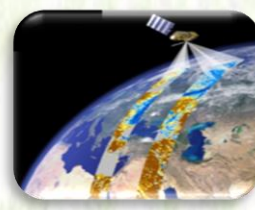


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FOREWARD

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 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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SUMMARY

During the third dekad of December 2023, according to the agro meteorological analysis, during the last dekad of December, the Bega season dry, sunny and windy weather condition prevailed across most part of the country. This condition had a positive impact for the Meher crop growing areas toward assisting the on-going post-harvest activities. On the other hand, parts of western, western Oromia, and South western of the country received light to moderate moisture. This situation in turn might favor toward satisfying the daily water need of perennial crops and the provision of pasture and drinking water in some extent for pastoral and agro-pastoral communities.

During the first dekad of January 2024, according to the agro meteorological analysis, during the dekad, the Bega season dry, sunny and windy weather condition prevailed across most part of the country. This condition had a positive impact for the Meher crop growing areas toward assisting the on-going post-harvest activities. On the other hand, parts of southern and south western parts of the country received light to heavy moisture. This situation in turn might favor toward satisfying the daily water need of perennial plants and the provision of pasture and drinking water. In addition, the received moisture over south-western parts it also positive toward fulfilling the daily water need of perennial plants as well as improving the soil moisture content and thus may favor the early time land preparation.

1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT

1.1. Rainfall amount (01 – 10 January, 2024)

During the first Dekad of January 2024, Pocket areas of Mirab Omo, Kefa zone, Bench Maji experienced 50-100mm of rainfall. Moist parts of of Mirab Omo, Kefa zone, Bench Maji experienced 25-50mm of rainfall. Some parts of Agnewak, of Mirab Omo, Kefa zone, Bench Maji, Yeme and Borena received 5-25mm of rainfall. The rest parts of the country experienced little or no rainfall.

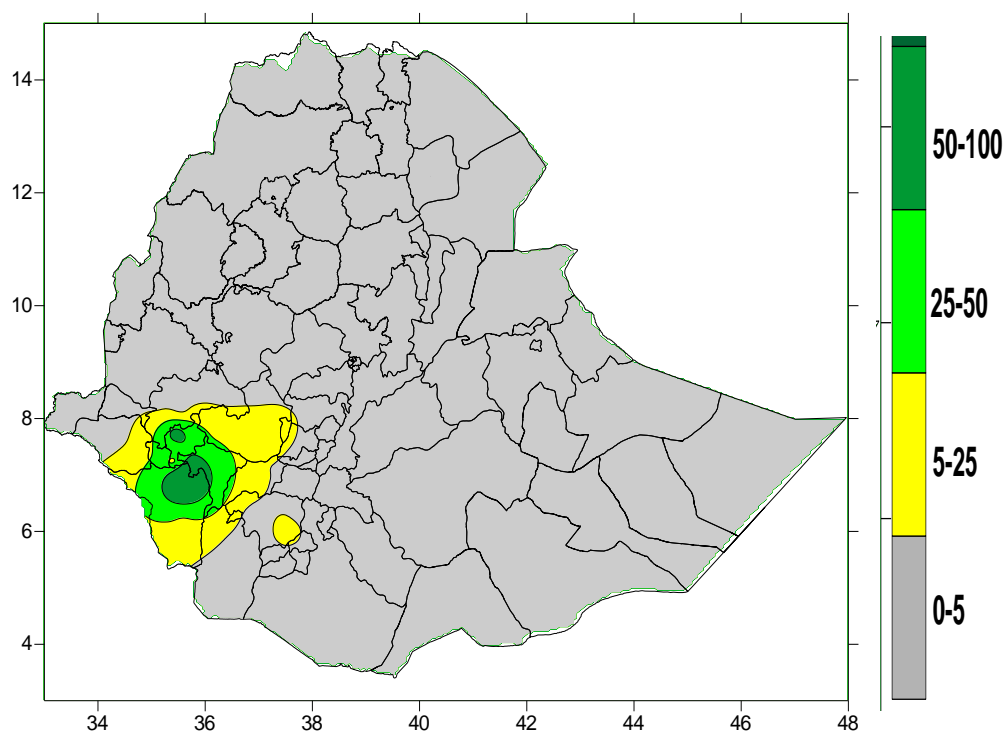


Figure 1. Rainfall distribution in mm (01- 10, January, 2024)

