



Ethiopian Early Warning System

Monthly Report (February-April 2005)

26 MAY 2005

AREAS OF PRIORITY ACTION

Shebelle River Flood Damage Assessed

Damage caused by overflowing of Wabe Shebelle River at its lower course that occurred during the third week of April 2005 was studied by an assessment team. According to report organized by the team from the



FDPPC, the flood was caused to a number of human and livestock deaths, displacement, considerable damage to property and infrastructure in East Imey, West Imey, Kelafo, Mustahil and Kebridehar Woredas. As the result of the flooding caused by torrential rain there have been cases of malaria, dysentery and bilharzias.

The Federal Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission in collaboration with the Ethiopian Air Force and other stakeholders supplied the victims with food and non-food items. Food aid required in continuity shall be made available to the needy as per the 2004 appeal, it was indicated. With respect to issues of health, agriculture and water, further assessment is under way to address the problem since there is concern about prevalence of diarrhea, malaria and other water borne diseases that require immediate intervention.

In a similar development, flood damage of light to significant proportion to properties, infrastructures and livestock was also reported from Kebribeyah, and Gursum Woredas of Jijiga zone and Kebridehar Woredas of Korahe zone due to overflow of Fafan River caused by heavy rains in April. Overflow of Jefer River also reportedly destroyed some water wells and caused damage to infrastructures in Degahabur Woreda of Degahabur zone in the same month. Recently, Dawa River in Liban zone inundated vast area of land across its banks along the course.

HIGHLIGHTS

Signs of Malnutrition

Signs of malnutrition including serious food shortages, migration of people, school dropout, unusual selling of livestock, and eating wild food is reported from different woredas of Arsi, Bale, East and West Hararghe zones of Oromiya region. More on page two. [Page 2](#)

Cereal Prices Remain High

Prices of main staple foods such as barley, maize and sorghum were reported to be very high as compared to same time last year. [Page 3](#)

The Start and Performance of Belg

2005 Belg rainfall was forecasted to have a normal onset and a better distribution and amount according to NMSA, the February 2005 monthly agro meteorological bulletin of the Agency indicated that most parts of Belg growing areas of the country were under below normal rainfall conditions during the first two dekads of the month. More on page eight. [Page 7](#)

Weather Outlook for the Month of May/2005

According to NMSA the Belg season rain will continue more or less in a weakened manner over most Belg growing areas up to mid of the month under normal condition. [Page 10](#)

Situation in Pastoral Areas

Gu rains have already started in most parts of Somali Region. More on page fourteen. [Page 12](#)

Early Warning System Monthly Report is prepared by the Early Warning Department of the Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (DPPC) to coordinate and disseminate early warning and food security information.





Malnutrition

Prevalence of Malnutrition Traced from Different Areas

Sings of malnutrition including serious food shortages, migration of people, school dropout, unusual selling of livestock and eating wild food is reported from different woredas of Arsi, Bale, East and West Hararghe zones of Oromiya region. Similar cases were also reported from various woredas of SNNPR. Governmental as well as non-governmental agencies responded in dealing with the problem.

Nutrition Survey was conducted in Fedis during 6-11 April 2005 and in Alemaya from 12 to 17 April 2005. Results of the survey revealed that GAM was 12.9%, SAM 2.96%, CMB 0.62/ 10000/ day and U5MR 1.96/10000/ day in the former while GAM was 9.62%, SAM 1.97%, CMR 0.20/ 10000/ day and U5MR.18/ 10000/ day in the latter. The level of malnutrition in the two woredas, as per the national guideline, is classified as critical owing to which intervention by the government and NGOs is under way.

Besides, FDPPC in collaboration with CARE Ethiopia have recently started conducting Nutrition Survey in Bedeno, Grawa, and Kurfachelle Woredas in East Hararghe zone. Similarly, FDPPC has been conducting Nutrition Survey in Mena Angetu and Guradamole Woredas of Bale zone.

In a related development children below five years are reportedly facing food shortage in Ziway Dugda Woreda of Arsi zone of Oromiya. Similar cases have also been noted from different Woredas of South Omo zone; Boricha, Shebedino, and Awassa Zuria Woredas in Sidama zone; and in Konso Special Woreda both in SNNPR.



The level of malnutrition in Fedis and Alemaya woredas, as per the national guideline, is classified as critical owing to which intervention by the government and NGOs is under way.

