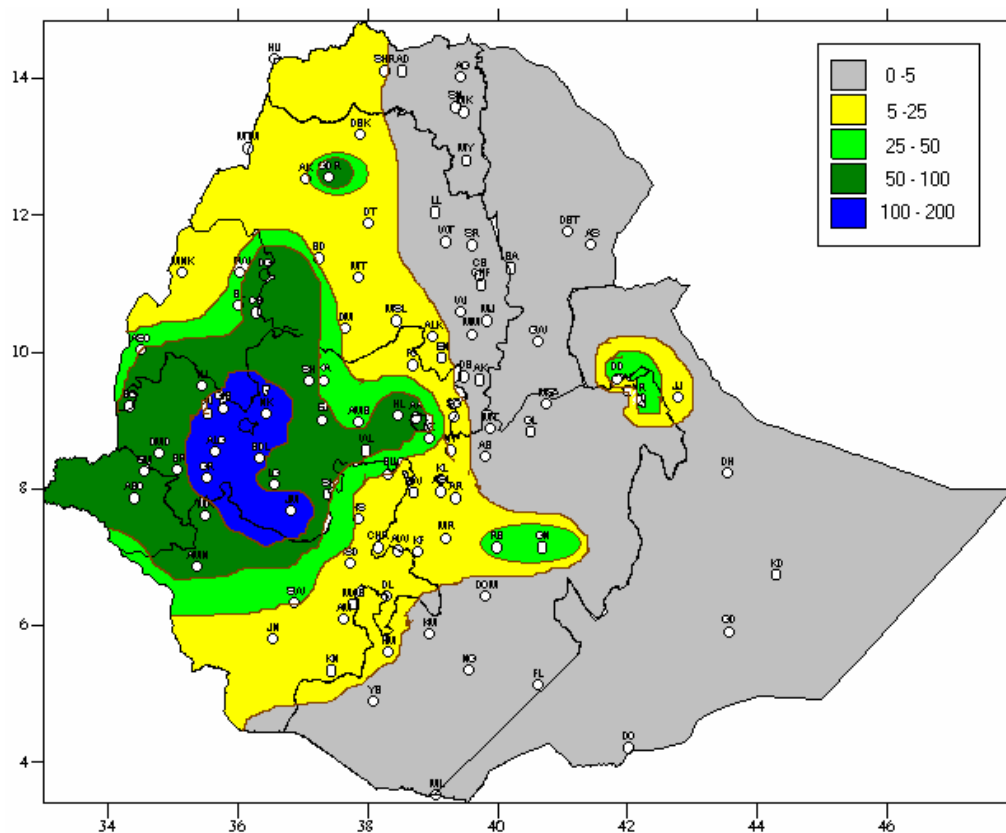
During the first dekad of June 2010, better kiremt rain bearing meteorological phenomenon was observed over western half the country. As a result, better and extended rainfall exhibited over much of Oromia, adjoining areas of SNNPR, Benishangul-Gumuz, southern and western Amhara, Southern high lands and central parts of the country received light to heavy rain for several days. Moreover, parts eastern Oromia and Tigray received light to heavy rain for few days. The situation might have favored Meher agricultural activities, land preparation and sowing of various Meher crops. Moreover, the rain is also useful to full fill water requirement of late sown Belg crops. On the other hand, weather condition prevailed over northeastern, southern, eastern and southern lowlands areas of the country which might have favored matured Belg crops, however, parts of Kiremt rain benefiting areas where Belg crops sown lately might have experienced minor moisture stress.

