

**NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES AGENCY**  
**TEN-DAY AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN**  
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### **SUMMARY**

During the first dekad of October 2011, much of Amhara, western and central Oromia, Benshangul- Gumuz, SNNPR, Gambela and southern portion of the country and low lands of Afar and Somali experienced moderate rainfall for few days. The situation might have favored Meher crops found at different phonological phases, perennial plants and pulse which are sown recently and availability of pasture and drinking water. Heavy fall ranging from 30.0-44.9 mm in one rain day was recorded over some high lands of the country. On the other hand, Bega dry, sunny and windy weather condition prevailed over much of Meher growing areas, which might have favored Meher harvest and post harvest activity where Meher crops are fully matured.

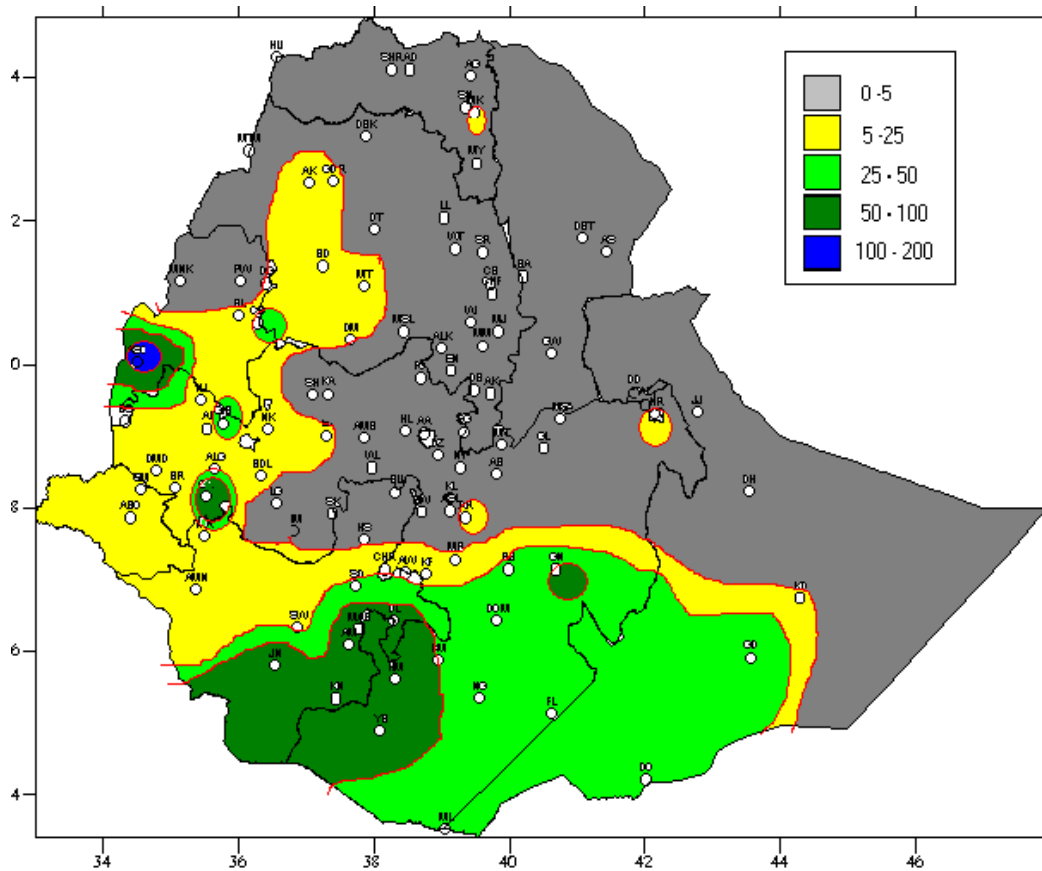
During the second dekad of October, 2011 Much of southern and southwestern Somali and southern Oromia, southeastern SNNPR, Gambella, Benishangul-gumuz, western Oromia and central and southern Amhara received rainfall for 1-8 days. The situation might have a favored availability of water for perennial crops, late sown pulse crops found at different phonological phase and pasture and drinking water for pastoral and agro pastoral areas. On the contrary, the experienced rainfall had negative impact in areas where Meher crops fully matured and harvest and post harvest activities. Dry, sunny and windy Bega weather condition prevailed was conducive for Meher harvest and post harvest activities. While cold night and early morning over eastern, northeastern and central high land of the country might have a negative impact on the normal growth and development of plants and animals over the area.