NOTE:

GAM = GLOBAL ACUTE MALNUTRITION
SAM = SEVERE ACUTE MALNUTRITION
CMR = CRUDE MORTALITY RATE
U5MR = UNDR FIVE MORTALITY RATE



Food Security

PRICE

Cereal Prices Remain High

Prices of main staple foods such as barley, maize and sorghum were reported to be very high as compared to same time last year and the average (*please refer to Table – 1*). For instance, price of Barley in March 2005 in Sude wereda of Arsi was higher by 49% from the Average and by 9% from last year same time. Similarly, in Rayaazebo wereda of Southern Tigray, it was up by 30% from the average and by 33% for same time (March 2004). March 2005 prices of maize were also reported to be very high compared to same period of last year and the average. The increase in Darolebu wereda of W/Hararghe and Fedis wereda of E/Haraghe was reported to be very considerable with an increased by 90% and 135% from the average and last year same time respectively.

In Fedis woreda of E/Hararghe zone the increase of maize price was by 120% and 57% from the average and last year (Table – 1). Similar reports were also received from other different parts of the country with regard to sorghum prices. For instance, price of sorghum in March 2005 in Meda Welabu wereda of Bale Zone has risen by 104% from the average and by 67% from last year (Table-1). The increase in grain prices is mainly attributed to the low supply of grains to the markets as the result of 2004 crop production failure in some parts of the country including W/Hararghe, E/Haraghe and Bale zones of Oromiya Region and southern and central Tigray zones.

In general, prices of shoats (sheep and goats), have shown Variations from slight to significant increases from that of same time last year and the average (Table- 1). For example, price of sheep in Liban wereda of Guji zone was reported to be up by 61% and 24% from the average and last year respectively. For Meda Welabu of Bale zone it was increased by 76% and 29% respectively (Table – 1). This is attributed to the good livestock market outlets created by the government. Exceptions are areas where declined shoats prices were reported due to 2004 poor rains. These include southern and central Tigray zones and Alaba special wereda of SNNPR. March 2005 price of sheep in Rayaazebo wereda of southern Tigray was reported to be down by 37% from last year and by 17% from the average for same period of the year.

Terms of trade have shown mixed trend in many areas from March 2004 – January 2005 (Figures 1, 2, 4 and 6). However, starting from February 2005 increasing terms of trade, which are in favor of grain traders, have been illustrated. Grain prices in



Price of cereals such as barley, maize and sorghum was reported to be very high as compared to same time last year and the average. Maize price was cited as an example from Fedis Woreda with an increase of 120% and 57% from the average and last year.



Price of sorghum in March 2005 in Medda Welabu Woreda of Bale rose to 104% from the average and to 67% from last year as indicated by the report.



Food Security

Percentage Change from Average Using Nominal Price (Base Year Mar-2005)

