



Ethiopian Early Warning System

Monthly Report :September 2005

29 SEPTEMBER 2005

AREAS OF PRIORITY ACTION

Flood Interrupted Road Connection in Afar

Heavy flood of Awash River that occurred on September 2, 2005 in Dubti Woreda of Afar broke a bridge connecting some Kebeles with other parts of the region. According to Regional reports, a total of 42,000 people were affected by the flood. In response, the Federal DPPC in collaboration with the National Defence Force and the Regional Government have provided the necessary emergency supplies to the affected population. The National Defence Force has also played an important role in transporting emergency supplies using helicopters.

Flood Caused Damage in Dugda Bora, East Shewa

Awash and Meki rivers unusually broke their bank after mid-August and flooded four localities in Dugda Bora Woreda of East Shewa Zone affecting people and causing damage to crops, livestock and residential houses.

In response, several people were rescued by motor and manual boats; dry ration was distributed by the Federal DPPC and the woreda administration; flood prevention works done around the broken bank of Meki River.

Malaria Outbreak Reported

Cases of malaria at an outbreak level were identified from Dara, Dale, Borecha and Shebedino Woredas of Sidama Zone in Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region was reported. Medical assistance and follow up currently in progress in the fight against malaria needs to be strengthened.

Threats of Volcanic Eruptions in Afar

Several incidents of earth quake, including volcanic eruptions was reported in Teru Woreda of Zone Four in Afar Region. These incidents of volcanic activity with a range of 4.4 to 5.5 on richter scale were recorded 23 times during 20-27 September 2005 by Geophysical Observatory of Addis Ababa University. The volcano has been active over the last nine decades signifying possible volcanic eruption and looming disaster to occur.

The DPPC has began to supply the population with emergency food, plastic sheets, household utensils, clothing and a truck with the capacity to carry 15,000 liters of water.

HIGHLIGHTS

Grain and livestock Price Situation

Price of grain showed significant increase in July 2005 from that of last year. [Page 5](#)

Prevalence of Malnutrition Identified

Preliminary findings of an assessment team deployed to East Hararghe Zone and East Shewa Zone of Oromiya Region indicate cases of malnutrition in Fedis, Babile and Alemaya Woredas. [Page 14](#)

Agricultural Activities and Crop Performances

Meher crop performance in most mid and highland areas is reported good while in some lowland areas production could likely decrease. [Page 12](#)

Weather Condition Assessment

With the exception of the observed adverse weather situations (hail, water logging, flood, late onset of rains etc.) over some pocket areas, particularly in the lowlands, the overall weather situation was favorable for agricultural activities.

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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 Interrupted Road Connection in Afar

Heavy flood of Awash River that occurred on September 2, 2005 in Dubti Woreda of Afar broke a bridge connecting some Kebeles with other parts of the region, according to regional report. An assessment team that went to the Region to conduct mid-Meher assessment expressed its worry about eventual complication of food shortage since the bridge was the only outlet including access to the market for the community behind it.

According to Regional reports, a total of 42,000 people were affected by the flood. In response, the regional government initially distributed 45 cartons of supplementary food to victims of the disaster.

On the part of the FDPPC, besides the regular food rationing it supplied in collaboration with the National Defense some 2,250 quintals of cereals, 225 quintals of pulses, 236 quintals of Fafa, 306 cartons of oil, 1,250 cartons of Biscuits and other non-food items including 10 rolls of 4x50 meters of plastic sheets as well as clothing. The Ethiopian Red Cross Society has also provided 32 cartons of supplementary food.

Flood Caused Damage in Dugda Bora, East Shewa

Awash and Meki rivers unusually broke their bank after mid-August and flooded four localities in Dugda Bora Woreda of East Shewa Zone affecting people and causing damage to crops, livestock and residential houses. Accordingly, 140 dwelling houses in Welda Mekdela and 300 in Gora Leman were submerged in water; over 572.25 ha crop land were completely destroyed. Besides, 78 livestock and 378 chickens were killed in one of the localities (Leman) while unidentified amount of household properties were washed away by the flood in others. In general, a total of 2,000 people were affected.

In response, several people were rescued by motor and manual boats; dry ration was bought and distributed by the woreda administration; flood prevention works done around the broken bank of Meki River; population needing emergency assistance was identified; types of crops and amount of seed to be planted in place of those damaged were identified for request.

Malaria Outbreak in SNNPR

Malaria outbreak was identified from Dara, Dale, Borecha and Shebedino Woredas of Sidama Zone in Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples Region according to a report compiled by a team dispatched from Federal DPPC to the Woredas. According to the report organized during second week of August 2005, although cases of malaria persists at varying level in all the identified Woredas the occurrence was at an outbreak level in Dara and Dale.



