



# Ethiopian Early Warning System

Monthly Report : May 2005

22 JUNE 2005

## AREAS OF PRIORITY ACTION

### Dolo Odo and Filtu Affected by Flood

Dolo Odo and Filtu Woredas of Liban Zone of Somali Region have been severely affected by the recent flood caused by overflowing of Dawa and Genale rivers. An assessment team composed of the Federal DPPC, representatives of the local government, NGOs and members of the community reported that 46,700 people of 12 Kebeles were affected in Dolo Odo of whom 6 persons were eaten by crocodile and 1,245 household heads



**Dawa River inundated a large area of land**

in 8 Kebeles were affected in Filtu Woreda of whom 5 individuals died. Although Dolo Odo Woreda administration reported that out of the 42 Kebeles 37 Kebeles with 150,000 population was affected, the team managed to observe only 12 Kebeles and compiled its report based on the observation with the understanding that projection by the administration shall meanwhile be verified for an appropriate intervention.

At the time of the assessment the rivers inundated at least 1.5 up to 5 kms off their banks particularly around Dolo Odo, which is a confluence area. However the water penetrated a new outlet virtually covering farm lands and fruit plants cultivated along the normal course and did not subside until the team left during first week of June, significant population retreated from the flood displacing themselves from their established settlements. The Woreda reported that in Dolo Odo, 260 livestock and 50 water pumps were lost while maize crop on 3,900 ha, sorghum on 1,000 ha, flat beans on 2,000 ha, banana on 2,150 ha, sesame on 1,100 ha, tomato on 550 ha, onion on 700 ha, fruit plants on 250 ha, 9,000 ha of cooperative farm land were covered with flood.

The team observed flood covered banana plants turned yellow implying degeneration; papaya plants lost their leaves; mangoes were dropped into the flood; and in areas with less depth crop plants were seen inundated. In Filtu Woreda, 798 livestock were killed by the flood.

Finally, in accordance with request made for 46,700 of food aid, shelter for 1,868 and household utensils for 1,000 people in Dolo Odo and food aid and shelter for 1,245 household heads for Filtu woreda significant supply have been made by the Federal DPPC, the regional DPPB and NGOs. The team noted that fear of outbreak of water borne diseases, malaria, respiratory infections and diarrhea could occur in the wake of the flood disaster.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Malnutrition Surveys Conducted

Nutrition surveys were conducted in Grawa, Beddeno and Kurfa Chelle Woredas of East Hararghe Zone under programme organized for each during May - June 2005. [Page 11](#)

### Cereal Prices Still High

Prices of main staple foods such as barley, maize, sorghum and teff - mixed remained considerably high as compared to last year same time (April Avg. 98 – 05) in many parts of the country. [Page 5](#)

### Weather Outlook for June

For the month of June, normal to above normal rain is anticipated over Gambela, western and central Oromya, SNNPR, and Benshangul-Gumuz, as well as western parts of Amhara and Tigray. [Page 9](#)

### Belg Crop Prospect

Belg crops in most parts of Belg producing areas of Oromiya, Amhara and SNNPR were generally found in good condition during the month. However, concerns remain in the lowland areas of southern Tigray and eastern Amhara due to the erratic rains that were experienced. [Page 10](#)

### Situation in Pastoral Areas

Slight to heavy rains were reported received in most parts of Somali Region in May/2005. According to the regional DPPB report, the **Gu** rains have been heavy and excessive in many areas. [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.





# Disaster Occurrence

## Flood Caused by Heavy Rains Experienced in Several areas of the South

Several areas in the Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples Region (SNNPR) experienced flood damages caused by heavy rains at times lasting over a long period, according to reports of Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau of the Region.

### 1. Sodo Zuria Woreda ( Wolaita Zone)

In different localities of Sodo Zuria Woreda crop plant over 600 ha of land was covered with flood water affecting 1,363 peasants as reported by DPPB of the Region . According to the report, 14 bridges and 17 residential houses were also washed away. The Bureau, in its report of 18 May 2005, requested for assistance in two categories, one of them being assistance in emergency intervention including rehabilitation of washed farm lands, maintenance of flood preventive measures (dykes) and ditches. The other is attention to be given to implementing environmental protection policy and strengthening resettlement initiative.

### 2. Shashigo Woreda (Hadiya Zone)

In Shashigo Woreda of Hadiya Zone, too, heavy rains of two weeks damaged residential houses, crops and pasture in 17 localities, which also caused displacement of the local population. The same occurrence was reported from Kedida Gamela and Angacha Woredas of Kembata Tembaro Zone of the SNNPR where as the result of over flooding about 75% of crop was destroyed 4,605 heads of families or 28632 family members were displaced as reported by DPPB of the Region.

Heavy rains towards the beginning of May that occurred in 5 localities in Alaba Special Woreda damaged crops over 400 ha and 450 living houses eventually affecting nearly 550 households. Amaro Special Woreda experienced flood and landslide caused by cotinuous heavy rains in 4 localities damaged crops over 5.4 ha that affected 338 farmers, according to report by the Bureau.

### 3. Basketo Special Woreda

Basketo Special Woreda was also affected by flooding caused by heavy rain that destroyed crops over 14.25 ha worth birr 15,540 as reported by the Bureau .