Region	Zone	Wereda	Commodity	5-Mar	5-Feb	4-Mar	Mar.Avg. 98-04 Mar	% change Mar. - 05 from Feb-05	% change Mar. - 05 from Mar.-04	% change Mar. - 05 from Mar.Avg
Cereals										
Tigray	C/Tigray	Adwa	Barley	183	180	160	171.2	0.02	0.14	0.07
	"	Tah/Maichew		207	207	176	179.25	0	0.18	0.15
	S/Tigray	Endamehoni		192	180	190	171.15	0.07	0.01	0.12
	"	Rayaazebo		204	179	153	156.83	0.14	0.33	0.3
B/Gumuz	Asosa	Asosa	Maize	300	300	350	350	0	-0.14	-0.14
SNNPR	Alaba/SW/	Alaba		155	160	180	140	-0.03	-0.14	0.11
Oromia	W/Haraghe	Darolebu		200	150	85	105	0.33	1.35	0.9
	E/Haraghe	Fedis		150	135	120	131	0.11	0.25	0.15
	Bale	Meda welabu		188	150.38	119.76	85.63	0.25	0.57	1.2
	Guji	Liban		160	135	120	110.1	0.19	0.33	0.45
Tigray	C/Tigray	Adwa		180	180	160	154.8	0	0.13	0.16
	"	Tah/Maichew		187	187	167	154.25	0	0.12	0.21
	S/Tigray	Endamehoni		176	190	162.8	133.44	-0.07	0.08	0.32
	"	Rayaazebo		166	166	154	137.7	0	0.08	0.21
B/Gumuz	Asosa	Asosa		80	100	120	79.58	-0.2	-0.33	0.01
SNNPR	Alaba/SW/	Alaba		135	140	105	103	-0.04	0.29	0.31
	Sidama	Aleta wendo		140	130	100	97	0.08	0.4	0.44
Gambella		Gambela	150	130	200	122	0.15	-0.25	0.23	
Harari		Harari	Sorghum	163	145	120	118.33	0.12	0.36	0.38
Oromia	W/Hararghe	Darolebu		200	180	120	126.67	0.11	0.67	0.58
	E/Hararghe	Fedis		175	130	135	122	0.35	0.3	0.43
	Bale	Meda welabu		200	150.38	119.76	98.25	0.33	0.67	1.04
Tigray	C/Tigray	Adwa		212	205	160	171.5	0.03	0.33	0.24
		Tah/Maichew		233	221	176	169	0.05	0.32	0.38
	S/Tigray	Endamehoni		181	187.9	189	168.87	-0.04	-0.04	0.07
		Rayaazebo		180	166	174	156.58	0.08	0.03	0.15
B/Gumuz	Asosa	Asosa		80	105	110	79.17	-0.24	-0.27	0.01
Gambella		Gambela		200	200	130	120	0	0.54	0.67
Harari		Harari		180	155	140	147.33	0.16	0.29	0.22



