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Agrometeorological Bulletin

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FOREWARD

This Agro met Bulletin is prepared and disseminated by the Ethiopia Meteorology Institute (EMI). 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 institute 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 በልግ 2026

በመደበኛ ሁኔታ መካከለኛው፤ የሰሜን ከፍተኛ ቦታዎች፤ የምስራቅ ከፍተኛ ቦታዎች፤ ከፊል የመካከለኛው፤ የደቡብ ምዕራብና የደቡብ የሀገሪቱ አካባቢዎች በልግ አብቃይ በመባል ይታወቃሉ። በሰሜን፤ በሰሜን ምሥራቅና በምስራቅ ከአመታዊው ምርት የበልግ ምርት አስተዋፅዖ ከ5-30%፤ በደቡብና ደቡብ ምእራብ ከ 30-60% ይደርሳል። ሰሜን ሸዋ፤ ምስራቅና ምእራብ ሐረርጌ፤ አርሲ፤ ባሌ፤ ሰሜንና ደቡብ ወሎ፤ ቦረናና የደቡብ ብሔር ብሔረሰቦችና ህዝቦች ክልል (ከምባታ፤ ሀድያ፤ ወላይታ፤ ጉለኔ፤ ከፋና ቤንች) የማሣ ዝግጅትና የዘር ጊዜ የሚጀምሩት ከደሴምበር እስከ ፌብሪዋሪ ባለው ጊዜ ውስጥ ነው። በተጨማሪም ወቅቱ የደቡብና ደቡብ ምስራቅ አከባቢዎች የግጦሽ ሣርና ውሃ አቅርቦት የሚሆን ውሃ የሚያከማቹበት ጊዜ ነው።

እ.ኤ.አ በፌብሪዋሪ ወር 2026 አብዛኛዎቹ የምዕራብ አጋማሽ የበልግ ዝናብ ተጠቃሚ የሀገሪቱ አካባቢዎች በተለይም በደቡብ ምዕራብ ኢትዮጵያ፣ በሲዳማ፣ በማዕከላዊ እትዮጵያ፣ መካከለኛውና በምዕራብ ኦሮሚያና በጥቂት የምዕራብ አማራ አካባቢዎች ላይ ከቀላል እስከ ከባድ መጠን ያለዉ እርጥበት አግኝተዋል ። ከዚህም ጋር ተያይዞ በወሩ የተገኘው እርጥበት የበልግ ሰብል በስፋት አምራች ለሆኑት ለደቡብ ምእራብና ለመካከለኛው የሀገሪቱ አካባቢዎች ላይ የተሻለ የአፈር ውስጥ እርጥበት እንዲኖራቸው ያስቻለ ከመሆኑ ጋር ተያይዞ የማሳ ዝግጅት ለማድርግ እና የተለያዩ ሰብሎችን ለመዝራት ከፍተኛ አዎንታዊ ሚና ነበረው ። በተጨማሪም ለቋሚ ተክሎች የውሃ ፍላጎት መሟላት፣ ለመጠጥ ውሃ እና ለግጦሽ ሳር አቅርቦት የጎላ ሚና የነበረው ሲሆን በተለይም ውሃ አጠር ለሆኑት አካባቢዎች የዝናብ ውሃን ለማሰባሰብና ለማከማቸት መልካም አጋጣሚን የፈጠረ ነበረ። በሌላ በኩል በማስራቅና በሰሜን ምስራቅ፣ በደቡብ ምሥራቅ እና በደቡብ የሀገሪቱ አካባቢዎች ላይ የነበረው የእርጥበት እጥረት በወቅቱ አጠቃላይ የግብርና ሥራ እንቅስቃሴና በአርብቶ አደሩ አካባቢ የእንሰሳት መኖና ውኃ አቅርቦት ላይ አሉታዊ ተፅዕኖ ነበረዉ።

እ.ኤ.አ በማርች ወር 2026 ወር አብዛኛዎቹ የበልግ ዝናብ ተጠቃሚ የሀገሪቱ አካባቢዎች የተስፋፋ እርጥበት አግኝተዋል። ይህም ሁኔታ በተለይም የበልግ ሰብል አብቃይ በሆኑት የሀገሪቱ አካባቢዎች ላይ የተሻለ የአፈር ውስጥ እርጥበት እንዲኖራቸው ያስቻለ ከመሆኑ ጋር ተያይዞ የማሳ ዝግጅት ለማድርግ እና የተለያዩ ሰብሎችን ለመዝራት አዎንታዊ ሚና የነበረው ሲሆን አስቀድመው ለተዘሩ የበልግ ወቅት ሰብሎችም ሆነ በአካባቢዎቹ ለሚበቅሉ ቋሚ ተክሎች በጎ ጎን ነበረው። በተጨማሪም ከመጀመሪያው አስር

ቀን በኋላ ወደ ደቡብና ደቡብ ምስራቅ የሃገሪቱ ስፍራዎች ተስፋፍቶ የነበረው እርጥበት ለአርብቶ አደሮችና ከፊል አርብቶ አደር አካባቢዎች ለመጠጥ ውኃና ለግጦሽ ሳር አቅርቦት ከፍተኛ ጠቀሜታ ነበረው። በአንፃሩም በብዙ ሥፍራዎች ላይ በ24 ሰዓት ውስጥ መጠኑ ከ30 ሚ.ሜ የበለጠ ከባድ ዝናብ ነበራቸው። ከዚሁም ጋር ተያይዞ የተገኘው ከፍተኛ መጠን ያለው እርጥበት በተለይም ውሃ አጠር ለሆኑት አካባቢዎች የዝናብ ውሃን ለማሰባሰብና ለማከማቸት መልካም አጋጣሚን የፈጠረ ቢሆንም በደቡብና በደቡብ ምእራብ በተለይም በጋሞ ዞን ከባድ ዝናብ ከመኖሩ ጋር ተያይዞ የወንዞች መሙላትና የመሬት መንሸራተት በመከሰቱ በእንሰሳት፣ በሰዎችና በንብረት ላይ አሉታዊ ተፅዕኖ ነበረው ።

እ.ኤ.አ በኤፕሪል 2026 ወር በምዕራብ፣ በሰሜን ምእራብ፣ በደቡብ፣ በደቡብ ምዕራብ፣ በደቡብ ምስራቅ እንዲሁም በተወሰኑ የሰሜን ምሥራቅ የበልግና የመኸር ሰብል አብቃይ አካባቢዎች ላይ የነበረው ከቀላል እስከ ከባድ መጠን ያለው እርጥበት በተለያየ የእድገት ደረጃ ላይ ለሚገኙ የበልግ ሰብሎች እንዲሁም ለመሀር ሰብል አብቃይ አካባቢዎች የረጅም ጊዜ ሰብሎችን ለመዝራትና ለቋሚ ሰብሎች የውሀ ፍላጎት መሟላት አዎንታዊ ሚና ነበረው። በተጨማሪም ለመጠጥ ውሃና ለግጦሽ ሳር አቅርቦት ጥሩ አጋጣሚን የፈጠረ የነበርው ሲሆን የተፈጥሮና ሰው ሰራሽ የውሃ ማጠራቀሚያዎችን ከማጎልበት አንጻር የጎላ ጠቀሜታ ነበረው። በሌላ በኩል በተለይም በወሩ የመጨረዎቹ አስር ቀናት በደቡብ ምዕራብ አካባቢዎች ከነበረው ከባድ መጠን ያለው እርጥበት ጋር ተያይዞ የመሬት መንሸራተት በመከስቱ በተወሰኑ ሰብሎች ላይ አሉታዊ ጎን የነበረው ቢሆንም በአጠቃላይ በወሩ የነበረው እርጥበት ለእርሻ ሥራ እንቅስቃሴ የጎላ አስተዋፅኦ ነበረው ።