## Fire Damage

Fire destroyed residential houses and household furniture in Gumer and Abeshegie Woredas of Gurage Zone of the SNNPR as reported by DPPB of the Zone on 26 May 2005. According to the report the damage sustained to houses,



Several areas in the SNNP Region experienced flood damages caused by heavy rains at times lasting over a long period, according to reports of Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Bureau of the Region.

In Shashigo Woreda of Hadiya Zone heavy rains of two weeks damaged residential houses, crops and pasture in 17 localities, which also caused displacement of the local population.



# Disaster Occurrence

animals and crop plants in Gumer was estimated to be over Birr 650,000 (houses destroyed worth Birr 325, 987, animals valued at Birr 280, 700 and crops estimated at Birr 43,637). In Abeshegie Woreda damage to houses, unidentified other property, and animals as well as crops was estimated above Birr 408,000 (that is Birr 204,016, 190,266 and 13,750 in succession).

In the attempt to deal with the disaster the Regional Bureau pointed out that communities in the two Woredas made some assistance in food and clothing but the victims have temporarily sheltered in Idir tents. Apparently, the Bureau made request for food aid, household furniture, farm implements and output loan facility for constructing dwelling houses.

In a related development fire accident in Genji Woreda of West Wollega Zone burned down 9 residential houses during the month. Besides, two houses were destroyed and household utensils, grain as well as livestock valued at Birr 5,585 were burned down in Tasoyo Mole locality of Lalo Asabi Woreda in the same zone, according to Food Security and DPPC of the Region .

DPPC



# Disaster Occurrence

## Effects of Flood Occurrence in Dirre Dawa Disclosed

Damage caused by overflowing of Dechatu River in high land of East Hararghe Zone and in the environs of Dirre Dawa on May 20, 2005 (Monthly Report Feb.- Apr 2005) was disclosed as causing displacement of 724 heads of families or 3,500 family members who had settled along the course; distraction of small thatched and corrugated iron houses; washing away of properties of residents of the houses; distraction of household properties in the houses inundated at a place called Koka around the town; rendering out of use of over 90% of properties belonging to nearly 300 traders organized in associations and engaged with business activities under the newly established supermarket; and death of 35 persons (32 in Dirre Dawa and 3 from the surrounding locality).

With respect to actions taken, the Disaster Prevention and Food Security Office of Dirre Dawa Provisional Administration reported that above a hundred of those settlers along the side of the river bank who lost their properties have been sheltering in plastic sheets and food supply sufficient for a month provided by the Red Cross Society while sand and other refuge left by the flood around Koka locality and the newly set up supermarket were cleared away using the required clearing machine. Besides, the Federal DPPC, local NGOs and the Administration have supplied assistance on different occasions to the affected population in accordance with the request made.

## Cases of meningitis, anthrax and black leg reported

Regarding human and animal health situation, 8 persons died of meningitis as testified by blood specimen in Yayya Gullalle Woreda of North Shoa Zone. Request was made for vaccination and the response is expected to deal with the disease lest it becomes a threat to the local population as reported by Oromiya Food Security and Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission (FSDPPC).

In Woina Dega areas of Melka Balo Woreda of East Hararghe zone, anthrax and black leg killed 35 head of cattle. Then it was put under control through provision of vaccination.



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# Food Security

## PRICE

### Cereal Prices Still High

Prices of main staple foods such as barley, maize, sorghum and tef f- mixed (sergegna) remained considerably high as compared to last year same time and the average (April Avg. 98 – 04) in many parts of the country. This condition is attributed to last years' poor Meher production in some parts of the country. In addition to this, April is one of the critical periods of the year, where no harvest is expected and the harvests from crop season of the year before also gets depleted. For instance, price of Barley in April 2005 in Sude wereda of Arsi Zone was higher by 20% from March 2005, 31% from last year (April 2004) and 61% from April Average ( 98 – 04). Similarly, in Dessie Zuria of South Wello Zone it was reported to be up by 20% from last month, 33% from last year and 35% from the average. Similar reports have also been received from Harari Region. Sorghum price in the region was reported to have increased by 14% from previous month, 47% from last year and 46% from the average. In Darlebu wereda of West Hararghe zone sorghum price in April 2005 was higher by 80% and 38% from last year same time and the average (please refer to Table – 1). In general price of cereals was reported to be significantly higher than last year and the average in many parts of the country. Price of grains in April 2005 has also shown slight to significant increases from previous month in different areas, except for some weredas like Meda Welabu of Bale Zone, where some declines in grain prices were reported.

On the other hand livestock prices (prices of ox, sheep and goats) during the month of April 2005 have shown somewhat considerable increases from last year same time and the average due to the good market outlets and improving physical condition of livestock as a result of March/April rains and favorable supply of water and pastures (feeds). For example price of goat in April 2005 in Fedis wereda of East Hararghe Zone was higher by 14% from previous month, 26% from last year and 40% from the Average. Similarly, price of sheep in Darelebu wereda of West Hararghe showed an increase of 13% from previous month, 55% from last year and 59% from the average. Also price of ox in April 2005 in Debark wereda of North Gonder was reported to be higher by 10% from previous month, 29% from last year same time and 49% from the Average ( please refer to Table – 1).