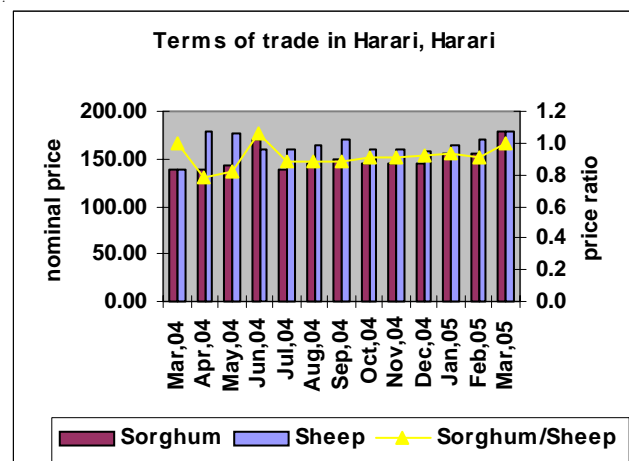
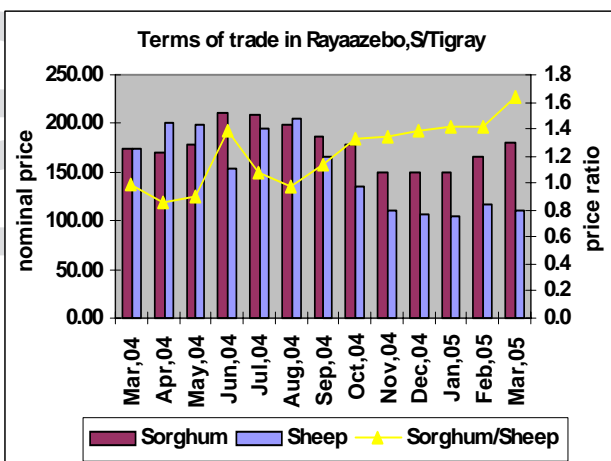
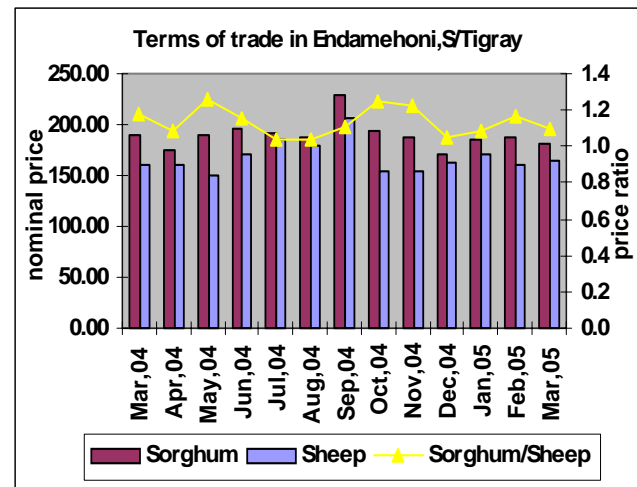
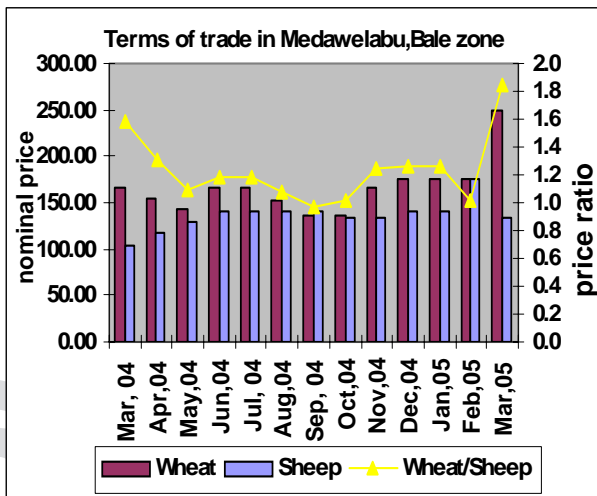
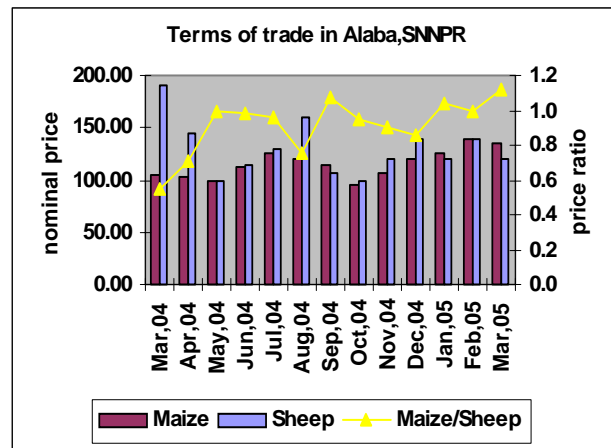
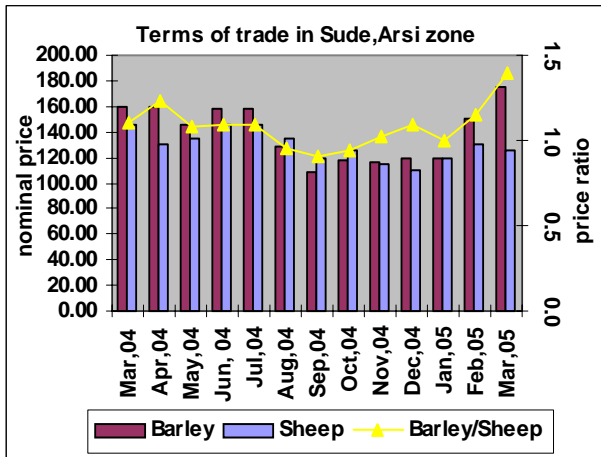
Food Security

Percentage Change from Average Using Nominal Price (Base Year Mar-2005)

