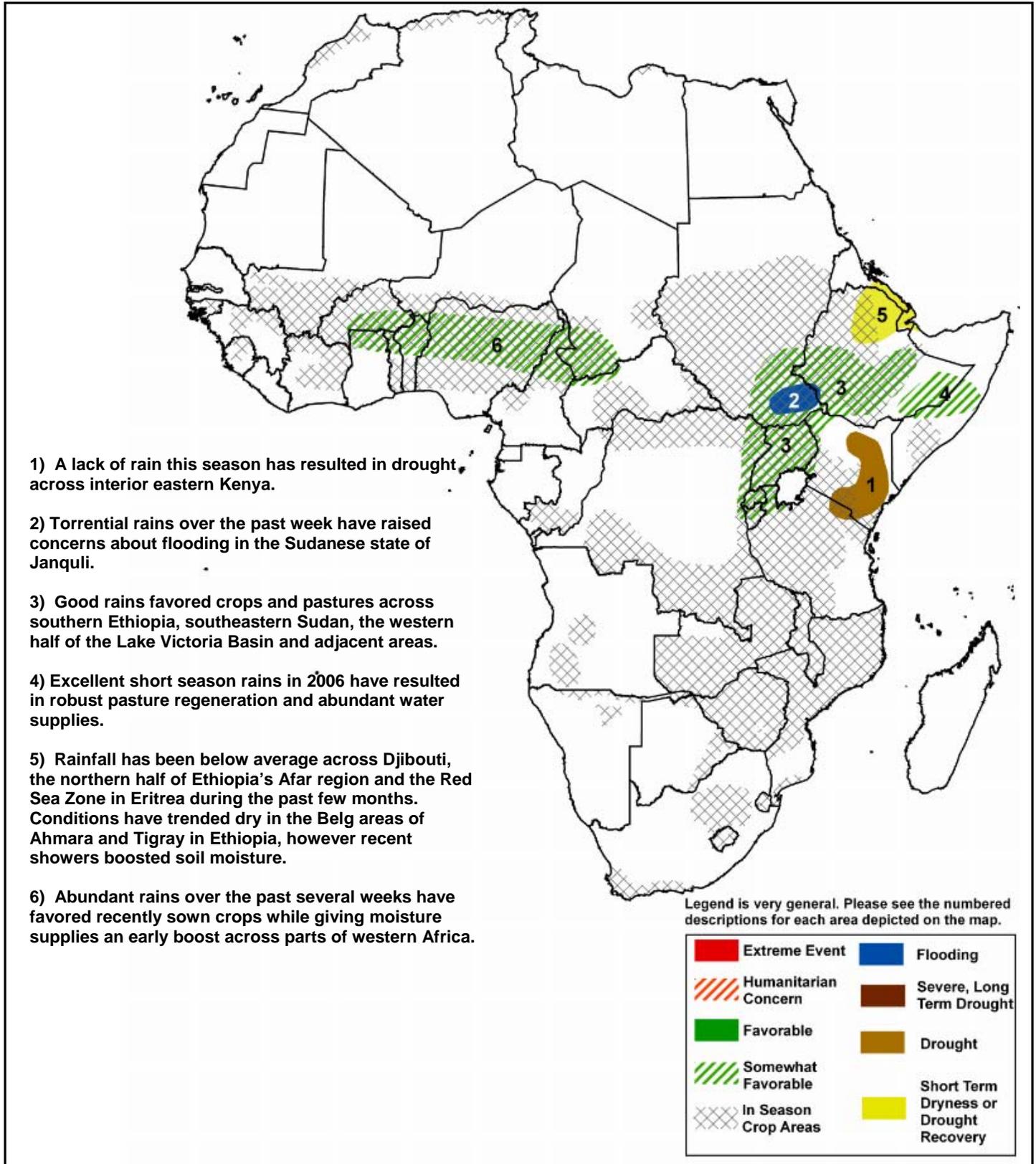
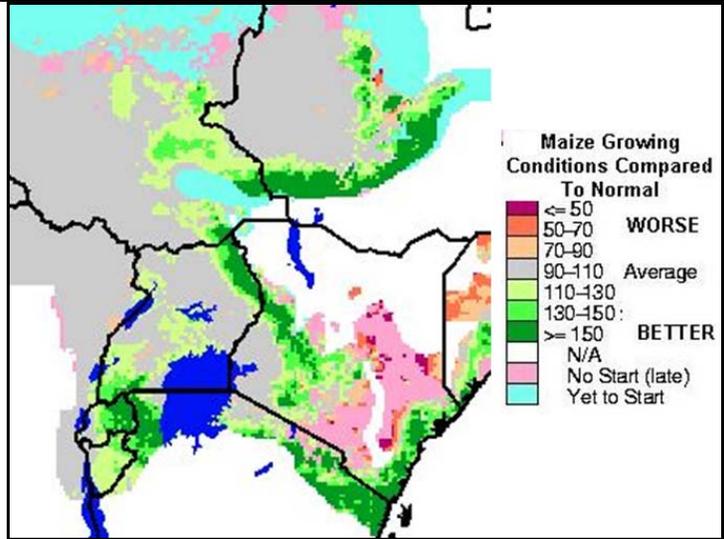


- Abundant, well distributed rains have resulted in good conditions across southern Ethiopia, southeastern Sudan and western portions of the Lake Victoria Basin. In West Africa, recent rains benefited recently sown crops by giving an early boost to moisture supplies in some areas.
- Drought is worsening across interior eastern Kenya. Dry conditions have also had a negative impact on pastures in Djibouti and adjacent parts of Ethiopia and Eritrea while showers eased short term dryness over Ethiopia's eastern highlands.