Terms of trade showed a mixed trend in many areas. For instance the terms of trade in Adwa wereda of Central Tigray has been showing mixed trend as of April 2004. Price of sheep in the wereda has been increasing as of December 2004 while price of maize, except for January 2005, remained more or less stable (Figure -5). The terms of trade in Aseko wereda of Arsi Zone has been in favor of shoat traders where price of one sheep has generally been higher than price of one quintal (100 Kilograms) of wheat in most period of the year (Figure – 4). Terms of trade in Gonder Zuria wereda of North Godar Zone started to rise starting from February - 05 (Figure – 1). Steep wheat price increase has been illustrated as of January – 05 while price of sheep has been decreasing significantly from February 05 – April 05.



Price of cereals was reported to be significantly higher than last year and the average in many parts of the country.

Region	Zone	Wereda	Commodity	5-Apr	5-Mar	4-Apr	Apr.Avg. 98-04Apr.	%change Apr. - 05 from Mar-05	% change Apr. - 05 from Apr.-04	% change Apr. - 05 from Apr.Avg
<b>Livestock</b>										
Oromiya	Arsi	Aseko	Sheep	160	155	135	108	0.03	0.19	0.48
	"	Sude		160	125	130	135	0.28,	0.23	0.19
	W/Hararghe	Darolebu		170	150	110	106.67	0.13	0.55	0.59
	E/Hararghe	Babile		130	130	115	94.58	0	0.13	0.37
	"	Fedis		130	120	130	112	0.08	0	0.16
	Bale	Meda welabu		180	135	117.5	104.38	0.33	0.53	0.72
	Guji	Liben		101	124	106	85.94	-0.19	-0.05	0.18
	N/Gondar	Debark		380	150	160	110	1.53	1.38	2.45
Amhara	S/Wello	Dessie Zuria	Sheep	190	180	180	127.5	0.06	0.06	0.49
	"	Legambo		150	110	90	94.17	0.36	0.67	0.59
	Oromiya	Artuma Fursi		117	117	110	95	0	0.06	0.23
Tigray	C/Tigray	Adwa	Sheep	185	170	200	147.33	0.09	-0.07	0.26
	Arsi	Aseko		135	120	100	90.83	0.13	0.35	0.49
	"	Sude		130	120	115	115	0.08	0.13	0.13
	W/Haraghe	Darolebu		160	100	120	95.42	0.6	0.33	0.68
Oromiya	E/Hararghe	Babile	Goat	120	120	95	79.17	0	0.26	0.52
	"	Fedis		120	105	95	86	0.14	0.26	0.4
	Bale	Meda welabu		150	120	97.5	66.88	0.25	0.54	1.24
	Guji	Liben		126	145	101	86.33	-0.13	0.25	0.46
	N/Gondar	Debark		350	140	140	90.5	1.5	1.5	2.87
Amhara	S/Wello	Dessie Zuria	Goat	180	150	135	105.4	0.2	0.33	0.71
	"	Legambo		150	140	70	81.25	0.07	1.14	0.85
	Oromiya	Artuma Fursi		110	110	100	90	0	0.1	0.22
	C/Tigray	Adwa		143.00	119.00	182.00	155.25	0.20	-0.21	-0.08
Tigray	S/Tigray	Endamehoni	Goat	200.00	156.00	140.00	128.50	0.28	0.43	0.56
	"	Rayaazebo		150.00	115.00	175.00	130.28	0.30	-0.14	0.15
	"	Alamata		175.00	135.00	190.00	122.10	0.30	-0.08	0.43
Harari	Harari	Harari	Goat	186.00	170.00	165.00	125.00	0.09	0.13	0.49
	Arsi	Aseko		1100.00	1000.00	1000.00	888.33	0.10	0.10	0.24
Oromiya	"	Sude	Ox	1350.00	1400.00	920.00	825.00	-0.04	0.47	0.64
	W/Hararghe	Darolebu		1500.00	1550.00	950.00	779.17	-0.03	0.58	0.93
	E/Hararghe	Babile		1250.00	1250.00	1200.00	804.17	0.00	0.04	0.55
	"	Fedis		950.00	900.00	825.00	824.00	0.06	0.15	0.15
Amhara	N/Gondar	Debark	Ox	1100.00	1000.00	850.00	740.50	0.10	0.29	0.49
	S/Wello	Dessie Zuria		1200.00	1200.00	1100.00	756.00	0.00	0.09	0.59
Tigray	C/Tigray	Adwa	Ox	1075.00	960.00	950.00	786.58	0.12	0.13	0.37