Several people were rescued by motor and manual boats; dry ration was bought and distributed by the woreda administration; flood prevention works done around the broken bank of Meki River; population needing emergency assistance was identified.



Disaster Occurrence

There is serious concern that unless due attention is given and there is close monitoring the problem could escalate. Recommendation was made stating that food assistance planned by Enhanced Outreach Strategy (EOS) for children and mothers should be supplied on time; and medical assistance and follow up currently in progress in the fight against malaria should continue.

Threats of Volcanic Eruptions in Afar

There were several incidents of earth quake, including volcanic eruptions in northern Afar Region. These incidents of volcanic activity with a range of 4.4 to 5.5 on richter scale were recorded 23 times during 20-27 September 2005 by Geophysical Observatory of Addis Ababa University.

The eruption around Erta Ale, a small crater of lava, and another bigger one resulted in collapse and cracking of mountain ridge; disappearance of hot springs their outlets covered and replaced by smokes having pungent smell that is itself harmful; and dust as well as rock fragments thrown in to the air.

With respect to its aspect of disaster, four localities in Teru Woreda were affected, two of them seriously with a total of 6,384 persons displaced and are now at a place called Dibabo 20kms off Teru. Besides, 960 livestock were killed; a woman injured; 6 water wells lost posing critical water shortage; pasture was contaminated by lava ash and smoke affecting animal health. The DPPC has begun to supply the population emergency food, plastic sheets, household utensils, clothing and a truck with the capacity to carry 15,000 liters of water.

As to imminent threat posed by the volcanic eruption, ever since the recent eruption there are signs of new and wide ranging volcanic activity involving quick movement of lava from central part of the earth to the crust. Evidence to this occurrence that is moving south, according to research finding by Addis Ababa University, is accumulation of lava 20 to 30 meters thick and widening of mouth of the volcano (at Arta Ale).

The volcano has been active over the last nine decades signifying possible volcanic eruption and looming disaster to occur. Apparently, recommendations were given to mitigate the likely occurrence of disaster, one of which is evacuation of local community from the Teru- Boyina locality especially those residing near the volcanic complex and the locality where the large scale collapse took place.

Omo River Overflows a Locality

As the result of a high rise of water level of Omo River, a locality called Deset situated in Kuraz Woreda of South Omo Zone was overflowed. Due to the overflowing, human beings and animals have been facing problems, it was indicated. Assessment of the full scale of the damage is under way.

Reports from the field state that unless due attention is given and close monitoring is in place malaria could escalate. It was noted that food assistance planned by Enhanced Outreach Strategy (EOS) should be supplied on time to fight malaria.



Food Security

Grain and livestock Price Situation

Price of grain showed significant increase in July 2005 from that of last year same time (July 2004 and 1998 – 2004 July average) particularly in areas where 2004 Meher production was either low or poor. For instance, maize price in July 2005 in Babile and Fedis weredas of East Harararghe was higher by 50% and 91% respectively from last year and by 37% and 55% from July average. Some what similar price increases on sorghum were also illustrated by the said weredas both from last year and the average. In Harari too, sorghum price in July 2005 was up by 50% and 43% from last year (June 2004) and the average. In Rayaazebo of Southern Tigray, it increased by 17% and 41% from last year and the average respectively.

The increase particularly in Babile and Fedis woredas of East Hararaghe Zone of Oromiya Region (please refer to Table – 1) was mainly due to the 2004 poor harvest and the deteriorated food security situation.

On the other hand, slight price declines from June 2005 were observed in some parts of the country due to the arrival of fresh harvests from Belg crops and the on-going relief food distribution. For instance, sorghum and maize prices in July 2005 in Medawelabu Woreda of Bale Zone declined by 20% and 27% from that of June 2005 (Table -1).

Livestock, particularly shoats (sheep and goats) prices on the other hand, showed significant to considerable increases from that of last year (June 2004) and the July average. Sheep prices in Medawelabu Woreda of Bale Zone and Harari were higher by 29% and 31% respectively from last year (June 2004) and by 53% and 81% from the July average (1998 – 2004) due to improved condition of pasture and available market outlets. In general, livestock prices improved significantly although some declines were illustrated from last year by some Woredas (Table – 2).

The terms of trade has been either stable as of May2005 (Figure 1, 5 and 6) or has been showing an increasing trend (Figure 2, 3 and 4) favoring grain traders.



Maize price in July 2005 in Babile and Fedis weredas of East Harararghe was higher by 50% and 91% respectively from last year and by 37% and 55% from July average.