እ.ኤ.አ በሜይ ወር 2026 በምዕራብ፣ በደቡብ ምዕራብ፣ በሰሜን፣ በሰሜን ምዕራብ፣ በደቡብ እና በመካከለኛዉ የሀገሪቱ ክፍሎች ላይ ከእርጥበታማ እስከ በጣም እርጥበታማ መጠን ያለው የአፈር ዉስጥ እርጥበት ነበራቸው። ይህም ሁኔታ የበልግ አብቃይ እና ተጠቃሚ የሀገሪቱ ክፍሎች ተዘርተው ፍሬ በማፍራት እና በተለያየ የእድገት ደረጃ ላይ ለሚገኙ የበልግ ሰብሎች እድገትና ፍሬ ለማፍራት የጎላ ጠቀሜታ ነበረው ። እንዲሁም ከኤፕሪል ጀምሮ ለሚዘሩ እንደ ቦቆሎና ማሽላ ለመሳሰሉ የረጅም ጊዜ የመኸር ሰብሎች እድገትና ለመኸር ሰብሎች የማሳ ዝግጅት ለማከናወን በቂ የአፈር ውስጥ እርጥበት እንዲኖር ያስቻለ ሲሆን በተጨማሪም ለቋሚ ተክሎች የውሀ ፍላጎት መሟላት እንዲሁም ለአርብቶ አደሮችና ከፊል አርብቶ አደር አካባቢዎች ለግጦሽ ሳር እና ለመጠጥ ዉሃ አቅርቦት መሻሻል አመቺ ሁኔታን የፈጠረ ነበር ።

በአጠቃላይ የበልግ 2026 ወቅት የነበረውን የእርጥበት ሁኔታ አጀማመር፣ መጠንና ስርጭት ስንመለከት በተወሰኑ የምዕራብ አጋማሽ የበልግ ዝናብ ተጠቃሚ የሀገሪቱ አካባቢዎች በተለይም በደቡብ ምዕራብ ኢትዮጵያ፣ በሲዳማ፣ በማዕከላዊ ኢትዮጵያ፣ መካከለኛውና በምዕራብ ኦሮሚያ እና በጥቂት የምዕራብ አማራ አካባቢዎች ላይ የበልግ ወቅት ዝናብ አስቀድሞ የጀመረ ሲሆን ከመጠንም አንጻር ከቀላል እስከ ከባድ መጠን ያለዉ እርጥበት አግኝተዋል። ሆኖም በፌብርዋሪ ወር በአብዛኛው የሀገሪቱ አካባቢዎች ላይ ደረቃማ የአፈር ውስጥ እርጥበት የተስተዋለ ሲሆን ይህም ሁኔታ ምንም እንኳን የበልግ እርሻ እንቅስቃሴን ቀድመው ለሚጀምሩ አካባቢዎች በተወሰነ መልኩ አሉታዊ ተጽዕኖ ቢኖረውም በበጋ ወቅት በመስኖ የሚለሙና የደረሱ ሰብሎችን ለመሰብሰብ አዎንታዊ ሚና ነበረው። ሆኖም ከፌብርዋሪ በኋላ በነበሩት ተከታታይ የበልግ ወራቶች በአብዛኛው የበልግ አብቃይ የሀገሪቱ ክፍሎች ላይ በመጠንም ሆነ በስርጭት ረገድ የነበረው እርጥበት የማሳ ዝግጅት ለማከናወንም ሆነ ዘር ለመዝራት አዎንታዊ ሚና የነበረው ሲሆን ቀደም ብለው ለተዘሩ የበልግ ሰብሎች፣ ለቋሚ ተክሎችና የጓሮ አትክልቶች የውሃ ፍላጎት መሟላት ጠቀሜታ ነበረው። እንዲሁም የአርብቶ አደሮችና ከፊል አርብቶ አደር አካባቢዎች የመጠጥ ውሃና የግጦሽ ሳር አቅርቦት ጠቀሜታ የነበረው ሲሆን በተለይም የGui/Genna ዝናብ በሚጠበቅባቸው የደቡብ እና የደቡብ ምስራቅ አርብቶ አደሮችና ከፊል አርብቶ አደር አካባቢዎች የበልግ ወቅት አዝዕርቶችን ለመዝራት በጎ ጎን ነበረው። በተጨማሪም ከኤፕሪል ወር ጀምሮ ወደ ምዕራብ አጋማሽ የሀገሪቱ ክፍሎች ተስፋፍቶ የነበረው እርጥበት የረጅም ጊዜ ሰብሎችን ለመዝራት የማሳ ዝግጅት ለማከናወን አመቺ ሁኔታን የፈጠረ ነበር። በሌላም በኩል በአንዳንድ የሀገሪቱ ሥፍራዎች ላይ በ24 ሰዓት ውስጥ መጠኑ ከ30 ሚ.ሜ የበለጠ ከባድ ዝናብ የተመዘገበባቸው ሲሆን ይህም ሁኔታ እርጥበት አጠር ለሆኑት አካባቢዎች የዝናብ ውሃን ለማሰባሰብና ለማከማቸት መልካም አጋጣሚን የፈጠረ ነበረ። ሆኖም ግን በበልግ ወቅት ከነበረው ከባድና ተከታታይ ዝናብ ጋር ተያይዞ ቅጽበታዊ ጎርፍ፣ የበረዶ ክስተት፣ የመሬት መንሸራተት እንዲሁም የሰብል በሽታና ተባይ በተለያዩ የሀገሪቱ ክፍሎች የተከሰተ ሲሆን ለመጥቀስም ያህል በወላይታ፣ በጋርዱላ፣ በደቡብ ኦሞ፣ በምዕራብ ሃረርጌ፣ በውጫሌ፣ በእንደርታ፣ በሃላባ፣ በጋሞ፣ በጌዲዮ፣ በፋፈን፣ በጃራ እና ጎሎልቻ የተለያየ መጠን ያለው ጉዳት በሰብል እና በእንስሳት ምርታማነት ላይ እንዳስከተለ መረጃዎች ያመለክታሉ።

SUMMARY

BELG 2026

Under normal conditions, the central areas, northern highlands, eastern highlands, parts of the central region, and the southwestern and southern parts of the country are known as Belg (short rainy season) growing areas. The contribution of the Belg harvest to the annual production ranges from 5–30% in the north, northeast, and east, while it reaches 30–60% in the south and southwest. In North Shewa, East and West Hararghe, Arsi, Bale, North and South Wollo, Borena, and the southern Ethiopia (Kembata, Hadiya, Wolaita, Gurage, Keffa, and Bench), land preparation and sowing periods begin between December and February. Additionally, this season is a time when the southern and southeastern areas accumulate water for pastoral grazing and water supply.

During the month of February, 2026 most Belg rainfall benefiting areas located in the western half of the country received light to heavy moisture. This was particularly in Southwestern Ethiopia, Sidama, Central Ethiopia, central and western Oromia, and in some parts of western Amhara. The moisture received during the month significantly improved soil moisture conditions in the major Belg growing areas of the southwest and central parts of the country, as well as in northwestern areas where long-cycle crops are sown early. As a result, the prevailing conditions played a substantial positive role in facilitating land preparation and the planting of various crops. The enhanced soil moisture was especially favorable for the timely establishment of Belg crops and supported expanded agricultural activities in these regions. In addition, the moisture availability contributed to meeting the water requirements of perennial crops. It also improved the availability of drinking water and pasture availabilities. Notably, in moisture-stressed areas, the rainfall provided a valuable opportunity for rainwater harvesting and water storage practices, which are critical for strengthening resilience against subsequent dry spells. Conversely, moisture deficits observed in parts of the eastern and northeastern regions, as well as in southeastern and southern areas of the country, had adverse effects on overall agricultural operations during the period. The shortage of moisture negatively affected crop production activities and constrained livestock feed and water availability in pastoral and agro-pastoral areas.