Region	Zone	Wereda	Commodity	Apr--05	Mar-05	Apr-0-4	Apr.Avg. 98-04Apr.	%change Apr.- 05 From Mar.05	%change Apr. - 05 From Apr.- 04	%change Apr. - 05 From Apr.Avg	
<b>Cereals</b>											
Tigray	S/Tigray	Endamehoni	<b>Barley</b>	200.00	192.00	200.00	182.08	0.04	0.00	0.10	
	C/Tigray	T/Maichew		211.00	207.00	189.00	189.50	0.02	0.12	0.11	
	Bale	Meda welabu		175.00	200.00	146.50	130.62	-0.13	0.19	0.34	
oromiya	Arsi	Aseko		105.00	100.00	90.00	117.83	0.05	0.17	-0.11	
	"	Sude		210.00	175.00	160.00	130.20	0.20	0.31	0.61	
	N/Gondar	Debark		180.00	130.00	180.00	171.25	0.38	0.00	0.05	
Amhara	S/Wello	Legambo		160.00	131.00	150.00	160.00	0.22	0.07	0.00	
	"	Dessie Zuria		233.00	194.00	175.00	172.50	0.20	0.33	0.35	
Harari	Harari	Harari	<b>Maize</b>	180.00	163.00	120.00	117.33	0.10	0.50	0.53	
Cambela	Gambela	Gambela		150.00	150.00	200.00	126.00	0.00	-0.25	0.19	
	Arsi	Sude		145.00	130.00	110.00	115.50	0.12	0.32	0.26	
	Bale	Meda Welabu		150.00	188.00	109.88	89.72	-0.20	0.37	0.67	
Oromiya	Arsi	Aseko		95.00	90.00	85.00	111.25	0.06	0.12	-0.15	
	W/Hararghe	Darolebu		150.00	200.00	90.00	113.12	-0.25	0.67	0.33	
	E/Hararghe	Babile		160.00	160.00	110.00	125.00	0.00	0.45	0.28	
	"	Liben		170.00	160.00	130.00	126.20	0.06	0.31	0.35	
Amhara	Oromiya	Artuma Fursi	<b>Sorghum</b>	140.00	136.00	109.00	97.00	0.03	0.28	0.44	
	W/Hararghe	Darolebu		180.00	200.00	100.00	130.00	-0.10	0.80	0.38	
Oromiya	E/Hararghe	Babile		160.00	155.00	120.00	140.00	0.03	0.33	0.14	
	"	Fedis		150.00	175.00	132.50	125.50	-0.14	0.13	0.20	
	N/Gondar	Debark		160.00	200.00	150.00	132.50	-0.20	0.07	0.21	
Amhara	S/Wello	Dessie Zuria		185.00	172.00	160.00	157.00	0.08	0.16	0.18	
	Oromiya	Artuma Fursi		150.00	149.00	93.00	117.62	0.01	0.61	0.28	
	C/Tigray	Adwa		220.00	212.00	160.00	165.90	0.04	0.38	0.33	
Tigray	C/Tigray	T/Maichew		231.00	233.00	197.00	183.50	-0.01	0.17	0.26	
	S/Tigray	Endamehoni		196.00	181.00	174.00	166.12	0.08	0.13	0.18	
	S/Tigray	Rayaazebo		200.00	180.00	171.00	160.05	0.11	0.17	0.25	
B/Gumuz	Asosa	Asosa		110.00	80.00	110.00	95.00	0.38	0.00	0.16	
Gambela	Gambela	Gambela		170.00	200.00	130.00	123.00	-0.15	0.31	0.38	
Harari	Harari	Hundene		206.00	180.00	140.00	141.00	0.14	0.47	0.46	
	W/Hararghe	Chiro		<b>Teff mixed</b>	285.00	290.00	260.00	235.44	-0.02	0.10	0.21
Oromiya	"	Darolebu			260.00	250.00	230.00	188.75	0.04	0.13	0.38
	E/Hararghe	Babile	270.00		275.00	270.00	260.00	-0.02	0.00	0.04	
	Bale	Ginir	205.00		195.00	200.00	219.00	0.05	0.02	-0.06	
	N/Gondar	Debark	270.00		250.00	270.00	225.00	0.08	0.00	0.20	
Amhara	S/Wello	Dessie Zuria	258.00		242.00	228.00	218.60	0.07	0.13	0.18	
	"	Legambo	270.00		260.00	225.00	216.67	0.04	0.20	0.25	
	C/Tigray	Adwa	300.00		280.00	270.00	238.36	0.07	0.11	0.26	
Tigray	"	T/Maichew	310.00		280.00	264.00	254.67	0.11	0.17	0.22	
	S/Tigray	Alamata	266.00		250.00	229.00	220.58	0.06	0.16	0.21	



