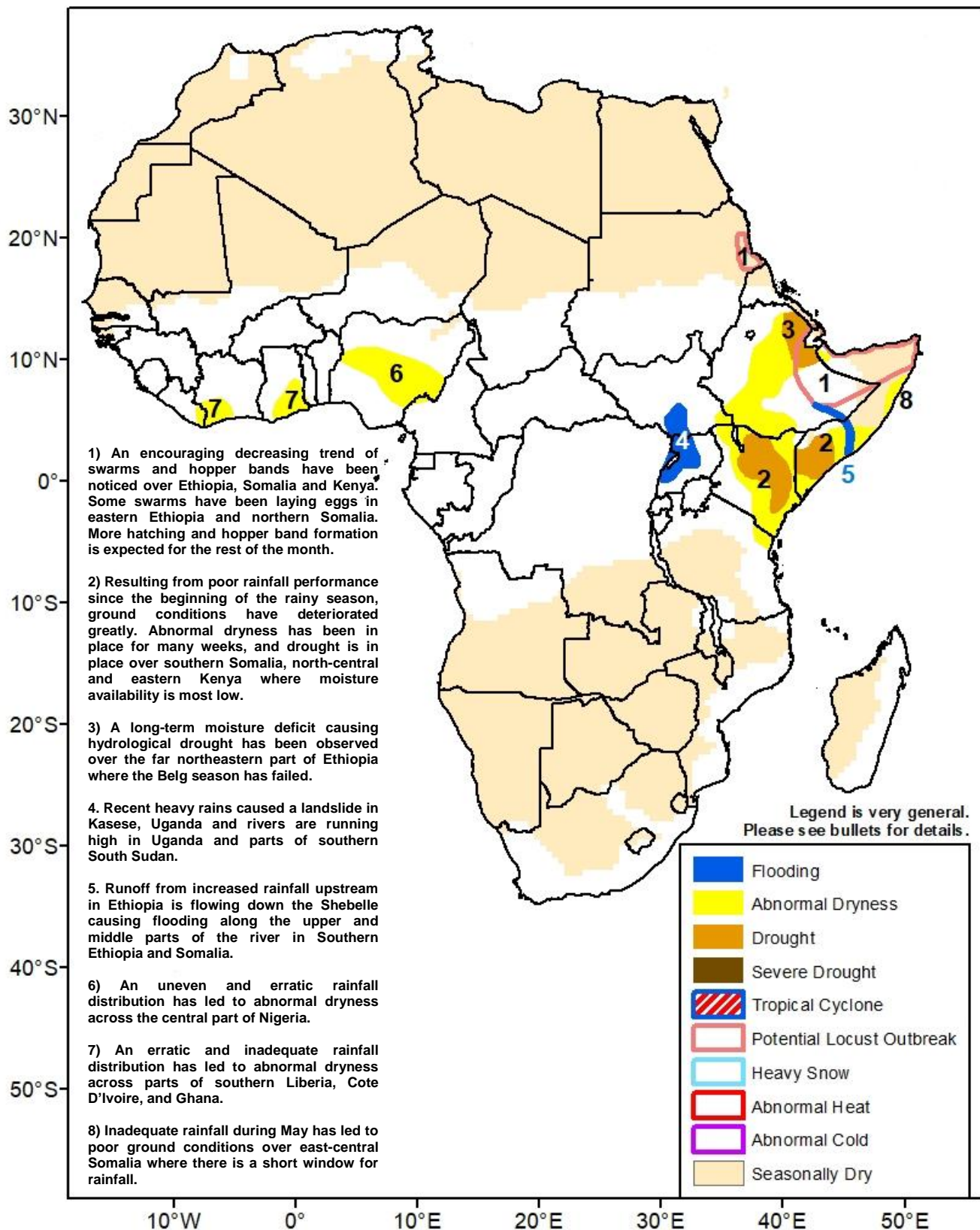




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook May 27 – June 2, 2021

- Rainfall continues to be suppressed across West and East Africa.



Rainfall was suppressed through most of East Africa.

After a period of increased rain over parts of East Africa, the region generally received below normal rainfall this past week. Moderate or locally heavy rainfall (25-100+mm) was observed in southwestern Ethiopia according to satellite estimates (**Figure 1**). South Sudan and southern Sudan observed 10-50mm of rainfall and northern Uganda and northeastern DRC observed 25-75mm. Meanwhile, southern Ethiopia, Somalia, most of Kenya and Tanzania recorded almost no rain. A large landslide reportedly killed two people after locally heavy rain in western Uganda on May 23. 30-day rainfall anomalies are still well-above average in many areas after the period of heavy rain earlier in May. Western Ethiopia and parts of Sudan and South Sudan show positive anomalies of more than 100mm (**Figure 2**). At the same time, a region of substantial 30-day deficits is present in eastern Kenya and southern Somalia. Moisture deficits are present on the 90-day (seasonal) timeframe in central Ethiopia. They are also prevalent elsewhere in the horn, especially central/eastern Kenya and southern/central Somalia where deficits have reached 100mm – equating to less than 50% of seasonal rainfall.

The far-northeastern part of Ethiopia has shown a poor Belg season performance this year causing hydrological drought and agriculture activity concerns. Analysis of NDVI and VHI indicates degraded vegetation conditions over the central and eastern parts of Kenya. Improved rainfall over Ethiopia resulted in some rebound in vegetation health. The rains have been reported to improve and regenerate pasture and water availability in these regions.

During the outlook period, rainfall coverage over the area is expected to remain poor. Moderate to locally heavier rain is predicted to continue in southwestern Ethiopia according to models. Only very light rain is expected across the remainder of Ethiopia, Somalia, and most of Kenya. This leaves little chance for any late season-moisture recovery in Ethiopia or Kenya and will deplete rangeland resources again after the short-lived recovery.

Rainfall deficits continued to worsen In West Africa this past week.

During the past 7 days, rainfall was widespread in spatial extent, but only some areas received 7-day totals at or above seasonal values. The heaviest rainfall totals (50-100+mm) were observed in Guinea and neighboring southern Mali (**Figure 1**). Parts of central and southeastern Nigeria received similar amounts. Flooding has been detected nearby along the Kaduna River. While portions of southern Liberia, Cote D'Ivoire, and Ghana received better rains than last week (more than 25mm), they were still at or below average. Only single digit totals were recorded in northern Ghana and neighboring portions of Burkina Faso. Over the recent 30-day period, deficits are increasing in many parts of the region and there is growing concern about abnormal dryness. Southeastern Nigeria, southern Liberia, Cote D'Ivoire, and Ghana show negative anomalies of 50-100mm. 2-month SPI is also indicative of the very poor seasonal start for most of West Africa. Poor VHI values support the impact of low moisture so far this season.

During the coming outlook period, rainfall is forecast to be below average for another week. 50mm or more rainfall is expected in areas of the western Gulf of Guinea countries, but most of the region is likely to see rainfall totals remain less than 25mm. little rain at all is expected in northern Nigeria.

Note: The hazards outlook map on page 1 is based on current weather/climate information and short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week). It assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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