During the month of March 2026, most of the country’s areas benefiting from the Belg rains received widespread moisture. This situation, especially in the areas of the country that grow Belg crops, had better soil moisture. This situation had a positive role in preparing the fields

and sowing various crops, and had a positive effect on both the already sown Belg crops and the perennial plants growing in the areas. In addition, the moisture that spread to the south and southeast of the country after the first ten days was of great importance for the provision of drinking water and pasture grass for pastoralists and semi-pastoralists. On the other hand, the high amount of moisture obtained in connection with the presence of more than 30 mm of rainfall in 24 hours in many places created a good opportunity for the collection and storage of rainwater, especially in the water-scarce areas, but it had a negative impact on livestock, people and property due to the filling of rivers and landslides associated with the presence of heavy rainfall in the south and southwest, especially in the Gamo zone.

During the month of April 2026, the light to heavy rainfall that occurred over the Belg- and Meher-crop-producing areas of the western, northwestern, southern, southwestern, southeastern, and some northeastern parts of the country played a positive role in supporting Belg crops at various stages of growth. It also facilitated the planting of long-cycle crops in Meher-producing areas and helped meet the water requirements of perennial crops. In addition, the rainfall created favorable conditions for the availability of drinking water and grazing pasture, and it provided significant benefits in replenishing both natural and man-made water storage facilities. On the other hand, particularly during the last ten days of the month, the heavy rainfall experienced in southwestern areas triggered landslides, which had adverse effects on some crops. Nevertheless, overall, the rainfall received during the month made a substantial contribution to agricultural activities and farming operations.

During the month of May 2026, the western, southwestern, northern, northwestern, southern, and central parts of the country experienced moist to very moist soil moisture conditions. This condition was of significant benefit to the growth and fruiting of Belg crops, which are at various stages of development in the Belg-producing and utilizing areas of the country. Furthermore, it ensured adequate soil moisture for land preparation for Meher crops and for the growth of long-cycle Meher crops like maize and sorghum, which have been sown since April. It also created favorable conditions for meeting the water requirements of perennial plants, as well as improving pasture and drinking water supply in pastoral and agro-pastoral areas.

In general, when looking at the onset, amount, and distribution of the moisture conditions during the 2026 Belg season, the Belg rains started early in certain western-half Belg-beneficiary areas of the country particularly in Southwest Ethiopia, Sidama, Central Ethiopia,

Central and Western Oromia, and a few areas of Western Amhara receiving light to heavy amounts of moisture. However, in the month of February, dry soil moisture conditions were observed across most parts of the country. Although this had a somewhat negative impact on areas that start their Belg farming activities early, it played a positive role in harvesting mature crops cultivated through irrigation during the Bega season.

Nevertheless, during the consecutive Belg months following February, the moisture amount and distribution across most Belg-producing areas of the country had a positive impact on both field preparation and sowing. It was also beneficial for meeting the water requirements of early-sown Belg crops, perennial plants, and vegetables. Furthermore, it supported the drinking water and pasture supply in pastoral and semi-pastoral areas, specifically providing a favorable opportunity for sowing Belg season crops in the southern and southeastern pastoral and semi-pastoral areas where the Gu/Genna rains are expected. Additionally, the moisture that expanded toward the western half of the country starting from April created conducive conditions for field preparation to sow long-cycle crops.

On the other hand, heavy rainfall exceeding 30 mm within 24 hours was recorded in some locations of the country, which created a good opportunity for moisture-stressed areas to harvest and store rainwater. However, associated with the heavy and continuous rainfall during the Belg season, flash floods, hailstorms, landslides, as well as crop diseases and pests occurred in various parts of the country. Reports indicate that varying degrees of damage were inflicted on crop and livestock productivity in areas such as Wolaita, Gardula, South Omo, West Hararghe, Wuchale, Enderta, Halaba, Gamo, Gedeo, Fafan, Jara, and Gololcha.

Belg 2026 Moisture Status Map

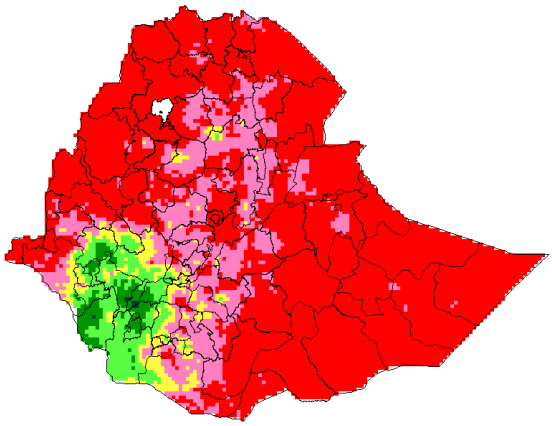


Figure 1. Moisture status for the month of February 2026

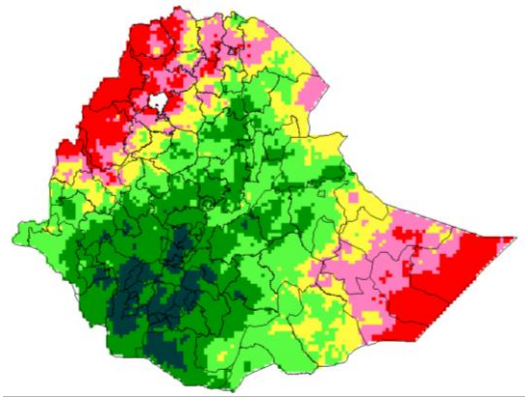


Figure 2. Moisture status for the month of March 2026

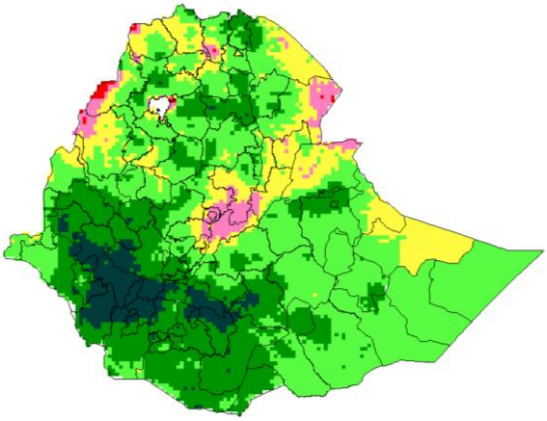


Figure 3. Moisture status for the month of April 2026

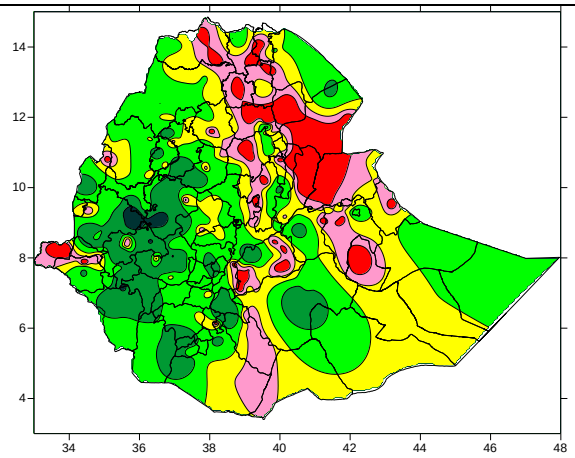
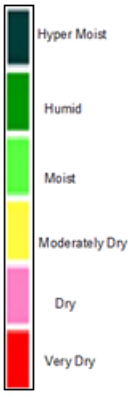