Region	Zone	Wereda	Commodity	Jul-05	Jun-05	Jul-04	July Avg. 98 - 04Jul.	% change Jul.-05 from Jun.-05	% change Jul.-05 from Jul.-04	% change Jul.-05 from Jul. Avg.
Cereals										
Oromia	Arsi	Aseko	Barley	120.00	120.00	120.00	152.67	0.00	0.00	-0.21
	Bale	Medawelabu		150.00	160.00	133.00	134.33	-0.06	0.13	0.12
Tigray	C/Tigray	Adwa		213.00	256.00	190.00	194.33	-0.17	0.12	0.10
	"	Tah/Maichew		256.00	250.00	197.00	199.67	0.02	0.30	0.28
	S/Tigray	Rayaazebo		245.00	214.00	183.00	174.73	0.14	0.34	0.40
Oromia	Arsi	Aseko	Maize	115.00	115.00	100.00	127.00	0.00	0.15	-0.09
	W/Hararghe	Chiro		180.00	220.00	130.00	153.57	-0.18	0.38	0.17
	E/Hararghe	Babile		180.00	200.00	120.00	131.40	-0.10	0.50	0.37
	"	Fedis		210.00	170.00	110.00	135.17	0.24	0.91	0.55
	Bale	Medawelabu		137.00	187.00	100.00	116.25	-0.27	0.37	0.18
Tigray	C/Tigray	Adwa		215.00	220.00	185.00	178.25	-0.02	0.16	0.21
	"	Tah/Maichew		202.00	210.00	171.60	158.43	-0.04	0.18	0.28
	S/Tigray	Rayaazebo		199.00	208.00	166.00	155.64	-0.04	0.20	0.28
Harari	Harari	Harari	185.00	180.00	115.00	127.50	0.03	0.61	0.45	
Oromia	Arsi	Aseko	Sorghum	145.00	145.00	95.00	127.50	0.00	0.53	0.14
	W/Hararghe	Chiro		190.00	205.00	110.00	162.14	-0.07	0.73	0.17
	E/Hararghe	Babile		200.00	188.00	120.00	145.20	0.06	0.67	0.38
	"	Fedis		220.00	180.00	125.00	147.50	0.22	0.76	0.49
	Bale	Medawelabu		149.90	187.00	100.00	137.80	-0.20	0.50	0.09
Tigray	C/Tigray	Adwa		210.00	280.00	185.00	178.75	-0.25	0.14	0.17
	"	Tah/Maichew		220.00	220.00	192.25	182.14	0.00	0.14	0.21
	S/Tigray	Rayaazebo		245.00	249.00	210.00	173.54	-0.02	0.17	0.41
Harari	Harari	Harari	210.00	210.00	140.00	146.83	0.00	0.50	0.43	
Oromia	Arsi	Aseko	Wheat	160.00	160.00	137.50	177.92	0.00	0.16	-0.10
	W/Hararghe	Chiro		250.00	250.00	165.00	192.86	0.00	0.52	0.30
	E/Hararghe	Babile		240.00	230.00	140.00	172.80	0.04	0.71	0.39
Tigray	C/Tigray	Adwa		280.00	280.00	240.00	242.50	0.00	0.17	0.15
	"	Tah/Maichew		276.00	242.00	234.15	211.75	0.14	0.18	0.30
Harari	Harari	Harari		220.00	220.00	145.00	151.67	0.00	0.52	0.45



Food Security



Region	Zone	Wereda	Commodity	Jul.-05	Jun.-05	Jul.-04	Jul.Avg 98-04 Jul.	%change Jul.-05 from Jun.-05	%change Jul.-05 from Jul.-04	%change Jul.-05 from Jul.Avg.	
Livestock											
Oromia	Arsi	Aseko	Sheep	160.00	160.00	200.00	116.00	0.00	-0.20	0.38	
	E/Hararghe	Babile		125.00	130.00	110.00	88.00	-0.04	0.14	0.42	
	"	Fedis		135.00	150.00	130.00	107.08	-0.10	0.04	0.26	
	Bale	Medawelabu		180.00	180.00	140.00	98.13	0.00	0.29	0.83	
	Tigray	C/Tigray		Adwa	160.00	178.00	158.00	146.92	-0.10	0.01	0.09
	"	Tah/Maichew		210.00	210.00	185.50	145.08	0.00	0.13	0.45	
	S/Tigray	Rayaazebo		200.00	205.00	195.00	136.67	-0.02	0.03	0.46	
	Harari	Harari		Harari	210.00	215.00	160.00	116.25	-0.02	0.31	0.81
	Oromia	Arsi		Aseko	110.00	110.00	150.00	96.67	0.00	-0.27	0.14
Tigray	E/Hararghe	Babile	Goat	115.00	120.00	95.00	72.00	-0.04	0.21	0.60	
	"	Fedis		105.00	120.00	105.00	85.71	-0.13	0.00	0.23	
	Bale	Medawelabu		140.00	130.00	115.00	78.75	0.08	0.22	0.78	
	C/Tigray	Adwa		128.00	140.00	138.00	157.00	-0.09	-0.07	-0.18	
	"	Tah/Maichew		170.00	170.00	170.00	114.67	0.00	0.00	0.48	
	S/Tigray	Rayaazebo		185.00	195.00	194.00	127.83	-0.05	-0.05	0.45	
	Harari	Harari		Harari	220.00	218.00	170.00	123.75	0.01	0.29	0.78