1.1. Rainfall Anomaly (01 – 10 January 2024)

During the month of December 2023, Debub Omo, Mirab Omo and Gofa and Most parts of Sheka, Bench, Maji, Agnewak, Borena, Mirab Wollega of the country exhibited Normal to above normal rainfall. The rest parts of the country exhibited below normal to Much Below Normal rain fall condition.

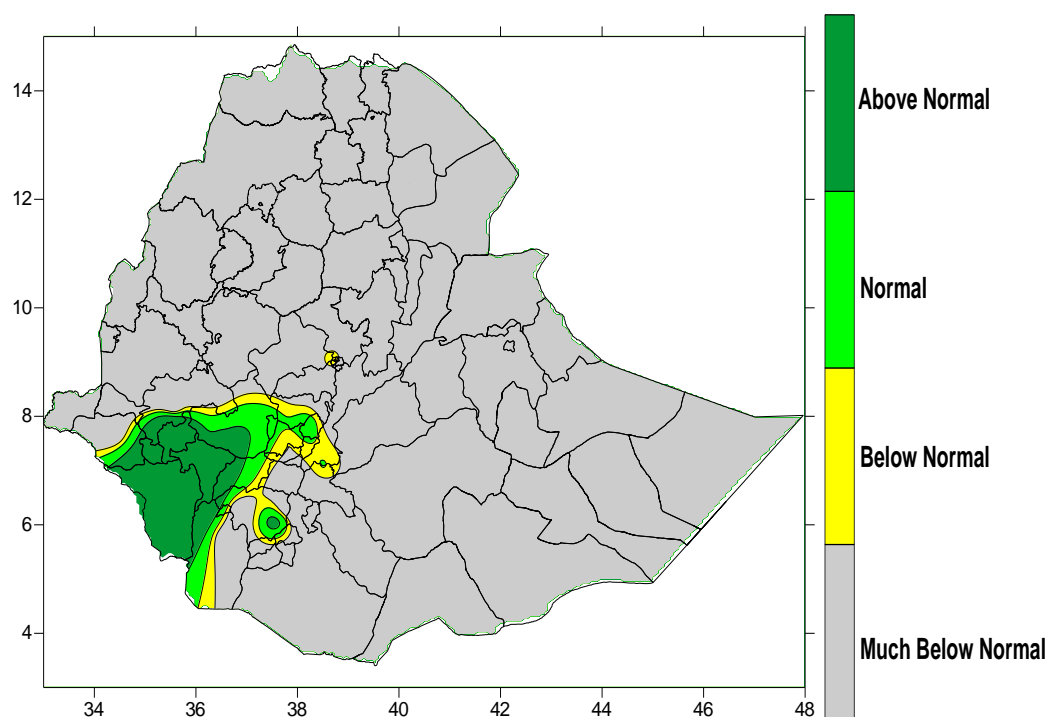


Figure 2: Percent of normal rainfall distribution (01 – 10 January, 2024)

Explanatory notes for the Legend

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

1.1. Moisture Condition (01 – 10 January, 2024)

During the first dekad of December 2023, Debub Omo, Mirab Omo and Gofa and some parts of Sheka, Bench, Maji, Agnewak, Mirab Wollega of the country exhibited moist to hyper humid moisture conditions. The rest parts of the country experienced moderately dry to very dry moisture condition.