## **1. WEATHER ASSESSMENT**

### **1.1 11-20 October 2011**

#### **1.1.1 RAINFALL AMOUNT (Fig.1)**

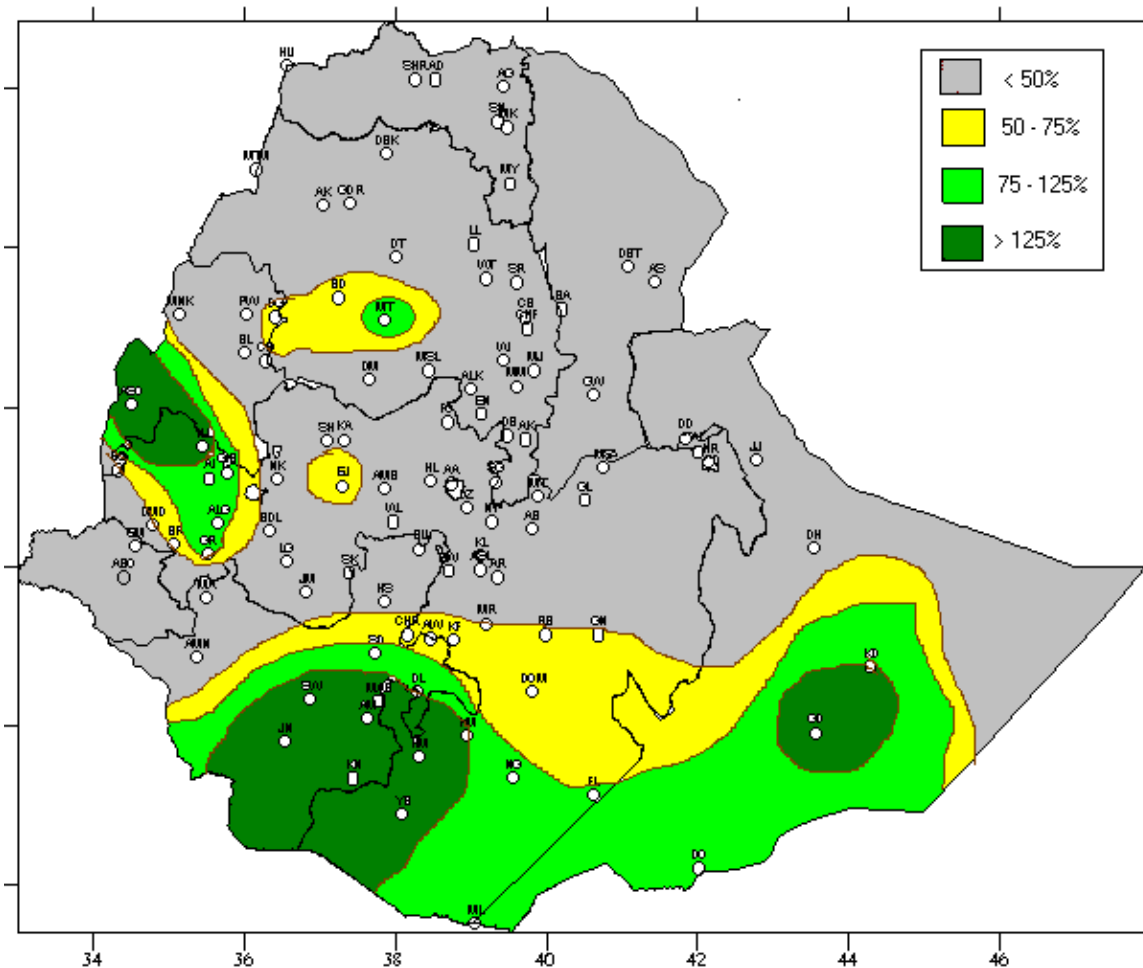
Pocket areas of western Benshangul-gumuz received 100-200 mm rainfall. Parts of western Benshangul-gumuz, southern SNNPR and parts of southern Oromia received 50-100 mm rainfall. Southern and eastern Benshangul -gumuz, southern and southeastern Oromia, parts of southern SNNPR and southwestern Somalia exhibited 25-50 mm rainfall. Parts of south western and central Amhara and much of Benshangul -gumuz, Gambela, parts southern Oromia, western and parts of northern SNNPR and south and southwestern Somalia region received 5-25 mm rainfall. The rest parts of the country exhibited little or no rainfall.



**Fig 1 Rainfall distribution in mm (11-20 Oct 2011)**

**1.1.2 RAINFALL ANOMALY (Fig. 2)**

Much of southern and southwestern Benshangul -gumuz, southern Oromia, southern and southeastern SNNPR, southern Somali and pocket area of central Amhara experienced normal to above normal rainfall. The rest parts of the country experienced below normal to much below normal rainfall.