### **1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT**

#### **1.1 1-10 JUNE 2010**

##### **1.1.1 RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.1)**

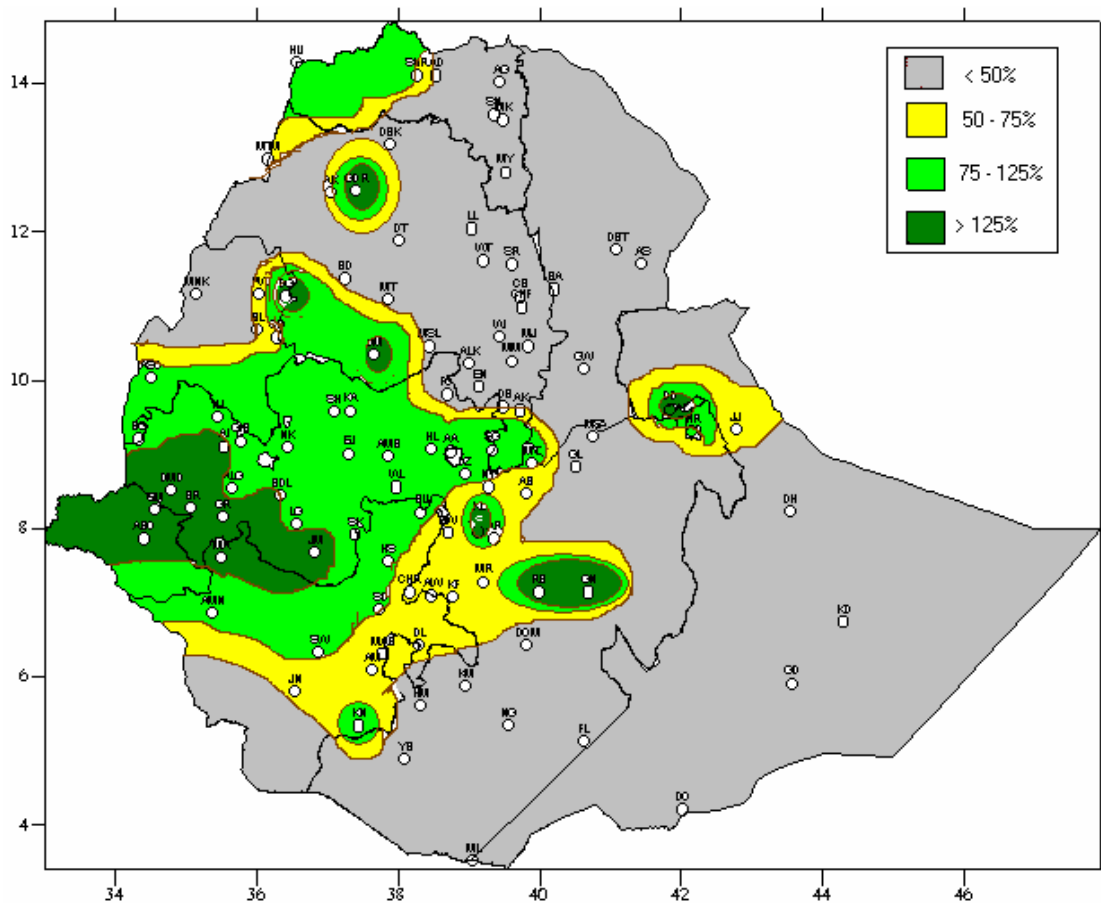
Much of western Oromia received 100-200 mm of rainfall. Gambela, northern part of SNNPR, southern parts of Benishangul-Gumuz, pocket areas of northern and southern parts of Amhara received 50-100 mm of rainfall. Parts of western, southern and eastern Oromia, pocket area of SNNPR received 25-50 mm of rainfall. Most parts of Amhara, southern and southeastern SNNPR, western half of Benishangul-Gumuz, parts of eastern and central Oromia and western half of Tigray received 5-25 mm of rainfall. The rest parts of the country exhibited little or no rain.



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

**1.1.2 RAINFALL ANOMALY (Fig. 2)**

Western, pocket areas of eastern and southern Oromian, northern half of SNNPR, pocket areas of Amhara and Tigray, Gambela and northern half of Benishangul-Gumuz exhibited normal to above normal rain fall. The remaining parts of the country experienced below normal to much below normal rainfall.