# Food Security

Figure - 1

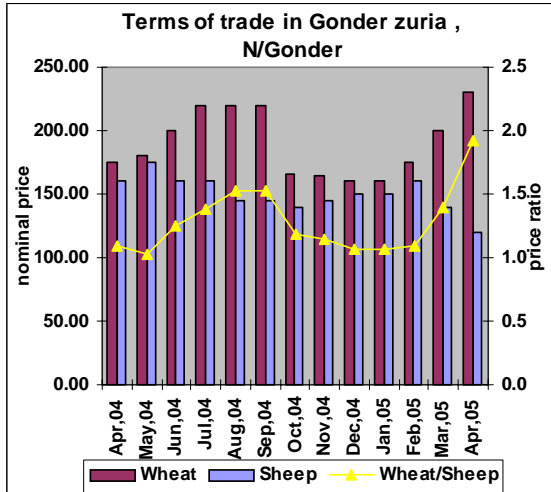


Figure - 2

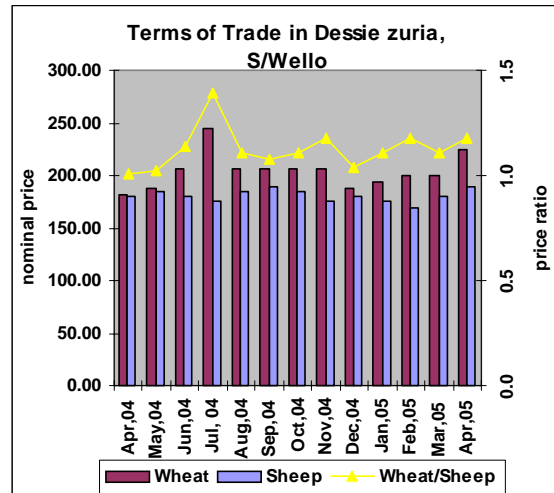


Figure - 3

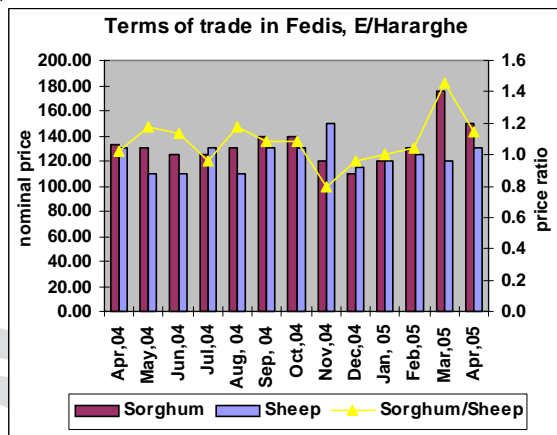


Figure - 4

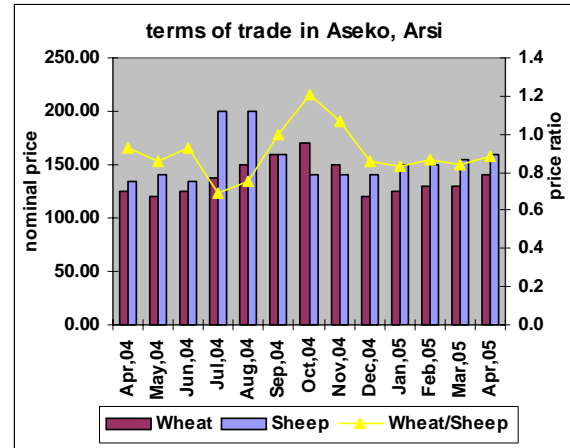


Figure - 5

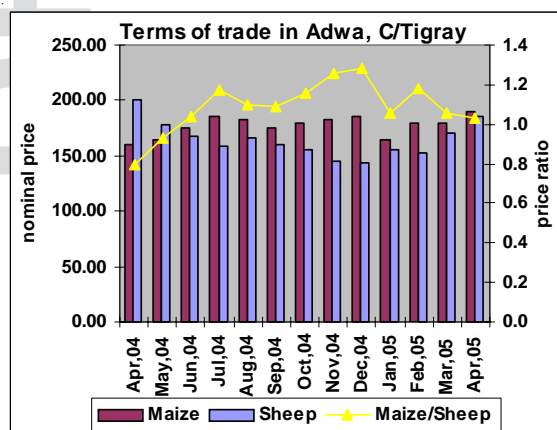
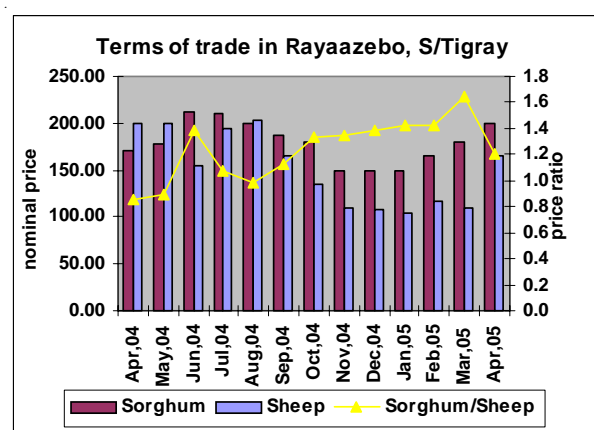


Figure - 6

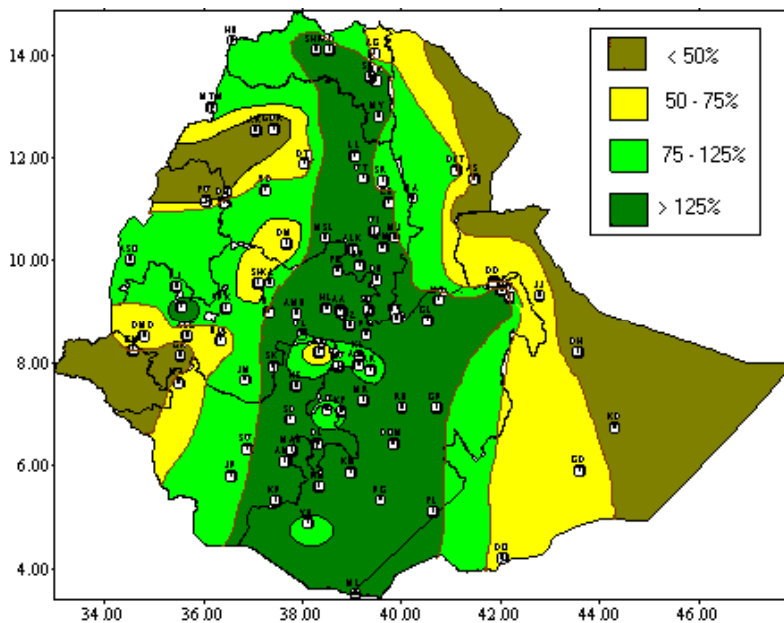




# Weather Conditions

## Weather conditions

According to the NMSA seasonal Agro meteorological Bulletin, during the month of May 2005, moist to humid moisture status has been observed over most parts of Belg and Meher growing areas while dry to moderately dry moisture status has been observed over Meher growing areas of western Amhara and Tigray. Nevertheless, some areas of central and southern Ethiopia repeatedly exhibited heavy falls during the month. Thus, some areas like Kibre Mengist, Hagere Mariam, Aira, Sodo and Burji reported heavy fall during the month. On the contrary, deficient falls were observed over most parts of western half of the country like, Debre Markos and Ghimbi during the second week of May 2005.



