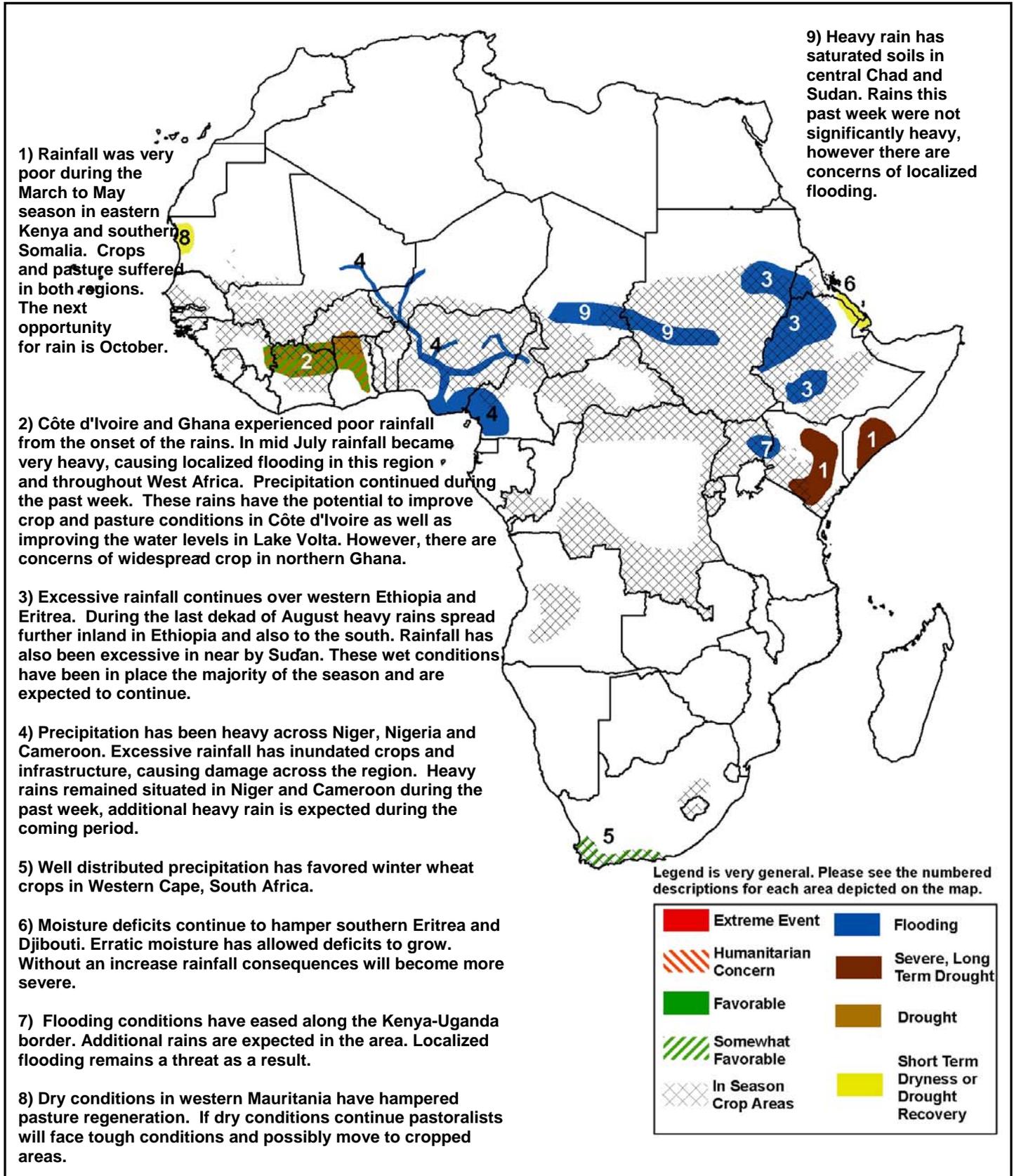


- Excessive rains continue across Nigeria, Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali, and Cameroon. Persistent rainfall continues to cause problems in sections of Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya and Uganda. All of these areas have experienced flooding and some are expected to have additional localized flooding during the coming period.
- Dryness has made its way into certain sections of Africa, including western Mauritania and southern Eritrea. Recovery from early season rainfall deficits continues in Côte d'Ivoire and Burkina Faso, while Kenya and Somalia cope with a long term drought.

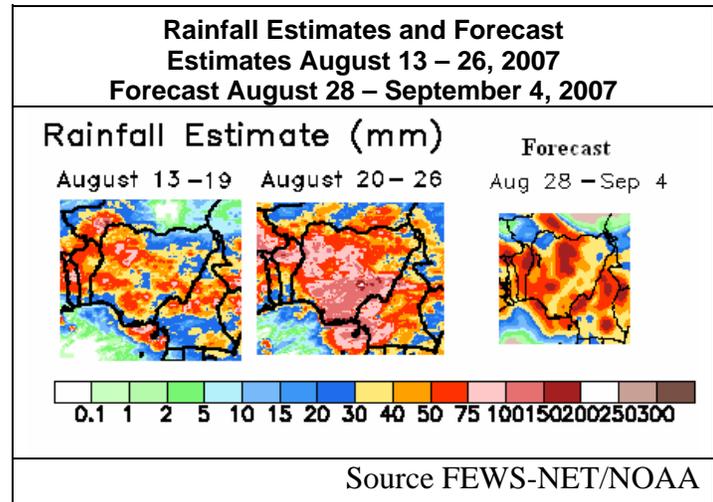


Heavy rain soaks Niger, Nigeria and Cameroon. Rains set to continue.

Rainfall has been beyond excessive across Nigeria this season. Heavy rainfall has impacted most of the country, especially since mid July. Flooding has damaged infrastructure, crops and caused fatalities. During the last two weeks along some areas of the country have seen in excess of 200 mm of rainfall and more moisture is expected during the coming week. Niger, Mali, Burkina Faso, eastern Mauritania as well as other areas in the Gulf of Guinea region have experienced heavy rains and flooding.

Excess moisture issues don't end there. The heavy rainfall in Mali, Niger, and portions of Cameroon and Burkina Faso that has fallen in the Niger River basin is moving downstream into Nigeria. This poses additional problems by adding yet more water into already flooded areas.

Although these are significant problems, the plentiful moisture will benefit areas that do not experience flooding. The rain in those areas will improve crop conditions, regenerate pasture and provide plenty of drinking water.



Dry conditions persist, develop in Eritrea/Djibouti, Mauritania. Drought continues in Kenya/Somalia

During a season where most of east and west Africa are experiencing excessive rain, western Mauritania, and southern Eritrea and northern Djibouti have deficits.

In sections of Eritrea and Djibouti, rainfall has been light and erratic during the last several weeks. Moisture deficits continue to grow as rainfall stays in the Red Sea and over Afar in Ethiopia. Additional rain is needed in this area before the end of the season in October.

Western Mauritania has a much shorter season with most rainfall during August and September. These rains have largely not materialized this month, and that has led to deficits of up to and exceeding half of their normal August rainfall. Significant moisture is not likely to arrive in the area this week. These dry conditions are impacting pastoralists in the area. Continued impacts may lead to migration of herds into cropped areas where grazing animals may impact crop production.

Eastern Kenya and southern Somalia also continue to face ongoing drought conditions after an extremely poor March – May rainfall season. In Kenya, very little rain fell at all, wilting crops, degrading pastures, and reducing available drinking water. In Somalia rainfall was erratic, but overall precipitation totals remained near normal. This has resulted in failed crops, but pastures were generally able to replenish and drinking water levels remain near normal.