**Favorable rains have resulted in good conditions over large portions of the Horn. However, drought continues to worsen across inland portions of eastern Kenya.** Seasonal rains have been abundant and well distributed this season thus far across southern Ethiopia and southern Sudan. This has resulted in favorable conditions for crops and pastures while boosting water supplies in the region. However, in some areas the rains may have been too heavy. Torrential downpours dropped 100 to 200 mm of rain during the past week in and around Janquli in southeastern Sudan. These rains may have resulted in flooding, soil erosion and crop damage. To the south, abundant and well distributed rains have benefited crops and pastures across northwestern Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, much of Uganda, and adjacent parts of northeastern DRC. In interior portions of eastern Kenya, seasonal rains have yet to start. The 2007 long rains may have failed altogether over this area. This has resulted in the development of drought across inland portions of eastern Kenya. Crop failure, water shortages and pasture degradation are all possible impacts. Along the coast, torrential rains a few weeks ago resulted in flash floods. Rainfall was lighter this past week, allowing floods to dissipate. Locally heavy rains are possible along the Kenya and Tanzania coast during the assessment period, which may result in localized flooding.

**Percent of Median Water Requirements Satisfaction Index (WRSI) for Maize as of May 20, 2007**



Source: FEWS NET/USGS

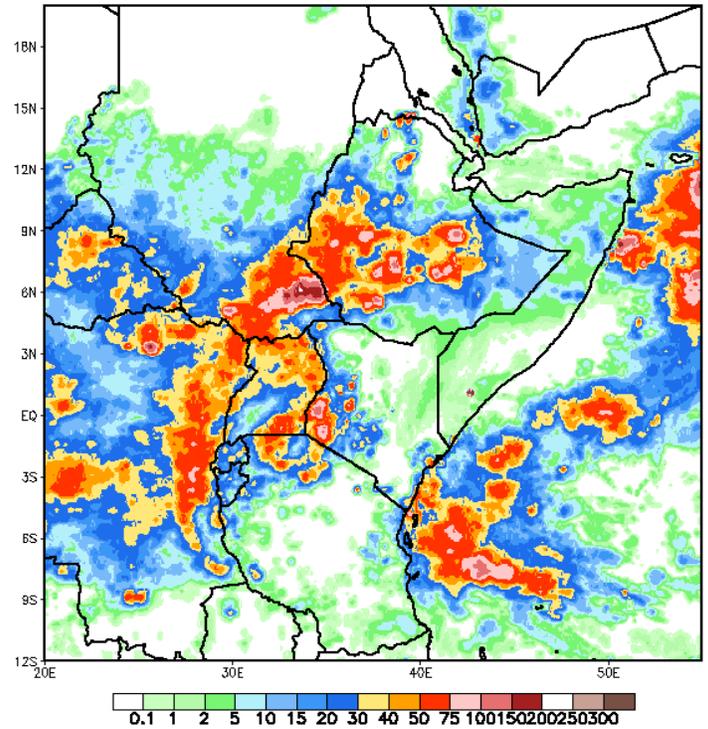
**Conditions have been dry across Djibouti, northern portions of Ethiopia's Afar region, and Eritrea's Red Sea Zone.** Less than half of the average rainfall has occurred over the past few months. While this is not uncommon in this arid region, the shortfalls have stressed pastures and reduced water supplies in this marginal pastoral region. Rainfall has been scant in the Belg producing areas of eastern Tigray and Ahmara over the past month. This has raised concerns about stress to Belg and Long Cycle crops. Showers over the past two weeks have helped to boost moisture for crops across this area. Excellent rains across southeastern Ethiopia and the southern two thirds of Somalia last season combined with adequate April rains to result in favorable conditions for pastures and water supply replenishment.

Over the past week, good rains continued across southern Ethiopia, southern Sudan and the Lake Victoria Basin while scattered showers benefited pastures across northern and central Somalia. However, recent heavy rains in southeastern Ethiopia's highlands raised concerns about renewed flooding along the Shabelle River. Conditions were generally dry across southern Somalia, reducing moisture for pastures and main season crops. Conditions remained dry across interior eastern Kenya, allowing the drought to intensify. Seasonal

showers are expected to persist across much of southern Ethiopia, southern Sudan and the Lake Victoria Basin during the assessment period. Beneficial showers are also expected across Somalia. There is the potential for scattered showers across Djibouti and the Afar, Ahmara and Tigray regions of Ethiopia. Conditions are expected to remain dry across interior eastern Kenya.

**NOAA CPC FEWS-NET Rainfall Estimate (mm): based on Satellite and Rain Gauge Data**

May 15 2007 - May 21 2007



Seasonal rains continued across the Gulf of Guinea region, with scattered showers as far north as southwestern Mali, Burkina Faso and western Niger. Early rains across central and northern Nigeria, Burkina Faso, northern Ghana, Togo, Benin and southern Chad favored main season crop planting and recently sown crops.

**NOAA CPC FEWS-NET Rainfall Estimate (mm): based on Satellite and Rain Gauge Data**

May 15 2007 - May 21 2007