Food Security

Figure - 1
Tigray

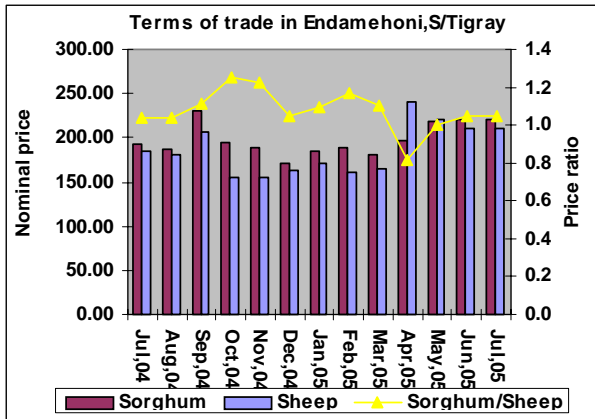


Figure - 2

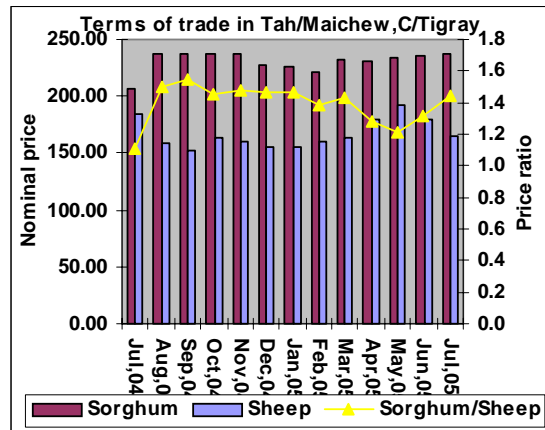


Figure -3
Oromiya

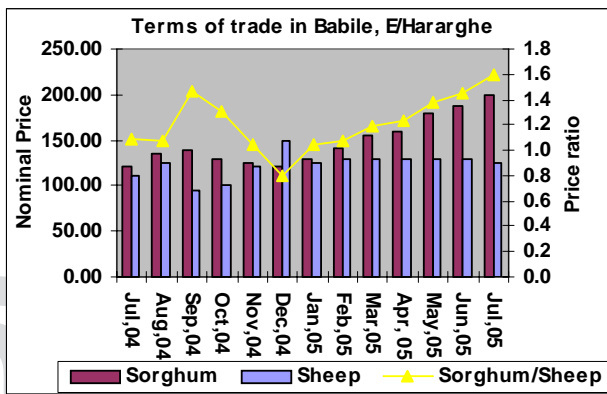


Figure -4
Harari

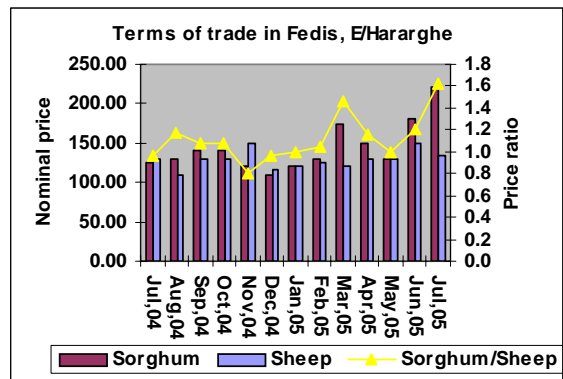


Figure -5
Harari

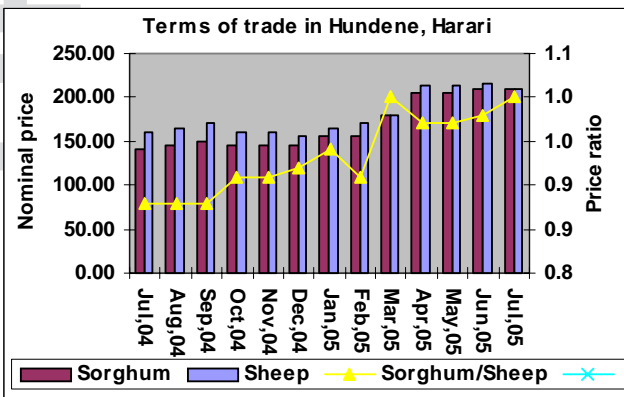
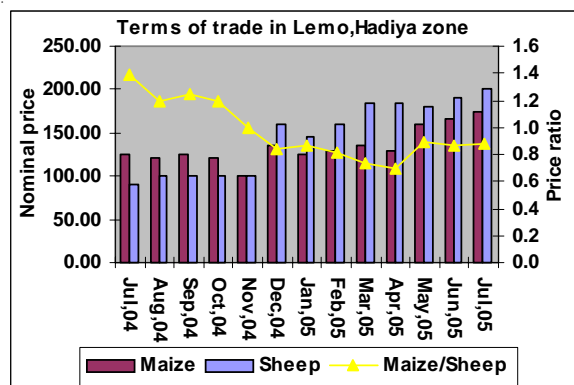
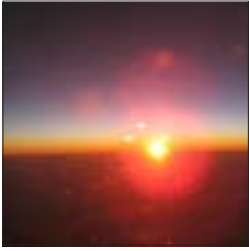


Figure -6
SNNPR





Weather Conditions

1. Weather Performance by Region

Tigray

Onset of Azmera (Meher season rain) as well as Tsedia (Belg rain) was on time in most parts of Tigray Region. Even though there was variation in amount and distribution, all woredas received rains. There was dry spell for about one month during Belg in Ofla, Endamehoni, Raya Azebo, and Alamata Woredas of Southern Tigray. Similarly, dry spell occurred during the first two weeks of July, which resulted in moisture stress for the Meher crops in the region. On the other hand, the rainfall condition improved in amount and distribution since mid-July onwards. Generally, the rain this year was better than last year both in amount and distribution although heavy rainfall accompanied with hailstorm, flood and wind damaged crop during the third week of August.

Amhara

The onset of rains was on time in most parts of areas of Amhara Region, except in Oromiya Zone where it was early by one week and in West Gojjam where it was delayed. There were occurrences of flood in Dewa Cheffa of Oromiya, some pocket areas of North Wollo, South Gondar and Waghambra. In addition to flood dry spells and hailstorms occurred in some parts of S.Wollo, E.Gojjam and W.Gojjam. The amount and distribution of the rains was generally good in most places except in lowlands in the eastern parts of the region & woredas bordering Nile Gorge.

Oromiya

The onset of rains was almost normal in most parts of the region especially in the high land and mid land areas with good amount and distribution. There was delay, however, for an average of 2 to 4 weeks in the lowland and dry mid lands of east and west Hararghe zones of the region. Similarly, the amount and distribution was very poor and there had been elongated dry spell adversely affecting agricultural activities in most low land parts of the region. More over, occurrence of hailstorms and flood had reportedly damaged crops in some pocket areas of the region. Generally, this Meher rains could be rated to be good in the highlands and mid lands of the region.

SNNPR