Region	Zone	Wereda	Commodity	Mar-05	Feb-05	Mar-04	Mar.Avg. 98-04 Mar	%change Mar. - 05 From Feb-05	%change Mar. - 05 from Mar.-04	% change Mar. - 05 From Mar.Avg
LIVESTOCK										
Oromia	W/Hararghe	Darolebu	Sheep	150.00	140.00	120.00	109.17	0.07	0.25	0.37
	E/Hararghe	Fedis		120.00	125.00	150.00	104.00	-0.04	-0.20	0.15
	Bale	Meda welabu		135.00	175.00	105.00	76.62	-0.23	0.29	0.76
	Guji	Liban		124.00	120.00	100.00	77.22	0.03	0.24	0.61
Tigray	C/Tigray	Adwa		170.00	153.00	166.00	144.00	0.11	0.02	0.18
		Tah/Maichew		163.00	160.00	135.00	117.90	0.02	0.21	0.38
	S/Tigray	Endamehoni		165.00	160.00	160.00	135.65	0.03	0.03	0.22
		Rayaazebo		110.00	117.00	175.00	132.50	-0.06	-0.37	-0.17
SNNPR	Sidama	Aleta wendo		180.00	180.00	140.00	137.33	0.00	0.29	0.31
Dire-Dawa		Dire-Dawa		180.00	170.00	140.00	105.00	0.06	0.29	0.71
	W/Hararghe	Darolebu	Goat	100.00	130.00	100.00	86.67	-0.23	0.00	0.15
	E/Hararghe	Fedis		105.00	95.00	100.00	75.00	0.11	0.05	0.40
Oromia	Bale	Meda welabu		120.00	150.00	95.00	59.88	-0.20	0.26	1.00
	Guji	Liban		145.00	143.00	95.00	80.33	0.01	0.53	0.81
	C/Tigray	Adwa		119.00	120.00	160.00	136.17	-0.01	-0.26	-0.13
		Tah/Maichew		126.00	120.00	95.00	112.00	0.05	0.33	0.13
Tigray	S/Tigray	Endamehoni		156.00	146.60	130.00	102.65	0.06	0.20	0.52
		Rayaazebo		115.00	109.00	153.00	111.00	0.06	-0.25	0.04
B/Gumuz	Asosa	Asosa		150.00	255.00	120.00	94.67	-0.41	0.25	0.58
	Alaba/SW/	Alaba		90.00	105.00	120.00	100.00	-0.14	-0.25	-0.10
SNNPR	Sidama	Aleta wendo		160.00	160.00	110.00	117.60	0.00	0.45	0.36
Gambella		Gambella		90.00	80.00	150.00	133.33	0.13	-0.40	-0.32
Hareri		Hareri		170.00	160.00	133.00	106.00	0.06	0.28	0.60



Food Security





Weather Conditions

The Start and Performance of the Belg Season

According to NMSA weather outlook, which was based on the analysis of best analogue years, the 2005 Belg rainfall was forecasted to have a normal onset and a better distribution and amount. However, the February 2005 monthly agro meteorological bulletin of NMSA indicated that, most parts of Belg growing areas of the country were under below normal rainfall conditions during the first two dekads of the month. Moreover, during the third dekad, the poor rainfall condition continued in most parts of Belg growing areas with the exception of some areas of central and parts of southern Ethiopia. Generally, the month of February was characterized by prolonged dry spells over most parts of the country.

As per the March 2005 monthly report of NMSA, during the first dekad of the month, improved rainfall performance was observed particularly over eastern Amhara, central Oromiya and southern highlands. This improved rainfall condition also continued during the second dekad and most parts of the country received normal to above normal rainfall.

Nevertheless, this improvement in rainfall performance failed to continue in to the third dekad of March 2005. Consequently, during the third dekad most parts of Belg growing areas experienced below normal rainfall. The moisture stress condition that was observed during the third dekad of March did not shown any significant improvement at the beginning of April. Therefore, during the first dekad of April/ 2005, there was no or little rain in most parts of the country.

During the second dekad of April 2005, most parts of Belg benefiting areas including lowlands of Southern Oromiya and Somali, Afar and Northern Tigray received normal to above normal rainfall..

During the third dekad, except parts of Central Amhara, parts of Benishangul Gumuz, Southern SNNPR and Southern Oromiya, most parts of the country received normal to above normal rainfall. Generally, the performance of the rains during the month of April can be rated as favorable.

Below is a map showing the amount and distribution of the rain during the month of April.

From the map it is seen that most parts of central, northern, eastern Oromiya eastern Amhara, most parts of SNNPR and eastern and southern Tigray received normal to above normal rainfall while southern and western parts of Oromiya, eastern and south eastern parts of Somali, most parts of Afar and Benshangul Gumuz received much below to below normal rainfall.