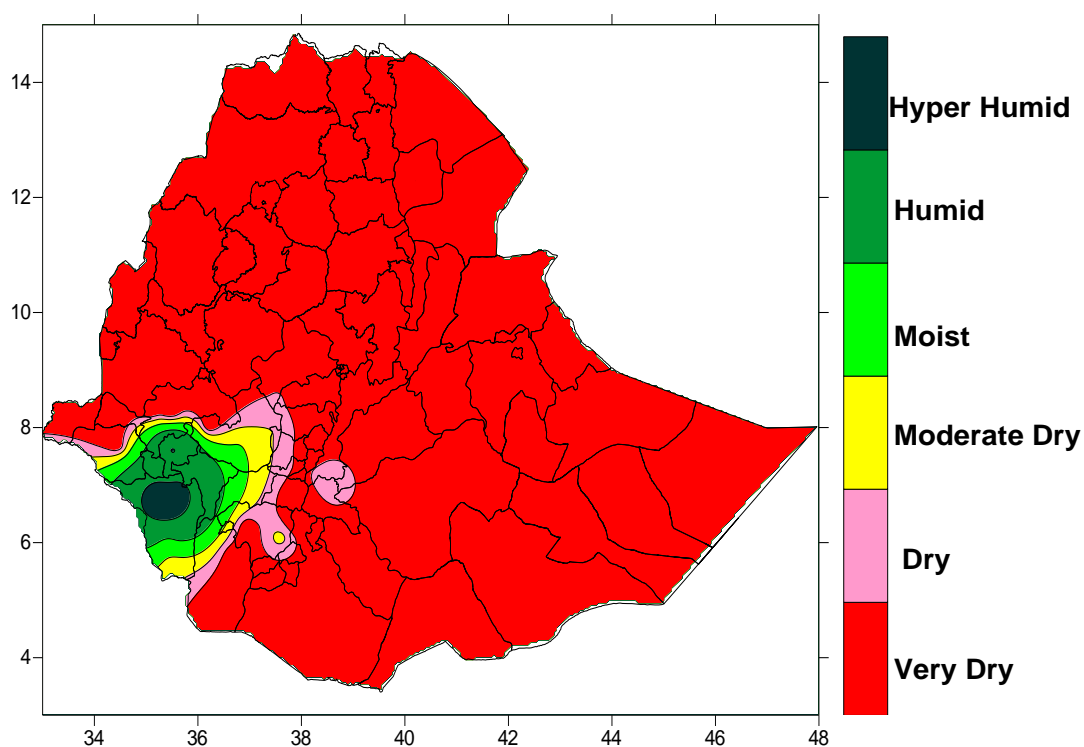


Figure.3. Moisture Status (01 – 10 January, 2024)

2. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

2.1. VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

During first dekad of January, 2024, the moisture condition was enhanced over the southern and south-western parts of the country.. Due to this the NDVI Fig.4 (the green plant coverage) and RLWRSI increased dekad to dekad in most of Bega rainfall benefiting areas. And due to the expanded green plant coverage and Rangeland indicated over southern and south-eastern pastoral and agro pastoral community might play crucial role toward improving the availability of pasture and drinking water and to regenerate natural and artificial ponds.