Percent of normal rainfall for the month of May 2005

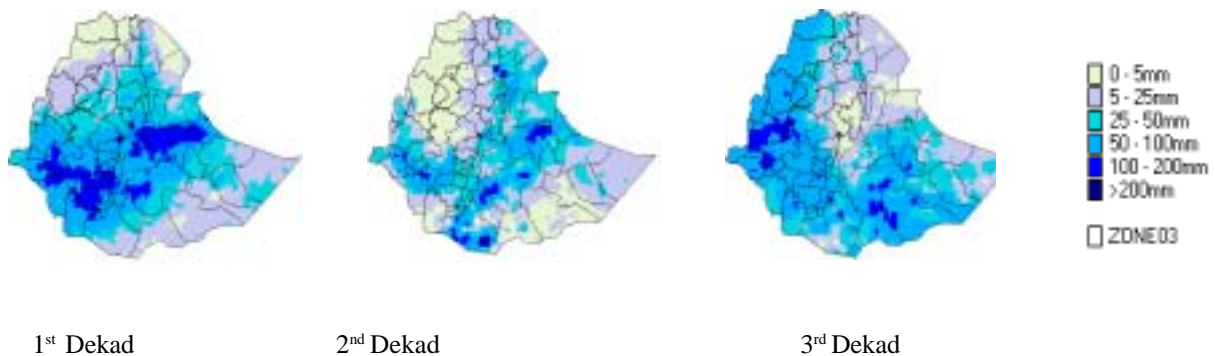
- Explanatory notes for legend
- < 50 — Much below normal
  - 50 –75% — Below normal
  - 75 – 125% — Normal
  - > 125% — Above normal



# Weather Conditions

Similar to that of NMSA, reports collected from different regions during the month indicated that most parts of Belg growing areas benefited from improved rainfall condition during the month under review. Hence most parts of Oromiya ,Amhara and SNNPR experienced normal to above normal rainfall except some areas in the western half of the country.

## 10 DAILY RFE IMAGERIES FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 2005



The ten daily rainfall estimate (RFE) imageries for the month of May 2005 indicate that most parts of the country received favorable rainfall during the month. Hence, during the first dekad of May most parts of Oromiya, most parts of eastern part of Amhara, most parts of SNNPR, Gambela northern and northeastern part of Somali region received rains ranging from 25-50 and above.

During the second dekad of May improved rainfall performance was observed over northern Somali, southern Afar, central and eastern parts of Oromiya, Gambela, and southern and western parts of SNNPR.

During the third dekad , the coverage and intensity of the rains were particularly high over western half of Tigray, western Amhara, western Oromiya, Benshangul Gumuz, most parts of SNNPR and most parts of Somali region.



# Weather Conditions

## Weather outlook for the month of June 2005

For the month of June, normal to above normal rain is anticipated over Gambela, western and central Oromiya, SNNPR, and Benshangul-Gumuz, as well as western parts of Amhara and Tigray. Besides, eastern Tigray, eastern Amhara as well as eastern and southern Oromiya and the adjoining areas of eastern part of SNNP are mostly expected to have close to normal rainfall. However, some places will have a chance of getting below normal rain. On the other hand, Afar and its adjoining areas, however, will be dominated by dry weather condition. Few places will have isolated rain showers.

## Weather outlook for Kiremt 2005

The seasonal rain is expected to start within the normal onset periods. There are enhanced probabilities of getting better rainfall performance in July and August. Heavy rains are likely to occur frequently over the highlands. These phenomena are anticipated to induce flood catastrophes notably along the river banks and low-lying areas of the country. The seasonal rains are predicted to perform better over western half than eastern areas of the country. In addition to the natural rainfall variability, below normal rains are predicted at pocket areas of northeast, east and southern highlands and the Rift Valley regions. Dry weather conditions are expected to dominate south and southeast Ethiopia throughout the season. The seasonal rain will retreat west as well as southward within the normal cessation period.

## Agricultural activities and crop performance

Belg crops in most parts of Belg producing areas of Oromiya, Amhara and SNNPR were generally found in good condition during the month. However, concerns remain in the lowland areas of southern Tigray and eastern Amhara due to the erratic rains that were experienced during the month. Depending on their planting time crops are found at different growth stage, from vegetative to grain filling.

## Crop Pest and Disease

No reports were received on Crop Pest and/or Disease occurrence that has occurred at an outbreak level.

## Adverse weather conditions

Heavy rain destroyed residential houses, fruits and vegetables on farm lands in Haro Maya Woreda on May 30, 2005. In Babile Woreda, too, heavy storm accompanied by wind and hail stones destroyed maize over 11 ha in two localities, 20 houses, 2 schools, and ripped off the roof of Farmer Training Center on the same day.