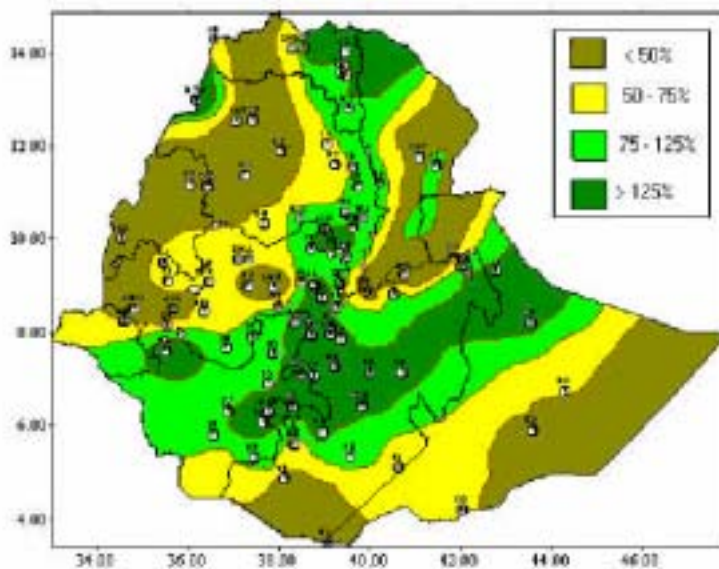


Improvement in rainfall performance failed to continue in to the third dekad of March 2005 because of which most parts of Belg growing areas experienced below normal rainfall during the third dekad. The moisture stress condition that was observed during the third dekad of March did not shown any significant improvement at the beginning of April. Apparently, there was no or little rain in most parts of the country during the first dekad of April 2005.



Weather Conditions

Percent of Normal Rainfall for the Month of April 2005



(Source NMSA)

Explanatory notes for the Legend:

< 50% - much below normal

50-75%- below normal

75-125%- normal

> 125% - above normal

Field reports received from different regions are summarized as follows:

According to the reports Belg rains in Tigray started earlier than normal but were interrupted by long dry spells during the whole month of February. The region received some rains during March. The amount and coverage of rains during April was relatively better than the previous months.

In Amhara region the onset of the Belg rains was earlier than normal. There was long dry spell from mid February to mid March. According to the report, the current performance of the rains in Belg producing parts of the region was generally rated as satisfactory.



Weather Conditions

In Oromiya region the onset of Belg rains in Bale, Arsi, Guji, Borena, East Hararghe, west Hararghe and East Shewa zones was late by three to four weeks. Nevertheless, some pocket areas received showers of rains for 2-3 days. Exception was north Shewa where the onset was timely. In spite of very poor performance of the rains during the months of February and March particularly in the lowlands, it has shown great improvement through out the region as of mid April. The distribution and intensity of the rains was reported to be conducive.

Although the onset of Belg rains in SNNPR was considered normal, the rains were interrupted by long dry spells that occurred for three weeks. After the long dry spells, however, the rains continued again with better performances in April.

Adverse Weather Condition

During the second dekad of April there was reported hailstorm in two PAs of Adami Tulu Jido Kombolcha Woreda of East Shoa zone and flood in two PAs of Shashgo Woreda of Hadiya, Silte and Gamo Gofa zones of SNNPR. Besides, the NMSA ten day Agro-meteorological Bulletin also indicated that, due to heavy rainfall, which was observed in some pocket areas, flood damage was observed in some parts of Jijiga, and Degehabur zones of Somali region and Konso special Woreda and Arbaminch Zuria Woreda of Gamo Gofa zone of SNNPR.



In spite of very poor performance of the rains during the months of February and March particularly in the lowlands, it has shown great improvement throughout Oromiya as of mid April.

DPPC



Weather Conditions

Weather Outlook for the Month of May/2005

According to NMSA ten day Agro-meteorological Bulletin, the Belg season rain will continue more or less in a weakened manner over most Belg growing areas up to mid of the month under normal condition. Hence, 150-250 mm rainfall will occur over the Belg growing areas as well as western half of Oromiya and SNNPR regions. On the other hand, Somali, central Ethiopia, and eastern half of Amhara will get 50 150 mm where as Tigray and Afar will have in excess of 50 mm rain.

Agricultural Activities and Crop Performance

In Tigray region even though land was extensively prepared for Belg planting, planting of Belg crops could not take place in time due to the long dry spells. Crops that were planted using the showers during February wilted away. As the result, farmers particularly in Raya Azebo and Alamata re-ploughed their lands. Planted area during the season decreased by about 30% compared to the plan while planted crops are mainly found at early growth stage.

In Amhara region planting of Belg crops took place timely. Out of the total ploughed 270,052 ha of land 196,907(73%) was covered with seed. Moreover, the performance of crops was also reported to be good. In Oromiya, planting of Belg crops took place in time only in North Shewa zone where as *in other Belg producing zones of the region planting took place late. As expected*, planted area has significantly decreased in areas where the rains started late. There was replanting of crops in areas that experienced prolonged dry spell and erratic rainfall. Current growth stage of crops in the region is below the normal level.