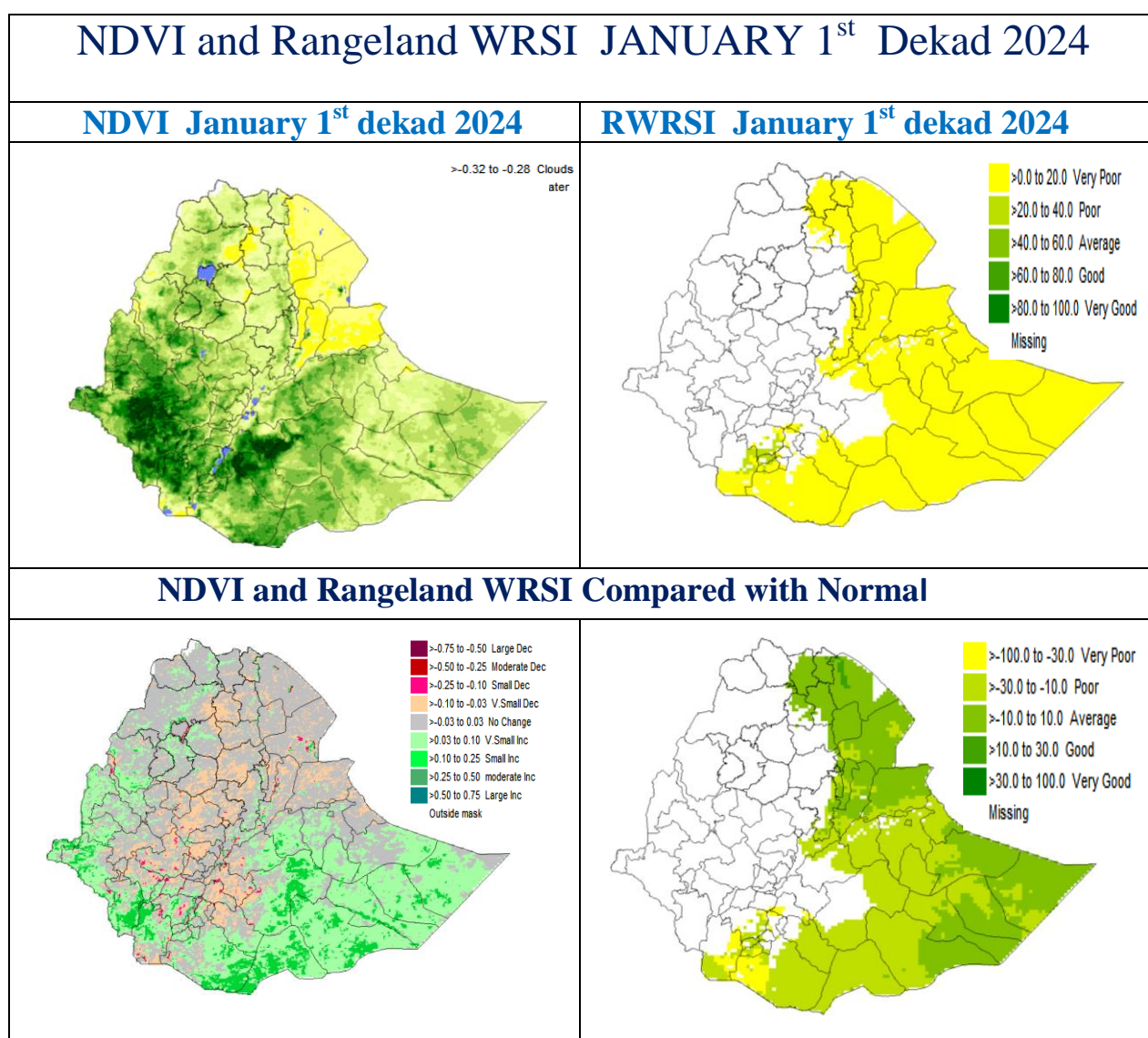


Fig.4. NDVI and Rangeland WRSI in % and Compared to Normal 01 – 10 January, 2024

2.2. EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING SECONDE DEKADE OF JANUARY 2024

Normally, the second dekad of January is the time when post-harvest activities are widely taking place and while some areas in the Rift Valley may receive light to moderate moisture.

According to the weather forecast, the dry moisture condition is expected to continue in much parts of the country for the next dekad of January. This will have a positive impact on the completion of the ongoing Meher crop harvest activities. On the other hand, slight and heavy rainfall is expected over southern and western parts of the country this may be favourable for Bega season crops and perennial plants as well as to ensure the availability of pasture and drinking water for the pastoral and agro pastoral community. In addition to this relative moisture improvement is anticipated over southwestern parts of the country and that will enhance the soil moisture and can play a positive role for Belg season land preparation which is expected to start in the head of next dekad.

3. DEFINITION 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 covers 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