**Fig2. Percent of normal rainfall distribution (1-10June, 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: Gewane, Elidar, Semera , Duti, Humera, Aysha, Awash Arba, Metehara , Gambela, Dire Dawa, Nuraera, Shoa Robit ,Gode, Shorkole, Chefira, Maytsebre, Mankush, Mieso, Bati and Majete recorded 46.2, 44.8, 44.5, 43.5, 42.0, 41.0, 41.0, 38.5, 38.5, 37.6, 37.6, 37.3, 36.8, 36.7, 36.5, 36.0, 36, 35.2, 35.0 and 35 °C respectively. On the hand, only Koffele recorded minimum temperature below 5°C for eight days. The situation might have a negative impact on the physiological process, normal situation and performances of plants and livestock.

## 2. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

### 2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

Better kiremt rain bearing meteorological phenomenon was observed over western half the country during the first dekad of June 2010. As a result, better and extended rainfall exhibited over much of Oromia, adjoining areas of SNNPR, Benishangul–Gumuz, southern and western Amhara, Southern high lands and central parts of the country received light to heavy rain for several days. Moreover, parts eastern Oromia and Tigray received light to heavy rain for few days. The situation might have favored Meher agricultural activities, land preparation and sowing of various Meher crops. Moreover, the rain is also useful to full fill water requirement of late sown Belg crops. On the other hand, weather condition prevailed over northeastern, southern, eastern and southern lowlands areas of the country which might have favored matured Belg crops, however, parts of Kiremt rain benefiting areas where Belg crops sown lately might have experienced minor moisture stress.

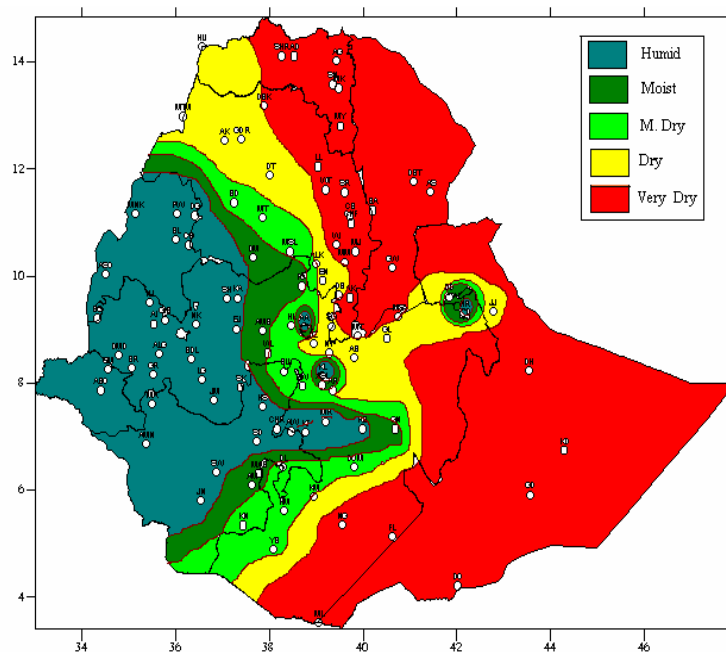


Fig.3 Moisture Status for (1-10 June, 2010)

As indicated on fig.3 above, parts of southwestern and western, pocket area of central and eastern part of the country experienced humid to moderately dry condition. The situation might have favored Meher agricultural activities; land preparation and sowing activities as well as availability of pasture and drinking water over pastoral and agro pastoral areas. On the other hand, dry to very dry condition observed over the rest parts of the country.

## 2.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DEKAD

In the coming 11-20 June 2010, meteorological weather phenomenon indicate better and extended rainfall activities over western half of the country. As a result, western Tigray, western Amhara, central and eastern Oromia, Dire Dawa, Harari, northern Somali, Benshangul-Gumuz, SNNPR and Gambela expected to have normal to above normal rainfall. The situations will favor the on going general agricultural activities; sowing of Meher crops, long cycle crops found at vegetative stages. On the contrary, some areas where previously have received continuous Belg rain, the expected excess rains will cause a negative impact on maturing Belg crops. On the other hand, eastern Tigray, eastern Amhara and Afar expected to have below normal rainfall. Moreover, much of Somali and adjoining areas of southern Oromia will expected to stay under dry weather condition. The situation will cause minor moisture stress over parts of eastern Tigray, eastern Amhara, and Afar particularly in areas where dry weather condition prevailed in the previous dekad.