Crop Pest and Disease

According to FAO Desert Locust Control Organization (DLCO) Bulletin, no locusts were observed during April. Moreover, no significant developments are likely until mid June.

Crop Production Prospect

According to NMSA, the rainfall observed during the second and third dekad of April has great importance for the existing Belg season crops and it is also useful for land preparation and planting of long cycle crops. However, it is too early to estimate the production prospect of Belg season crops since some lately planted crops were at early vegetative stage and it needs rain for full maturity. Field reports received from different regions are also in congruent with the above conclusions.

The Belg season rain continues more or less in a weakened manner over most Belg growing areas up to mid of May under normal condition forecasted by NMSA.



It is too early to estimate the production prospect of Belg season crops since some lately planted crops were at early vegetative stage and it needs rain for full maturity.



Disaster Occurrence

Human Health

Treatment Against Meningitis in Ilubabor and North Shoa

There was an outbreak of meningitis in Darimu and Ale-Sachi woredas of Ilubabor as well as in Jarso, Hidabo Abote and Girar Jarjo Woredas of North Shoa. In Ilubabor 3 persons died and 2,300 were vaccinated where as 15 were treated in North Shoa zone of Oromiya.

Heavy Storm Killed Livestock

Heavy storm killed 3,300 livestock in Berberie Woreda of Bale zone during the third week of April, it was reported. Besides, oxen and 4 other head of cattle belonging to resettlers in the same Woreda were washed away by flood caused by the storm.

Treatment Against Meningitis Conducted

There was an outbreak of meningitis in Darimu and Ale-Sachi woredas of Ilubabor as well as in Jarso, Hidabo Abote and Girar Jarjo Woredas of North Shoa. In Ilubabor 3 persons died and 2,300 were vaccinated where as 15 were treated in North Shoa zone of Oromiya.

Crop Plants Destroyed in Two Zones of Oromiya

Maize and sorghum plants over 176 and 740 ha from Rayitu and Meda Walabu woredas of Bale zone and 60% Belg crop plants in Artuma Fursi Woreda of Oromiya zone, Amhara region were destroyed due to lack of rain. More on page eight. Besides, deaths of over 14,700 head of cattle from Menangetu and Guradamale woredas due to shortage of pasture and water was reported.

People Displaced Due to Tribal Conflict

Nearly 50,000 people were reportedly displaced from their living areas in 3 woredas of Borena and Guji zones due to tribal conflict. Preliminary assessment has reportedly been conducted both by the Region and FDPPC in order to identify the extent of emergency need of the population.

Flood Claimed Life in Dirre Dawa

Flash flood killed over thirty persons and damaged property estimated to be worth over Birr ten million around Dirre Dawa town on 20 May 2005.

Related incidences of flash flood have been reported from many areas of SNNPR (Alaba Special Woreda, Boricha in Sidama zone, Shashigo in Hadiya, and in Sodo Zuria Woreda in Wolaita zone). The extent of effect the flood needs to be assessed in order to undertake proper and timely intervention.



Situation in Pastoral Areas

SITUATION REPORT IN PASTORAL AREAS

/ MARCH-April 2005/

1. SOMALI REGION

The main rainy season, locally known as 'the Gu season', normally starts late March in Shinile and Jijiga zones and between early and mid April in the southern seven zones.

According to the regional report, the Gu rains have already started in most parts of the Region and many areas including Jijiga, Babile, Gursum and Kebribayah weredas in Jijiga zone; Ayisha and Dembal in Shinile Zone; all weredas in Liban zone; Gode, Adale, Mustahil, Kelafo and East Imey weredas in Gode Zone; Aware and Degahabur weredas in Degahabur zone; and Fik, Hamero, Sagag and Duhun weredas in Fik zone received rains during second half of April. The rains were reported to be heavy and excessive between 23rd and 30th of April particularly in some areas in Gode, Jijiga and Degahabur zones.