In Jiddo Kombolcha of Adami Tulu Woreda in East Shoa Zone 28 ha of maize crop belonging to 20 households was washed away by flood caused by heavy rain. In a related incident, flash flood of river breaking out of its banks as a result of heavy rain carried away 14 livestock, 10 houses and 24 persons in Kuni Woreda of West Hararghe Zone.

Normal to above normal rain is anticipated over Gambela, western and central Oromiya, SNNPR, and Benshangul-Gumuz, as well as western parts of Amhara and Tigray during June. Many other areas are also expected to have close to normal rainfall.



Belg crops in most parts of Belg producing areas of Oromiya, Amhara and SNNPR were generally found in good condition during the month of May.



# Weather Conditions

## **Crop Production Prospect to be Assessed Shortly**

The actual crop production prospect will be assessed by the multi-agency assessment teams during the Belg pre-harvest assessment to be conducted as of June 23, 2005. The multi agency teams led by the DPPC shall conduct assessment on Belg performance and situation in pastoral areas of different Zones and Special Woredas in Tigray, Amhara, Oromiya, Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples, Afar, and Somali Regions. The 16 teams are composed of 2 to 5 members each some of whom are expected to join from the Regions are scheduled to undertake their assessment for 2 weeks. The teams have been briefed on June 22 about the general current situation throughout the country in order to have some background information related to their mission.

Regarding the current Belg performance the better rainfall particularly during April and May is expected to improve the overall crop production prospect especially in mid and highland areas. Never the less, in the historically rainfall deficit lowland areas and areas that have experienced excessive rains and flood will definitely face significant crop losses that eventually contribute towards reduced production. Besides, in many of the pastoralist areas improvement of pasture and water have been reported even though flood disaster caused by heavy rains particularly in eastern and southern parts of the country were witnessed.

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A multi- agency teams ready to undertake a pre-harvest belg assessment starting 23 June for 2 weeks.

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DPPC



## Malnutrition

### Prevalence of Malnutrition Reported

Prevalence of different levels of malnutrition with children of 6 to 59 months, that is, critical, severe and poor levels were identified by nutrition surveys conducted during May 22 - 2 June 2005 in Grawa, Beddeno and Kurfa Chelle Woredas of East Hararghe Zone under programme organized for each involving 8 teams. The surveys were conducted basically with the objective of evaluating the level of malnutrition manifested with the community due to food shortage prevailing in the three Woredas. Request was also made to conduct joint study of the problem in the Woredas. Monthly early warning information continuously dispatched from the Woredas yet have been found indicative of prevalence of food shortage.

Participants of the survey were drawn from federal DPPC, Food Security and Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Commission of Oromiya and CARE Ethiopia. This joint nutrition survey was initiated and funded by CARE Ethiopia in response to worsening food security situation in the three Woredas identified to be among 'hot spots' by EWD/ENCU of the DPPC.

The report indicates level of prevalence of malnutrition in terms of Global Acute Malnutrition and Severe Acute Malnutrition in the three Woredas. Accordingly, in Grawa it was 17.1% for GAM and 3.3% for SAM; in Beddeno 11.3% for GAM and 1.4% for SAM; and in Kurfa Chelle 7.1% for GAM and 1.1% for SAM. Based on emergency nutrition guideline of the federal DPPC on determining malnutrition level, the finding on Grawa shows **critical**, Beddeno **serious**, and Kurfa Chelle as **poor**. Apparently, the team that conducted the survey believes that general food ration distribution should be done as not only the children but also the aged, pregnant and lactating mothers were observed to be unusually weak due to shortage of food.

Regarding the children, the CTC programs run by CARE and the government partners have highly contributed towards alleviating problems of malnutrition, which could have been cause for several deaths of children otherwise.

In a related occurrence, unidentified number of children below 5 years in Zuway Dugda Woreda of Arsi zone have been suffering of malnutrition, according to reports.

Similarly, diseases related to malnutrition are on the rise in Goro and Mena Angetu Woredas of Bale zone.



Based on emergency nutrition guideline of the federal DPPC on determining malnutrition level, the finding on Grawa shows **critical**, Beddeno **serious**, and Kurfa Chelle **poor**.



# Situation in Pastoral Areas

## SOMALI REGION

Slight to heavy rains were reported received in most parts of Somali Region in May/2005. According to the regional DPPB report, the **Gu** rains have been heavy and excessive in many areas including Mustahil, Ferfer and Kelafo weredas of Gode Zone, Degahabur wereda of Degahabur Zone, Kebridahar wereda of Korahe Zone, West Imi wereda of Afder Zone, Kebribeyah, Harshin and Jijiga (Fafen areas ) of Jijiga Zone and Warder wereda of Warder Zone.

Heavy rains in the nearby uplands and in some other localities of the region were also reported to have caused overflowing of permanent rivers like Wabi Shebelle River in Gode Zone for the second time during the month ; Weib River in Afder Zone and Dawa and Genale Rivers in Liban and Afder Zones. Significant damages due to the overflow of these rivers particularly in Dolo Odo wereda of Liban Zone (see front page), Dolo Bay and Hargele weredas of Afder Zone and Mustahil and Ferfer weredas of Gode Zone have been reported. Flood damages had also been reported from Harshin wereda of Jijiga Zone during the reporting period. As per regional and field assessment findings, the flood caused displacement of people and loss of a number of livestock. It was also reported that it had swept away crop fields and water schemes in some localities at the initial period of the month. According to recent information, people have already started returning to their respective areas where the flood water receded.