Figure 4. Moisture status for the month of May 2026



Vegetation Greenness (NDVI) in fraction Belg 2026

February 2026	March 2026	April 2026	May 2026

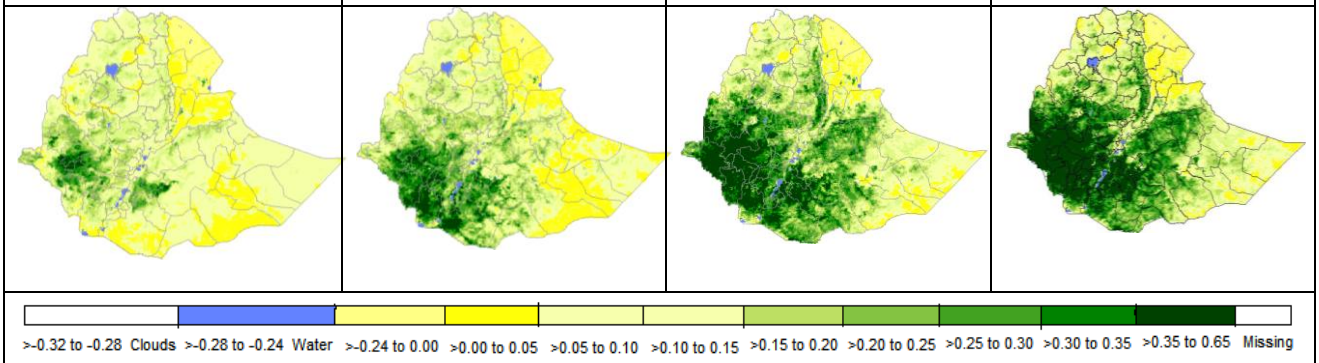


Fig. 5. Vegetation Greenness (NDVI) in fraction (February 2026 – May 2026)

Rangeland WRSI in % - Bega 2026

February 2026	March 2026	April 2026	May 2026

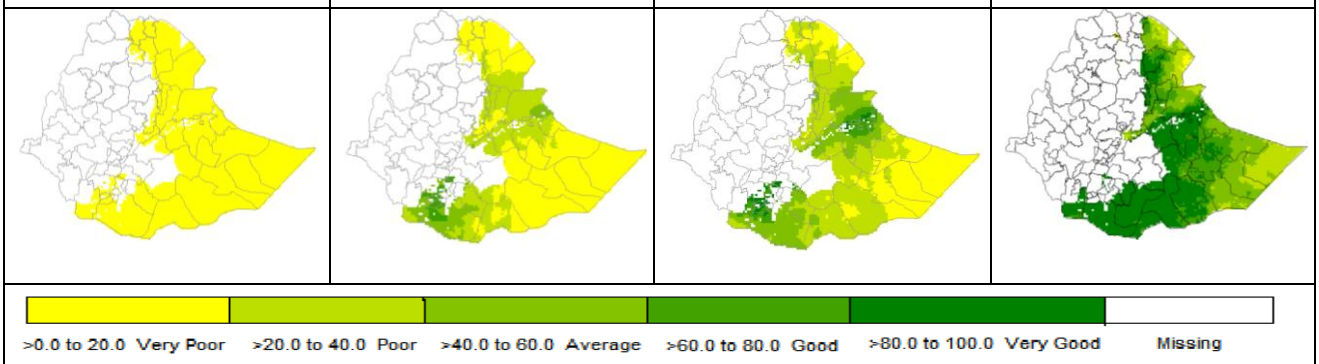


Fig.6. Rangeland WRSI in % Bega (Feburary 2026 - May 2026)

1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

1.1. Rainfall amount (21 – 31) May 2026

During the 3rd dekad of May 2026, the rainfall distribution exhibited ranging from 100–200 mm were observed in pocket areas of North Gonder, Metekel, East Gojjam, West Wellega, Gambella Zone 1&2 , Illubabor , Keffa, Bench Maji, Basketo, Gurage, Siliti, Alaba and pocket areas of West Hararghe zones. Areas receiving 50–100 mm rainfall extended across much of western and central Ethiopia, North Gonder, Metekel, Bahirdar, some part of West and East Wellega Zones, Bench Maji, Keffa, Basketo, Godere, Dawero, Hadiya and West Hararghe Zones. Moreover, parts North and South Gonder, some parts of Metekel, Bahir Dar West and East Gojjam, tip areas of West and East Wellega, Assosa, Tango, Kamashi, West and South West Shewa, Gambella Zone3, Sheka, South Omo, Derashe, Hadiya, Arsi, Liben, Bale, Afder, North and South Hararghe, Jijiga, North and South Wello zones are received 5-25 mm rainfall. The rest part of the country was received <5mm rainfall.

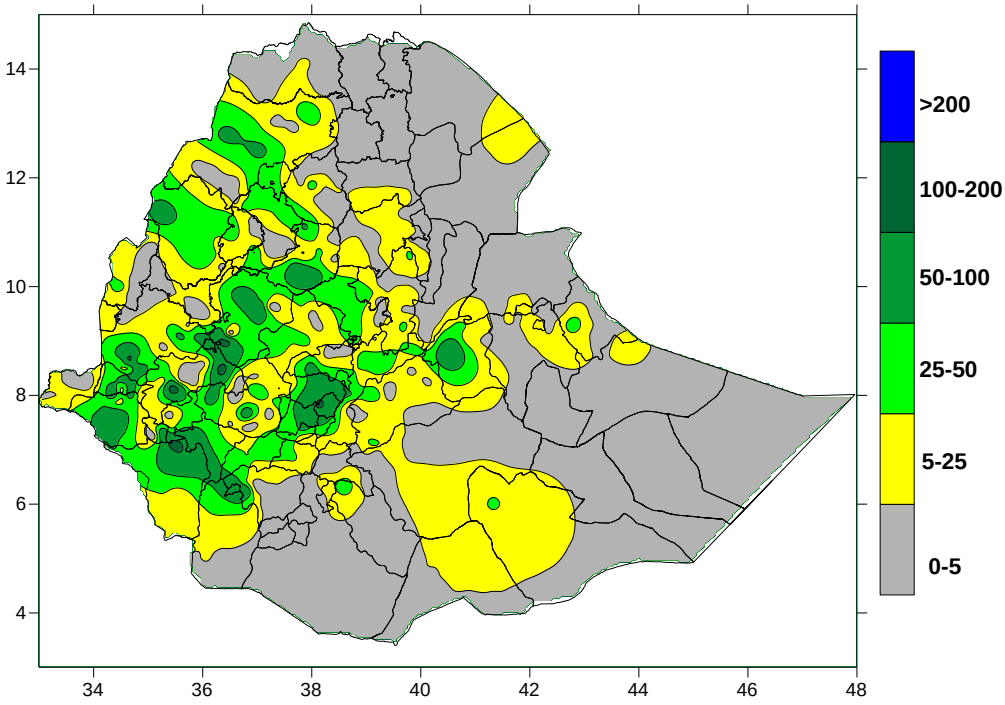


Fig 7. Rainfall distribution in mm (21 – 31) May 2026

1.2. Rainfall Anomaly (21 – 31) May 2026

During the 3rd dekad of May, much below-normal rainfall was, particularly across pocket areas of eastern, North western, Central and some southern western areas was dominated

Normal to above-normal rainfall. most parts of the country were exhibited below-normal to Much Below Normal rainfall.