Due to the poor **Deyr/Karan** rains in 2004, the food security situation particularly in Duhun, Garbo and Sagag, weredas of Fik zone; Aware and Gashamo of Degah-bur, Sheygosh wereda of Korahe zone; Danan and E.Imey wereda of Gode zone; W.Imey of Afder Zone; Hudet of Liban and Dambal and Ayisha weredas of Shinile zone were reported to be poor to very poor and these areas were identified as "hot spot" areas. Yet most of these areas have been reported to have received some Gu rains during April 2005. The rains in W.Imey of Afder and E. Imey of Gode zone were however reported to be heavy and accompanied by overflow of Wabi-Shebelle River causing considerable damages to properties, infrastructure and livestock.

In general, water and pasture availability is expected to improve in areas where good rains were reported. However, the expectation is that the rains continue till end of May (in some areas even up to June) for the full regeneration of pasture and significant improvement of overall food security situation of the Region particularly in areas which were identified as "hot spot" due to poor 2004 Deyr/Karan rains and which so far have not received sufficient rains. Apart from this, deteriorating food security situation have been reported from Fik, Hamero, Segeg and Garbo weredas of Fik zone due to very high grain prices and poor supply of grains to the markets.



The Gu rains have already started in most parts of the Somali Region and many areas received rains during second half of April. The rains were reported to be heavy and excessive between 23rd and 30th of April particularly in some areas in Gode, Jijiga and Degahabur zones.



The rains in W.Imey of Afder and E. Imey of Gode zone were reported to be heavy and accompanied by overflow of Wabi-Shebelle River causing considerable damages to properties, infrastructure and livestock.



Situation in Pastoral Areas

2. LOWLANDS OF BORENA ZONE (OROMIYA REGION) and SOUTH OMO ZONE (SNNPR)

According to the Regional reports, most parts of the lowlands of Borena and South Omo zones so far received rains rated from slight to good. The rains in some areas of South Omo zone have been reported to be heavy and excessive. Except for some areas in lowlands of Borena Zone where some shortages were mentioned; the availability of pasture and water in most lowland weredas of the two zones is reported to have improved as the result of the rains.

3. AFAR REGION

In Afar Region, the short rainy season, which normally falls between mid March and end of April, was reported to have been received in most parts of **Zone three** and **Zone five**. Apparently, the rains in these two zones were reported to be somewhat good or relatively better than the other zone sowing to which availability of water and pastures was reported to be improving.

Most areas in **Zone 1** reportedly received some rains during the expected period, which to some extent improved the availability of water and browses except for Elidar wereda and Guyah area (Gulubule area) of Dubti weredas where the water problem still persists.

In **Zone 4**, the rains received during 2005 Sugum season were reported to be better than last year and improved the availability of browses and water in most areas including Awura, Ewa and Golina weredas. Exceptions were some chronic water deficit areas like Yalo and Teru where no significant improvements were reported due to inadequate rains and as a result water rationing was still ongoing (Yalo wereda). Because of some improvements in water availability and browses condition, many of the cattle that had migrated from the zone to bordering areas of Amhara Region (Woldiaya and Cheffa areas of Kemisse), have reportedly returned to their localities. However, according to the regional report pasture for cattle and sheep is still a problem. The Sugum rains were not adequate for the full regeneration of pasture in the Zone as a whole.

The food security situation in **Zone two** reportedly remained fragile due to poor/inadequate 2005 Sugum rains. The rains were said to be inadequate to bring about significant improvement of water and pastures including browses.



The expectation is that the rains continue till end of May (in some areas even up to June) for the full regeneration of pasture and significant improvement of overall food security situation of Somali Region.



The rains in zone three and zone five of Afar were reported to be somewhat good or relatively better than the other zones owing to which availability of water and pastures was reported to be improving.



Situation in Pastoral Areas

LIVESTOCK CONDITION IN CROPPING AREAS

The availability of pasture (feeds) in most parts of the country may be classified as near normal to normal except for some areas including some parts of Oromiya zone, Sayint, Werebabo, Kalu and Legambo weredas in South Wello zone and Habru wereda of North Wello zone in Amahara Region; and low-lying areas of Arsi, Illubabor, Guji and West Shoa zones; and Beltu, Seweina, Meda-Welabu, Mena-Angetu and Berbere weredas of Bale zone of Oromiya, where shortages of pasture and water were reported.

With regard to animal health, there were no reports at epidemic level except for the endemic diseases like CCPP, Tryps, etc. on cattle and goats in some parts of the country.



The availability of pasture (feeds) in most parts of the country may be classified as near normal to normal with the exception of different areas.

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