**Fig.2 Percent of normal rainfall (11-20 Oct 2011)**

**Explanatory notes for the legend:**

**<50 -- Much below normal**

**50—75% -- below normal**

**75—125% --- Normal**

**➤ 125% ---- Above normal**

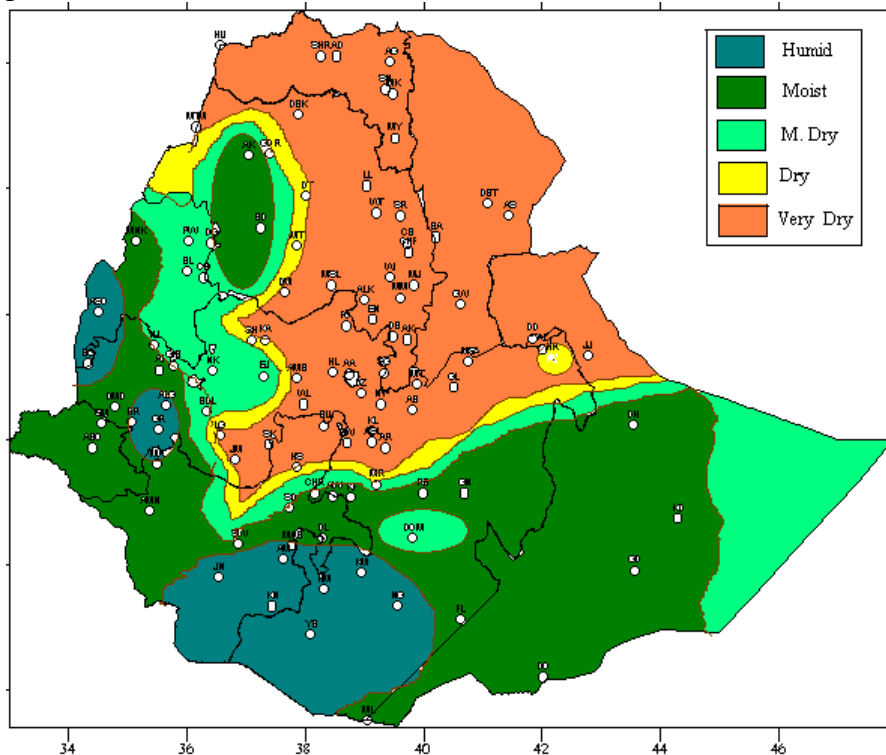
### **1.1.3 TEMPERATURE ANOMALY**

Some meteorological stations reported daily maximum temperature greater than 35°C, to mention some of them Humera, Gewane, Semera, Awash Arba and Gembella with magnitude of 40.5, 39.4, 37.6, 37.0 and 36.5°C respectively, while, Debre Berhan, Koffele, Alemya, Fiche, Adigrat, Mehal Meda, and Aris Robe reported minimum temperature as low as 0.0, 0.5, 1.5, 3.0, 3.2, 3.2 and 3.5°C respectively. Both situations had negative impact on normal growth of crops and yield as well as physical condition of livestock.

## 2. AGROMETEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

### 2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION AND IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE

During the decade under review much of southern and southwestern Somali and southern Oromia, southeastern SNNPR, Gambella, Benishangul-gumuz, western Oromia and central and southern Amhara received rainfall for 1-8 days. The situation might have a favored availability of water for perennial crops, late sown pulse crops found at different phenological phase and pasture and drinking water for pastoral and agro pastoral areas. On the contrary, the experienced rainfall had negative impact in areas where Meher crops fully matured and harvest and post harvest activities. Dry, sunny and windy Bega weather condition prevailed was conducive for Meher harvest and post harvest activities. While cold night and early morning over eastern, northeastern and central high land of the country might have a negative impact on the normal growth and development of plants and animals over the area.



**Fig.3 Moisture Status for (11-20 Oct, 2011)**

As indicated on moisture map above, Gambella, western Amhara, western half of Benshagul-Gumuz, southern and parts of western Oromia and southern Somali experienced moist to humid condition, the situation might have favored Meher crops that not yet matured, perennial plants and availability of pasture and drinking water over southern and southeastern pastoral and agro pastoral areas. The rest parts of the country exhibited moderately dry to very dry condition. The situation might have a positive impact on Meher harvest and post harvest activities.

## **2.2 EXPECTED WEATHER IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE DURING THE COMING DEKAD**

In the coming ten days relative strengthen of rain bearing meteorological phenomena will expected, over southern and western Oromia, Gambella, Benishangul-gumuz, western half of Amhara, SNNPR and southern Somali. The situation will favor the perennial crops, late sown Meher crops not yet matured, pasture and availability of drinking water or pastoral over agro pastoral areas of the country. The expected rainfall over some Meher growing areas of eastern Oromia, northern Somali and central parts of the country will have negative impact Meher harvest and post harvest activities. Therefore, we would like to advice farmers and concerned bodies, should not hesitate to take necessary measures to enhance harvest and post harvest activities in order to minimize losses. In addition to these, the expect night and early morning cold temperature will have a negative impact on Meher crops not fully matured and the normal growth and development of plants and animals. However, the expected Bega dry, sunny and windy condition might have a conducive condition for on going harvest and post harvest activities.