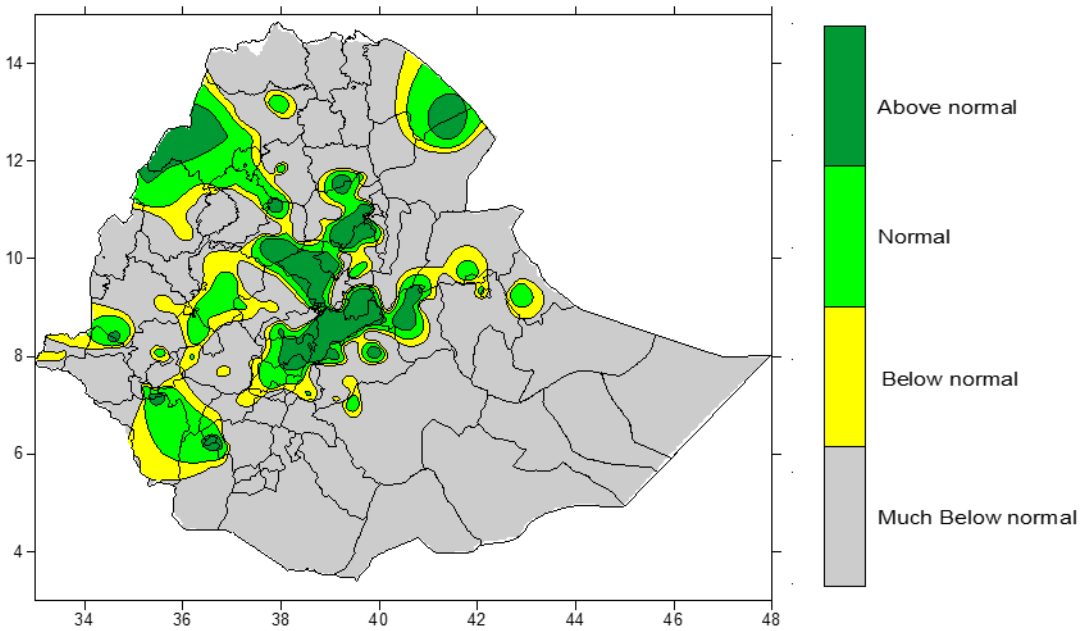


Fig. 8. Percent of normal rainfall distribution (21 – 31) May 2026

Explanatory notes for the Legend

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

1.3. Moisture status (21 – 31) May 2026

During the third dekad of May 2026, some areas of south western, western, north western and central parts of the country experienced Hyper Humid to Moist moisture conditions. The rest parts of the countries exhibited moderately Dry to Very Dry.

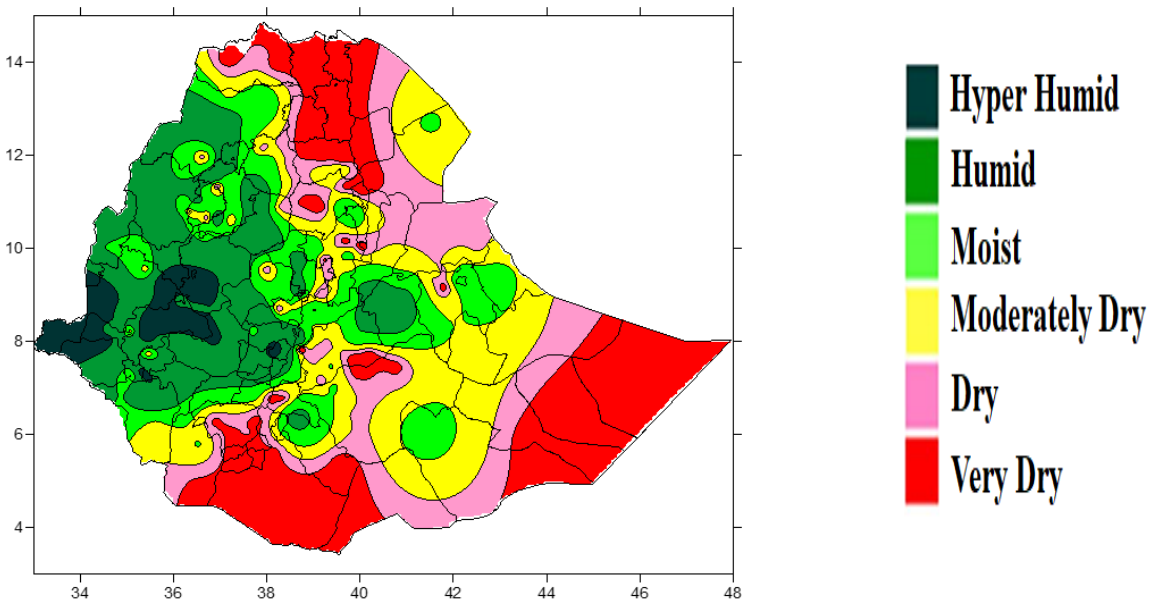


Fig.9. Moisture Status (21 – 31) May 2026

1.4. Rainfall amount on the month of May 2026

The monthly rainfall distribution during May 2026 exhibited The highest rainfall amounts, exceeding 200 mm, were recorded in localized areas of West Wellega, Bench Maji, Illibabur, Keffa, West and East Wellega. Rainfall amounts ranging from 100–200 mm were observed across parts of North Gonder, Metekel, Bahir Dar, tip areas of Assosa, West and East Wellega, Tip areas of Tango, Gambella Zone 1&3, Godere, Bench Maji, Basketo, South Omo, Konso, Amaro, some parts of Borena, Godere, Gedo, Dawero, Jimma, Keffa, Alaba, Woliyta, Gurage, West and South West Shewa, Bale, and West Hararghe Zones are received 50-100 mm rainfall. While rainfall amounts of 25–50 and 5-25 mm were recorded over portions of West Tigray, North and South Gonder, North and South Wello, Oromia Zone, Arsi, tip areas of East Hararghe, Metekel, South Tigray, Shinile, Jijiga, Degahabur, Fik, Gode, Afder, Liben and Korahe Zones. The lowest rainfall amounts, ranging from 0–5 mm, were observed the rest part of the country.

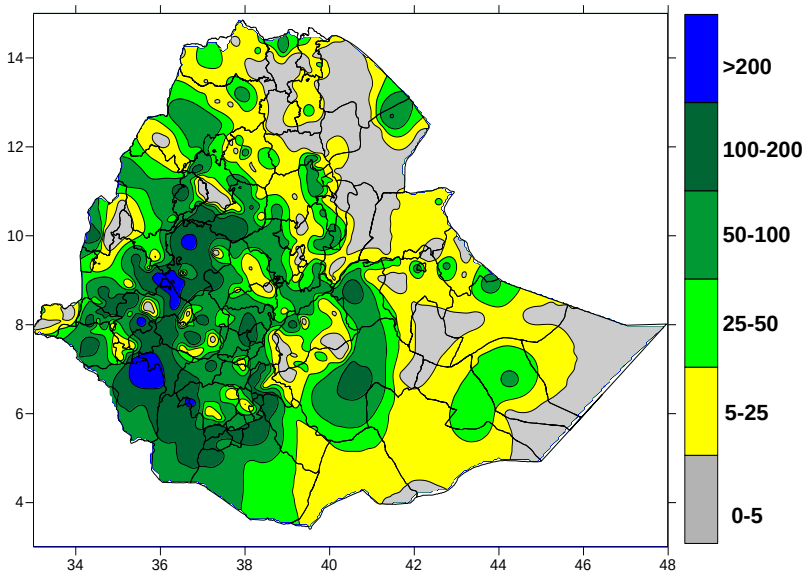


Figure 10. Rainfall amount in mm for the month of May 2026

1.5. Rainfall Anomaly on the month of May 2026

During the month of May 2026, percent of normal rainfall was predominantly normal to above normal across much of western, southwestern, and parts of northern, North Eastern and South Eastern areas of the country. Above-normal rainfall conditions were observed over large portions of West Tigray, North Gonder, West and East Wollega, Kelem Wollega, Illubabor, Sheka, Bench Sheko, Jimma, Bale, Shinile, Jijiga, Warder, Gambella all zones, Basketo, Bench Maji and Afar some zones indicating rainfall amounts that exceeded the climatological average for the period. In contrast, below-normal rainfall was recorded in the rest part of the country.