The Meher season's rains started on time in most parts of the SNNP Region. However, in Central and Eastern Gamo Gofa woredas (Boreda, Arba Minch, Mirab Abaya, Bonke, Chench, parts of Kamba and Dita) the rain delayed on average for 15-20 days from the normal onset time. Short dry spells and irregularity in rainfall pattern were reported in Silte and Alaba from mid May to mid June. From mid June to first decade of August the distribution and amount of rain showed improvement. During second decade of August heavy rains accompanied with hailstorm had been observed causing crop damages in most areas of the region. Generally, the amount and distribution was good in most parts of the region despite the damages caused by heavy rains and with the exception of Arba Minch and Mirab Abaya pocket lowland kebeles, which received below average rainfall.

The rain this year was better than last year both in amount and distribution although heavy rainfall accompanied with hailstorm, flood and wind damaged crop during the third week of August.

The amount and distribution was good in most parts of SNNPR despite the damages caused by heavy rains and with the exception of Arba Minch and Mirab Abaya pocket lowland kebeles, which received below average rainfall.



Weather Conditions

With the exception of the observed adverse weather situations over some pocket areas like hail damage, water logging, flooding, late onset of Kiremt rain and erratic rainfall distribution over some lowland areas, the overall weather situation was generally favorable for agricultural activities of the season in most Meher growing areas.

Other Parts of the Country

As discussed earlier, performance of the rains in most parts of Meher producing areas of the country was favorable. Nevertheless, the rainfall in most parts of Gambella region was much below normal while it was below normal in some parts of Benshangul Gumuz during the month of August 2005.

2. Seasonal Assessment of the Weather Conditions

According to the NMSA seasonal assessment, the overall rainfall situation observed during Meher season was favorable for agricultural activities. However, there was deficient moisture status over Eastern and Southern Tigray, eastern Amhara, few areas of eastern SNNP, northern Somali and eastern Oromiya regions during June. As a result, some pocket areas of these areas suffered moisture stress at the beginning of the season. Moreover, parts of northern Afar exhibited deficient moisture condition during July and August.