In general, apart from the flood damages incurred by excessive rains and overflow of rivers, the performance of 2005 Gu rains so far was reported to be much better than last year in many areas of the Region and this situation reportedly created favorable condition for water and pasture supplies particularly where rains were good in amount and distribution. The livestock physical condition is improving and there have been no reports of animal health problem at epidemic level. The current rains are expected to continue up to end of June 2005 in some parts of the Region.

## AFAR REGION

As per regional DPPB report, the amount of rains received during Sugum 2005 (mid March/2005 - April/2005) were somewhat good particularly in most parts of Zone three and Zone five and help a lot in alleviating the water and pasture (browses) problems that prevailed as a result of the last extended dry period. Although limited, regeneration of pasture for sheep and cattle was also reported from the two zones.

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Heavy rains in uplands and in some localities of the region were reported to have caused overflowing of permanent rivers like Wabi Shebelle River in Gode Zone for the second time during the month .

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The amount of rains received during **Sugum** 2005 (mid March/2005 - April/2005) were somewhat good particularly in most parts of Zone three and Zone five and help a lot in alleviating the water and pasture (browses) problems that prevailed as a result of the last extended dry period.

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## Situation in Pastoral Areas

The rains received in Zone four was also better than last year thereby improving browses and water availability in most parts of the Zone including Awura, Ewa and Golina weredas. Except for Elidar and Dubti (Gulubule areas), the situation in Zone one is also more or less similar to that of Zone four. As a result of the improved condition in both zones, all cattle that had migrated to Cheffa, Kemissie and Weldia areas of Amhara Region from Chifera and Mille weredas of Zone one and Awura and Ewa weredas of Zone four are reported to have returned to their respective localities.

With regard to livestock, improving condition was reported in areas where better rains were received, but availability of livestock products such as milk, remained low due to poor rains, which resulted in low reproductive and calving rates in 2004.

The food security situation in Zone two was, however, said to be deteriorating as a result of poor rains last year and 2005 Sugum rains. Thus, presently water and pasture supply is very critical and water rationing is on-going in Dalol, Berhale and Erebiti weredas of the Zone. Problem of water is also persisting in some parts of the region including chronic water deficit areas like Kumame of Semurobi wereda of Zone five, Elidar and Dubti (Gulubule) weredas of Zone one and Yalo weredas of Zone four. With regard to animal health, except for the endemic diseases, there have been no reports of animal health outbreaks during the reporting period.

In general, except for zone two, some improvements in the availability of water and pastures (browses) have been reported from most parts of the region as the result of the 2005 Sugum rains. Currently relief food distribution in the affected weredas and water trucking in some chronic water deficit areas is underway. This operation has somehow helped to ease the stress condition. Yet the situation in Zone two and some chronic water deficit areas need immediate attention and close monitoring. Any delays in the coming rainy season (the next rainy season is normally expected to start as mid-July/2005) will exacerbate the deteriorating food security situation in above noted areas.

### LOWLANDS OF BORENA, BALE AND GUJI ZONES (OROMIYA)

Most areas in Borena and Guji zones were reported to have received good rains during the month of May 2005. The rains in some localities are said to be very heavy and excessive in Liban wereda of Guji Zone and Gelana and Abaya weredas of Borena Zone. Heavy and excessive rains in Gelana, Bule Hora and Yirga Chefe weredas abnormally resulted in the overflow of Gelana River particularly in Gelana wereda. Because of this, 4 kebeles namely Metere, Shemole, Kersa and Bore were severely affected. Crop field with an area of about 1,254 hectares and grazing areas (about 730 hectares) and some 150 residential houses were indicated to have been submerged by the flood water. Similarly, most low lying areas of Bale Zone received light to heavy rains during the first half of May 2005. Currently pasture and water availability, and livestock physical condition is improving.



All cattle that had migrated to Cheffa, Kemissie and Weldia areas of Amhara Region from Chifera and Mille weredas of Zone one and Awura and Ewa weredas of Zone four are reported to have returned to their respective localities.



Most areas in Borena and Guji zones were reported to have received good rains during the month of May 2005 even though the rains in some localities are said to be very heavy and excessive.



## Situation in Pastoral Areas

### **SOUTH OMO ZONE ( SNNPR)**

All weredas in South Omo Zone reported to have received somewhat good rains both in terms of amount and distribution during the reporting period. Adequate supply of water and pastures; and good physical condition of livestock were mentioned by the regional weekly report.

### **LIVESTOCK CONDITION IN CROPPER AREAS**

Pasture ( feeds) supplies in many belg producing areas were reported to be improving because of the good 2005 Belg rains. The situation in Southern Tigray is also improving to some extent as a result of the Belg rains.

However, in some areas it was said to be very heavy and excessive causing some loss of livestock. This includes Kuni wereda of West Hararghe, Aseko wereda of Arsi Zone and Burji special wereda of SNNPR. Heavy rains accompanied by hail storms was also reported from highland areas of Dembia wereda of North Gonder. Besides, in 4 kebeles of Siraro wereda of Arsi Zone rains accompanied by hailstorm reportedly killed some livestock. In general, the water and pasture situation in Belg producing areas was reported to be improving.

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