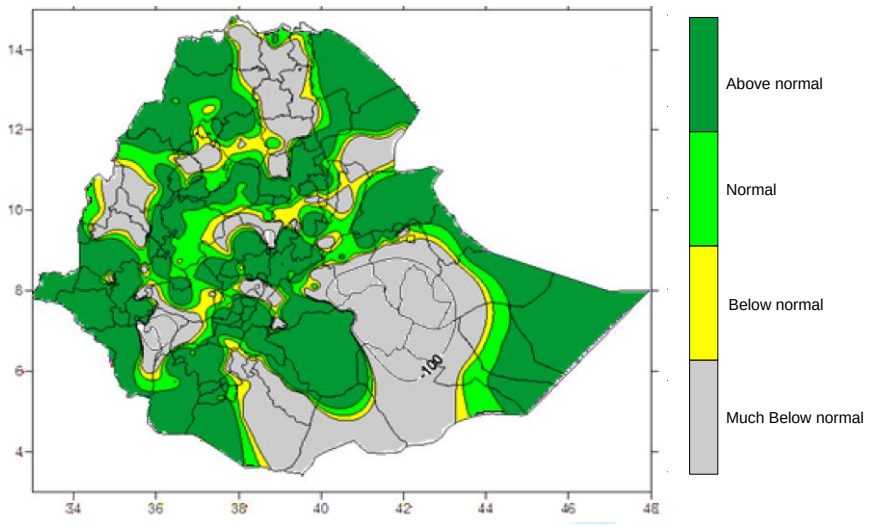


Fig. 11. Percent of Normal Rainfall for the month of May 2026

Explanatory notes for the Legend

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

1.6. Moisture status on the month of May 2026

During the month of May 2026, over south western, western, northwestern, central and Tip areas of south eastern part of the country exhibited Humid to moist moisture condition. The rest parts of the countries experienced moderately dry to dry conditions.

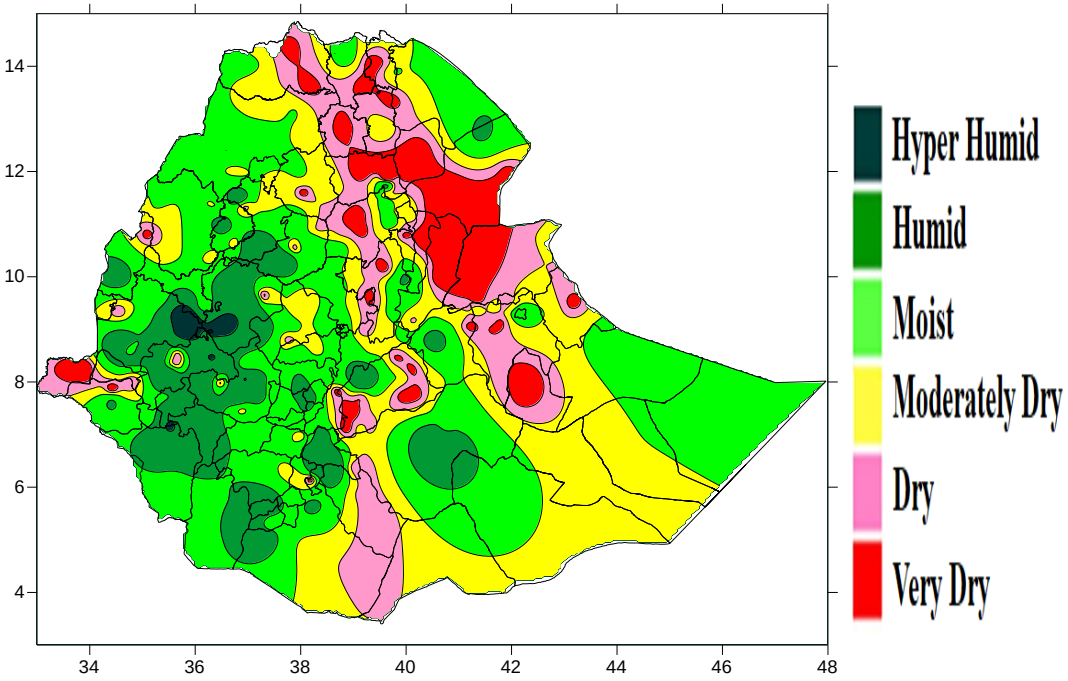


Fig. 12. Moisture status for the month of May 2026

1.7. Rainfall Amount on Belg season 2026

During Belg season of 2026 from the month of February to May The rainfall distribution was exhibited considerable spatial variability across Ethiopia, with the highest amounts (400–500 mm) recorded over parts of the southwestern, western, southern and central highlands, including areas of South Omo, Gamo-Gofa, Borena, Bale, and adjacent zones. Rainfall amounts ranging from 300–400 mm were observed over parts of Jimma, iIIlibabur, Buno Bedele, Kelem Wellega, East and West Wellega, Guji, and neighboring areas. Much of western, central, and northwestern Ethiopia, including HoroGuduru Wellega, Arsi, West Shewa, Metekel, Gojjam, Gondar, and portions of Tigray, received between 100 and 300 mm of rainfall. Moreover, rainfall amounts of 50–100 mm were recorded over parts of eastern Ethiopia, including sections of Afder, Liben, Shinile, eastern Oromia, and eastern Tigray, while 25–50 mm occurred across portions of Gode, Korahe, Deghabur, and surrounding areas. The lowest rainfall totals, ranging from 0–25 mm, were confined mainly to Warder, eastern Deghabur, parts of Korahe, and localized areas of the Afar Region. Overall, favorable moisture conditions prevailing over the major Belg- and Meher-producing areas of western, southwestern, and central Ethiopia. These conditions were favorable to crop growth and development and pasture regeneration. The observed rainfall distribution was beneficial for ongoing agricultural activities and is expected to support crop and livestock production across most parts of the country.

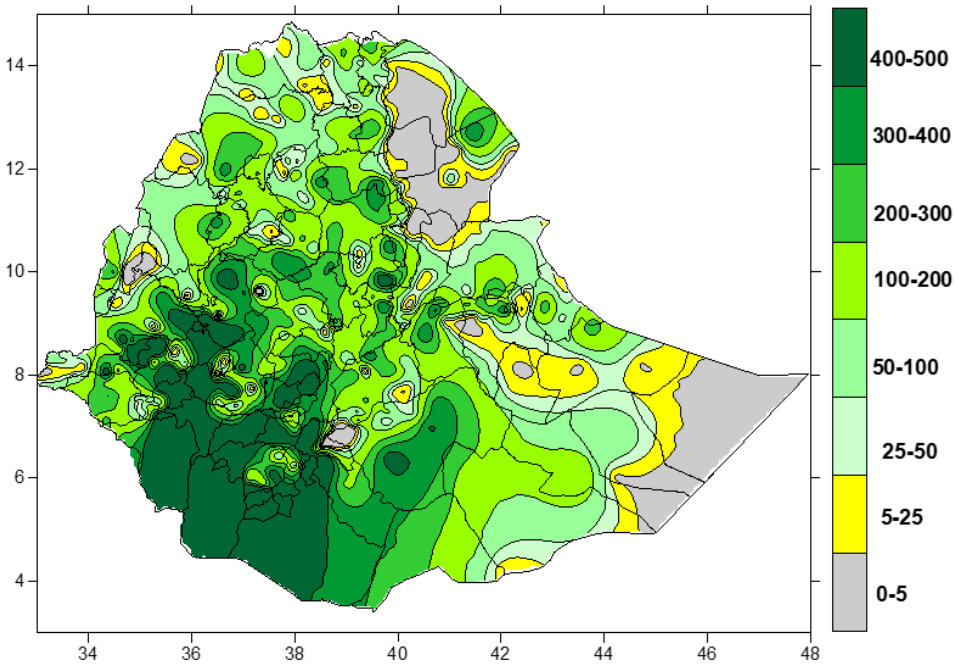


Fig.13. Rainfall amount in mm for Belg 2026

1.8. Rainfall Anomaly on Belg Season 2026

The percent of normal rainfall distribution during Belg Season of 2026 Above-normal rainfall conditions (>125% of the climatological average) were observed over large parts of the southern, southwestern, western North Western some part of Northern and Central parts of the country. Normal rainfall conditions (75–125% of normal) prevailed across much of central, northwestern, and northeastern and neighboring areas. Below-normal rainfall conditions (50–75% of normal) were observed in localized pockets of northern, central, and eastern Ethiopia. Much-below-normal rainfall conditions (<50% of normal) were mainly confined to portions of Afar Region, eastern Somali Region, including parts of Deghabur, Warder, and surrounding areas, as well as a few isolated pockets in northern Ethiopia.