3. Weather Outlook for Bega 2005/06

According to the NMSA, during the Bega season (October - January) above normal to near normal rains are anticipated over northeast, east and southern highlands while normal to slightly above normal are likely to prevail over western and central parts of Ethiopia. Moreover, occasionally/unseasonal/ rainfall is likely to occur for few days over seasonally dry areas of the country and weak seasonal rainfall performance is anticipated over south and southeast, with high probability for deficient rains occurring over southeastern regions. Frost is less likely to be severe over the frost-prone areas of the country.

According to the report, the expected above normal to near normal rains over northeast, east and southern highlands would favor the existing crops which are at different crop phenological stages. Besides, it would have significant contribution for the production of pulses with residual moisture. It would be helpful for the late sown crops over the lowlands of northwestern Ethiopia including some areas of southeastern Amhara like North Shewa. However, the expected occasional rainfall will also have negative impact on harvest and post harvest activities in area where crops were at maturity stage. Thus proper measures should be taken in areas where crops are ready to harvest in order to minimize post harvest loses.



According to the NMSA seasonal assessment, the overall rainfall situation observed during Meher season was favorable for agricultural activities.



Weather Conditions



On other hand, the expected weak seasonal rainfall performance over southern and southeastern parts of the country will exacerbate moisture stress condition, which was persistent during the preceding decades (three weeks) over parts of southern highlands (Bale zone of Oromiya). Moreover, it would have negative impact on the availability of pasture and drinking water over pastoral areas of southern and southeastern Ethiopia. It would also affect the crop performance of agro pastoral areas. Thus proper attention should be given ahead of time in order to minimize the effect of stress condition. Unseasonable rainfall over seasonally dry sector of the country would create favorable condition for the occurrence of crop pests and post harvest pests. Therefore, proper precaution should be undertaken ahead of time to minimize losses below economic threshold level.

Generally, with the exception of the observed adverse weather situations over some pocket areas like hail damage, water logging, flooding, late onset of Kiremt rain and erratic rainfall distribution over some lowland areas, the overall weather situation was favorable for agricultural activities of the season in most Meher growing areas.

DPPC



Crop Conditions

Tigray Region

Planting of long cycle crops on time and area coverage was much better than last year and even for the last five years in Tigray Region. Moreover, the timely onset of Azmera rain has favored to plant long maturing and high yielding varieties of long cycle crops. However, in Raya Azebo and Alamata woredas of southern zone repeated replanting of sorghum was observed due to a long dry spell. Similarly, planting of short cycle crops particularly Teff was delayed by about two weeks in most weredas of Central Zone, Raya Azebo, Alamata Woredas of Southern zone and teff belt areas of N/western Zone. Status of crops for both Azmera and Tsedia are slightly below normal. This is as the result of the dry spells in July, which affected the normal growth of crops of both seasons. Heavy rains accompanied with hail storm and flood resulted in adversities on crops and minor damage to livestock in most woredas of the region in August.

The overall crop production prospect of this year would be relatively less than the plan due to long dry spell, late arrival of input supply in most woredas and high price of the inputs. Heavy rain accompanied with hail storm also caused damages to crops.

Amhara Region

In the region land preparation was timely and frequency, that is, repetitive plowing in land preparation was done. Except Teff planting of all long and short cycle crops was timely in most parts of the region. Planted area when compared to the usual size is the same in most parts of the region while supply of inputs was about the same to normal. However, utilization of fertilizer in Oromiya Zone was reduced due to decreased demand. In East and West Gojjam the supply of improved seed of maize significantly decreased.

Current performance of planted crops is generally good crop production prospect expected to be good in most places, except in the lowlands of the Eastern parts of the region. The current crop stand in most parts of the region is good.

Planting of long cycle crops was on time and area coverage was much better than last year and even better than the last five years in Tigray Region. Moreover, the timely onset of Azmera rain has favored to plant long maturing and high yielding varieties of long cycle crops.

Current performance of planted crops is generally good with crop production prospect expected to be good in most places, except in the lowlands of the Eastern parts of the region



Crop Conditions

Oromiya Region

Land preparation including its frequency and area planted for this Meher season was almost normal and timely in most parts of Oromiya region. Most of the planted crops are at their normal phenological stage in general. In East and West Hararghe zones, however, planting of both long and short cycle crops, was reportedly delayed for an average of 1 to 3 weeks. In these two zones, maize was at its tasseling and seed formation stage, where as short cycle Meher crops were at vegetative stage. Stock borer infestation is a major threat as usual that has significantly affected long cycle crops in East and west Harargehe zones. Generally, performance of 2005 Meher season agriculture production could be rated as normal. However, significant yield reduction is anticipated from East and West Hararghe zones due to poor performance of Belg season rains and elongated dry spell in the Meher season.

SNNP Region

This year land preparation and planting was carried out on time in most parts of SNNP Region with timely commencement of rains. However, unusual heavy rains in woredas of Silte Zone delayed planting of long cycle crops (Maize, Sorghum and Pepper). On the other hand, delayed rains in central and eastern Gamo Gofa woredas were cause to delayed planting though it is not expected to significantly reduce the planted area.

Preparation of additional plots for chickpea, vegetables and root crops planting and sowing of seeds for short cycle crops continues to take place in September if there were sufficient rain in August. In most parts of the region crops are found at various stages of growth. One factor that contributed towards retarded growth stage of crops was occurrence of continuous and excessive rain. Maize that was supposed to reach maturity (green harvest) stage under normal weather condition is now found at grain filling stage; sorghum should have reached grain-filling stage and pulses are found at flowering phase. Similarly, wheat and barley that are expected to be at seed setting stage are found at lesser growth stage. The only crop found at normal stage of growth is Teff. Hence, the expectation is that the rain continues till the first week of October in most parts of the zone to get expected yield.

Generally, Meher agricultural activities and crop performance is good in the region. If there may not be further adverse weather condition initial estimates are expected to get good harvest this year.



Malnutrition

Prevalence of Malnutrition Identified

A rapid assessment team deployed to Fedis, Babile, Alemaya and Kombolcha Woredas of East Hararghe Zone and Adama Woreda of East Shewa Zone of Oromiya Region completed its assessment on different occasions during August 2005. Field level preliminary report of the team confirmed cases of malnutrition in Fedis, Babile and Alemaya Woredas where a number of children were admitted to Therapeutic Feeding Centers in Bisidimo hospital and clinics like Fechatu in Fedis Woreda. General food ration and supplementary food distribution was being carried out to address the problem. According to the team, the concern was shortage of therapeutic foods (F-75 and F-100) to treat severely malnourished children for the TFCs; relief assistance was required for some needy people identified in Adama Woreda of East Shoa Zone of Oromiya Region.

Localized tribal conflict in Afdem and Meiso woredas of Somali and Oromiya Regions resulted in displacement of people and losses of properties. As a result, the DPPC has taken appropriate measures.

With regard to the existing food security situation in Boricha, Dara, Dale and Shebedino Woredas of Sidama Zone, there were differences of perceptions between NGOs operating in the areas and the regional DPPB. To verify the situation initial investigation or a rapid assessment was conducted. The finding of the assessment confirmed prevalence of high level of malnutrition in Sebedino and Dale Woredas.

In a related occurrence, a team that conducted rapid assessment during third week of July reported prevalence of malnutrition at critical level at Melgano locality of Hula Woreda in Sidama Zone. The team also recommended for continued assistance of food and supplementary food to 4,000 beneficiaries in Melgano as identified during Belg assessment.



Cases of malnutrition reported from Fedis, Babile and Alemaya Woredas of East Hararghe.



Situation in Pastoral Areas

1. SOMALI REGION

The over all food security situation in Somali Region currently is generally rated as normal to near normal. According to the regional bureau (September 7, 2005), those areas that received better rain during the 2005 "GU" season are now experiencing improved availability of pasture and water.

Water and pasture availability as a whole in the region was noted as normal to near normal. Exceptions were the chronic water deficit areas that had inadequate rain during 2005 GU season. These include some areas (Kebeles) in Bakaksa, Bare, Hargelle and Elkare woredas in Afder Zone; Duhun Woreda in Fik Zone; Degahmedow Woreda in Degahbur Zone; Danan town in Gode Woreda of Gode Zone; Filtu, Hudet and Moyale Woredas in Liban zone; Northeast of Kebridehar, Eastern kebeles of Shilabo and parts of Dobowein Woredas in Korahhe Zone; Southern kebeles of Galadi, Warder, Eastern parts of Boh and Western kebeles of Danot Weredas in Warder Zone. These areas were indicated as requiring emergency water intervention.

The physical condition of livestock was reported to be normal in most parts of the region due to improved availability of pasture and water. However, milk production remained below average due to low calving condition of livestock. In migration of livestock that was said to be abnormal took place into Liban Zone from Northeast District of Kenya and Gedo Region of Somalia. With regard to crop production, it was noted to be insignificant or little in most parts of the flood recession and agro pastoral and the riverine areas along Wabeshebelle, Weib, Dawa and Genalle rivers mainly due to repeated flood hazard that hit the aforementioned areas during late April and May 2005.

There were no reports of animal disease outbreak at epidemic level except for endemic diseases. Regarding human health, increasing cases of malaria and diarrhea have been reported prevailing in almost all zones of the region.