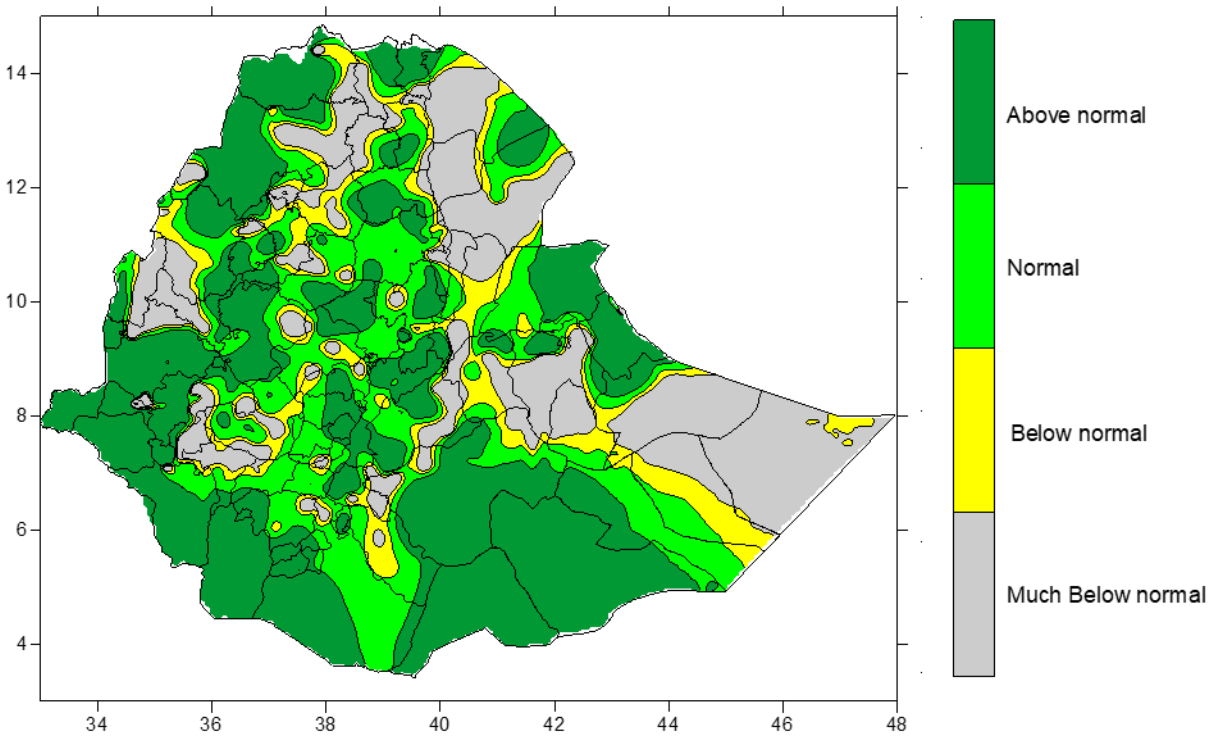


Fig.14. Percent of Normal Rainfall for Belg 2026

Explanatory notes for the Legend

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

1.9. Moisture status on Belg Season 2026

During the Belg season 2026, over Southern, south western, western and central part of the country exhibited Humid to moist moisture condition. The rest parts of the countries experienced moderately dry to dry conditions. Those situations are favorable for Belg Agricultural activities for Belg benefting areas.

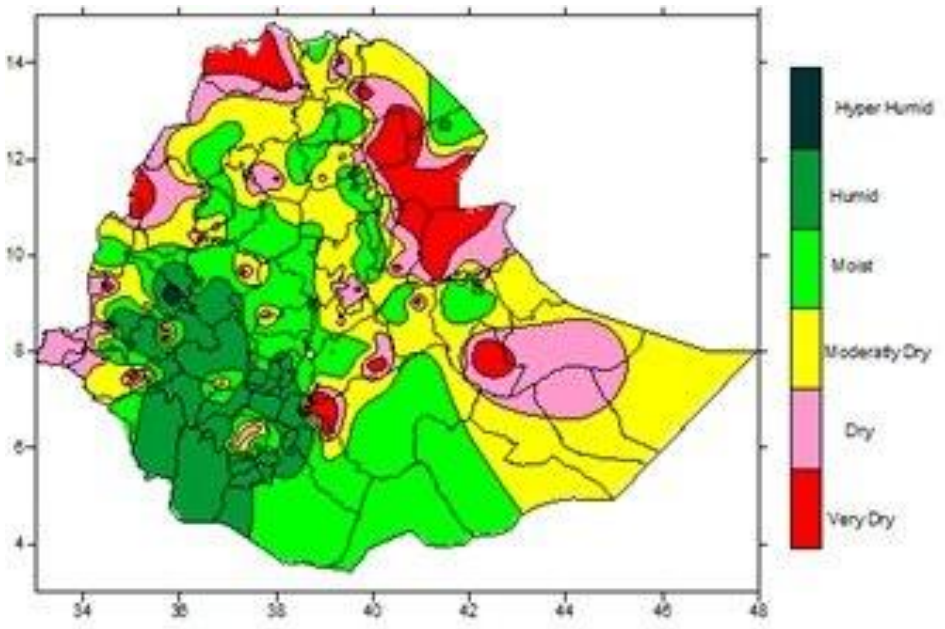


Fig. 15. Moisture status for Belg season 2026

2. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

2.1. VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING BELG, 2026

Generally during Belg 2026, rains started early in certain western-half Belg-beneficiary areas of the country particularly in Southwest Ethiopia, Sidama, Central Ethiopia, Central and Western Oromia, and a few areas of Western Amhara receiving light to heavy amounts of moisture. However, in the month of February, dry soil moisture conditions were observed across most parts of the country. Although this had a somewhat negative impact on areas that start their Belg farming activities early, it played a positive role in harvesting mature crops cultivated through irrigation during the Bega season. On the month of March, a significant improvement of moisture experienced over Belg rain benefiting and producing areas as the wet conditions depicted on MI (fig 1-4), NDVI Fig.5) and RLWRSI (fig.6), which indicate better moisture receiving through the seasons. This situation might have positive impact on early sown of Belg crops found at various phases of growth, satisfy the water need of perennial plants, Fruits, Vegetables and the long rains have started on time over portions of western and southwestern Ethiopia suitable for land preparation and planting long cycle crops like maize and sorghums as well as favor the seasonal agro-pastoral practices adequacy of livestock fodder, forages and drinking water. On the other hand, Heavy fall over some parts of the country experienced water logging, runoff, soil erosion and landslide which have negatively impacted on crops, animals and properties. However, heavy fall had a good opportunity to collect rain water harvesting where that can be used in time of deficit.

2.2. EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING KIREMT, 2026 SEASON

In the Normal condition the month of June to September is the principal rainy (Kiremt) season for most of Ethiopia's major Meher crop-growing areas and represents the peak period of agricultural activities across the country. During this season, moisture availability expands over much of the highland and midland areas, creating favorable conditions for land preparation, planting, crop establishment, and growth. It is also a critical period for long-cycle crops planted during April and May, as they rely on Kiremt rainfall to meet their water requirements during

subsequent growth stages. In pastoral and agro-pastoral areas, Kiremt rainfall plays an essential role in improving water sources and promoting pasture regeneration for livestock.