Price of cereals and livestock was reported to have been increasing due to crop production failure and improved condition of livestock respectively. However, terms of trade was reported to be near normal to below normal due to the increasing prices of cereals.





Situation in Pastoral Areas

2. AFAR Region

According to the regional report, the current Karma rain is reported to be very poor in most parts of Zone 2 and parts of Zone 4. In contrast, Zone 3 and 5 were reported to have received good amount and evenly distributed Karma rain during second week of July up to end of August 2005 with significant dry spell in between. Condition of the rain in Zone 1 was said to be poor, particularly in Dubti and Elidaar Woredas where water rationing was still underway.

The food security situation was reported to be very critical particularly in many Woredas of Zone 2 and parts of Zone 4. Except for Abaala Woreda, the Karma rain in most parts of Zone 2 started late (almost by one month) and was so far erratic and inadequate. Water availability remained critical in most Woredas of the zone, and currently water tankering, which was reported to be inadequate is under way in Berhale, Dalol and Erebtı Woredas.

Except for some browse and signs of improvement in Abaala Woreda, poor pasture condition still persists. The physical condition of livestock was reported to be weak in most parts of the zone except for some improvement on goats and camel due to improved condition of browses. Migration of livestock from Erebtı Woreda into Abaala Woreda of same zone and Teru Woreda of Zone 4 was noted. Similarly, cattle from Kuneba Woreda were said to have concentrated in adjacent Woredas of Tigray Region and Abaala Woreda.

In Zone 4 Karma rain started slightly late (late by one week) and rained only for one day. After long interruption of dry spell, it resumed on August 21 and continued up to 31 August.

With regard to the availability of water, the main sources for both human and livestock consumption are seasonal and a few perennial rivers and limited number of shallow wells (Ellas). These sources were reported to contain water that is adequate only for sometime both for human and livestock consumption. Exception is Yallo Woreda where water problem still persists. Pasture and browse condition was also reported to be better than last year and sustain for sometime except Teru Woreda which currently hosts significant number of livestock from Erebtı and Megale Woredas of Zone 2. Physical condition of livestock, which was under similar condition with last year is improving.

In general, food security situation in most parts of Zone 2, Yallo and Teru Woredas of Zone 4 was reported to be deteriorating.

Food security situation in Afar Region was reported to be very critical particularly in many Woredas of Zone 2 and parts of Zone 4.



Physical condition of livestock was reported to be weak in most parts of the zone except for some improvement on goats and camel due to improved condition of browses.



Situation in Pastoral Areas

3. BORENA AND GUJI LOWLANDS (OROMIA REGION)

There were no rains, generally in the lowlands of Borena and Guji zones during July and August. Most parts of the two zones received good amount of 2005 Ganna rain and currently except for 4 peasant associations (PAs) in Arero and 10 PAs in Dire Woredas, there were no reports of pasture and water shortage. However, livestock from affected PAs (10 PAs) of Dire Woreda were reported to have migrated to Yabello and Arero Woredas in search of pasture and water.

Regarding livestock health except for some endemic diseases, no disease outbreak was reported at epidemic level..

4. SOUTH OMO (SNNPR)

Currently no rain was reported from South Omo Zone and no rain was expected at this time of the year. Physical condition of livestock is normal and pasture and water situation is reported very good. There was no livestock disease outbreak at epidemic level.

Regarding human health condition, no outbreak was reported at epidemic level.

LIVESTOCK CONDITION IN CROPPING AREAS

Livestock condition is improving in most parts of the country due to the availability of pasture and water although livestock deaths were reported in some areas where the rain was heavy and excessive. These include Sululta and Werejarso in Oromia region, Samre Seharti Woreda of South Tigray and Adwa Woreda of Central Tigray in Tigray Region, Gidan wereda of N/Wello, South Gonder zone, Sekela Woreda of West Gojam, Inebse Sar Midir Woreda of East Gojam, Debresina Woreda of South Wello and Waghemra Zone of Amhara region.

Black leg was reported from North Shewa and West Hararghe of Oromia Region, South Wello and North Shewa of Amhara Region. African horse sickness(AHS) from North Shewa and West Hararghe of Oromia Region and North Shewa of Amhara Region. Lump skin disease (LSD) from East Hararghe and Arsi zones of Oromia and Guragie zone of SNNPR. Sheep pox from North Shewa of Oromia, South Wello and North Shewa of Amhara. Pasteriiosis from West Hararghe of Oromia and West Gojam of Amhara and Trypanosomiasis from Iluababora of Oromia regions have been reported. Control measures are under way in most of these areas.



Livestock condition is improving in most parts of the country including areas in Oromia, South Tigray, Central Tigray and Amhara Regions.