According to the 2026 seasonal climate outlook, rainfall is expected to start earlier than normal over western and southwestern Ethiopia. Combined with the favorable moisture conditions already accumulated during the Belg season, this is expected to support timely land preparation and planting of Meher crops. Moreover, normal to above-normal moisture conditions are anticipated over western and southwestern parts of the country, while normal to below-normal moisture conditions are expected over northwestern, central, eastern, and northeastern Ethiopia. Consequently, both beneficial and adverse impacts on crop and livestock production are likely during the season.

In particular, over western and southwestern Ethiopia, including the major Meher-producing areas, the anticipated normal to above-normal moisture conditions are expected to provide sufficient soil moisture for crop establishment, vegetative growth, flowering, and grain-filling stages. These conditions will also support the moisture requirements of long-cycle crops planted earlier in the year and improve water availability for livestock production. However, excessive rainfall in some areas may increase soil moisture beyond optimum levels, resulting in waterlogging, soil erosion, landslides, and a higher incidence of weeds and crop diseases. On the other hand, over northwestern, central, eastern, and northeastern parts of the country, where normal to below-normal moisture conditions are anticipated, the occurrence of prolonged dry spells and rainfall interruptions may reduce soil moisture availability. This could adversely affect crop growth and development, reduce pasture productivity, and limit water availability for livestock. Furthermore, the likelihood of an early cessation of seasonal rainfall may expose crops to moisture stress during their reproductive and grain-filling stages. In addition, above-normal daytime temperatures expected in some areas may increase evapotranspiration rates, further reducing soil moisture availability and creating favorable conditions for crop pests and diseases.

Positive Impacts

- Early onset of Kiremt rainfall over western and southwestern Ethiopia will facilitate timely land preparation and planting of Meher crops.
- Normal to above-normal moisture conditions will ensure adequate soil moisture availability for crop growth and development.

- Long-cycle crops planted during April and May will receive sufficient moisture to support their subsequent growth stages.
- Favorable rainfall conditions will improve crop water availability and enhance yield potential.
- Opportunities for rainwater harvesting and water storage will be enhanced, particularly in moisture-deficit areas.
- The expected moisture conditions will support soil and water conservation efforts and contribute to sustainable agricultural production.

Negative Impacts

- Excessive rainfall may result in waterlogging in agricultural fields, particularly in low-lying and poorly drained areas.
- Heavy rainfall events may increase the risk of soil erosion, flooding, and landslides in vulnerable locations.
- High soil moisture levels may encourage weed infestation and the spread of moisture-related crop diseases.
- In northwestern, central, eastern, and northeastern Ethiopia, prolonged dry spells and rainfall interruptions may lead to soil moisture deficits.
- Below-normal moisture conditions may negatively affect crop establishment, growth, and yield formation.
- Early cessation of rainfall could expose crops to moisture stress during flowering and grain-filling stages.
- Above-normal temperatures may increase evapotranspiration rates and accelerate soil moisture depletion.
- Favorable conditions may promote the occurrence and spread of crop pests and diseases.
- Pastoral and agro-pastoral areas experiencing rainfall deficits may face shortages of pasture, livestock feed, and drinking water.

Agrometeorological Advisories

- Rainwater harvesting and storage practices should be strengthened to reduce the impact of dry spells and moisture shortages.
- Existing drainage channels should be cleaned and maintained, and additional drainage systems should be established where necessary to minimize waterlogging risks.

- Soil and water conservation measures should be strengthened to reduce soil erosion and improve moisture retention.
- Supplementary irrigation should be prepared and implemented where particularly in areas prone to dry spells and early cessation of rainfall.
- Crop fields should be regularly monitored for weeds, pests, and diseases, and timely control measures should be undertaken.
- Appropriate crop varieties, including drought-tolerant and early-maturing varieties, should be promoted in moisture-stressed areas.
- Planting dates should be aligned with seasonal climate information and weather forecasts.
- Agricultural inputs, including fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides, should be applied considering prevailing and expected weather conditions.
- Pastoral and agro-pastoral areas should conserve and store livestock feed and water resources for use during dry periods.
- Regularly updated weather forecasts, seasonal outlooks, and agrometeorological advisories issued by the Ethiopian meteorological institute should be closely monitored and incorporated into agricultural planning and decision-making.

3. 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 south eastern 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 cover s southern, central, eastern and north-eastern 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.

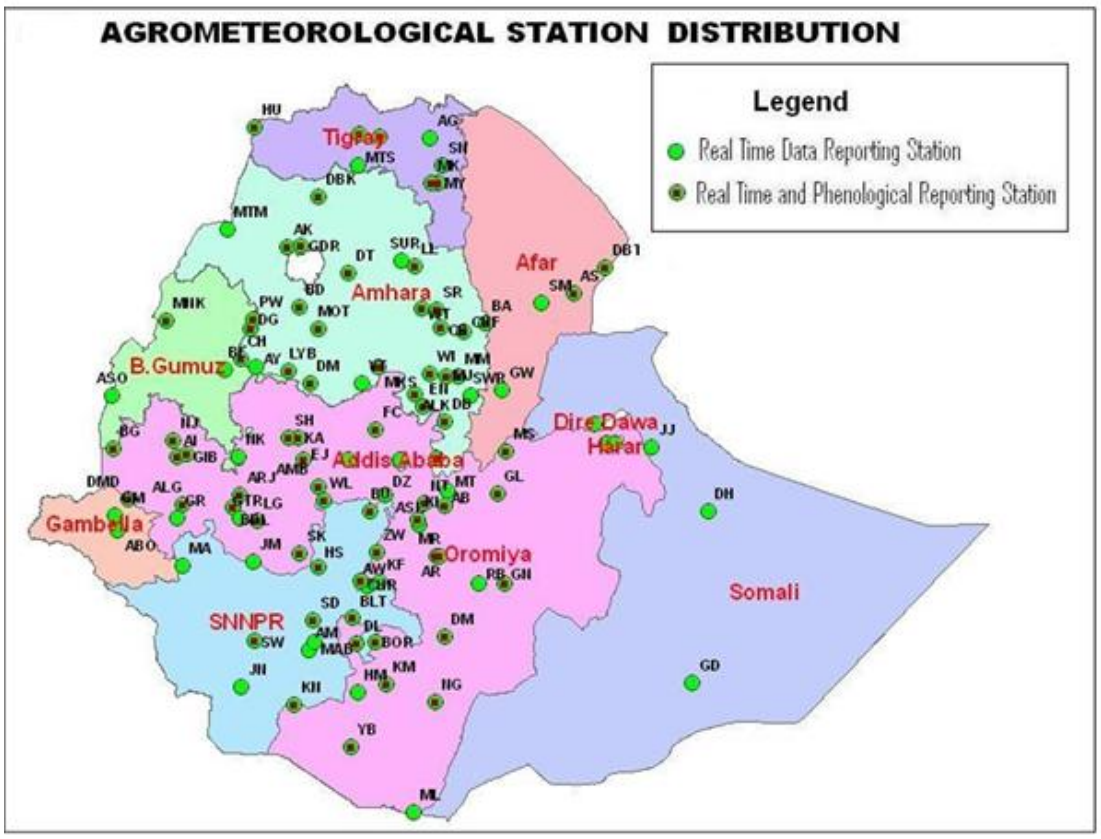
DEKAD: - First or second ten days or the remaining days of a month.

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

ITCZ: - Inter-tropical 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 south-eastern lowlands of the country.

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



Station	Code	Station	Code	Station	Code	Station	Code
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
AlemKetema	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	WegelTena	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		