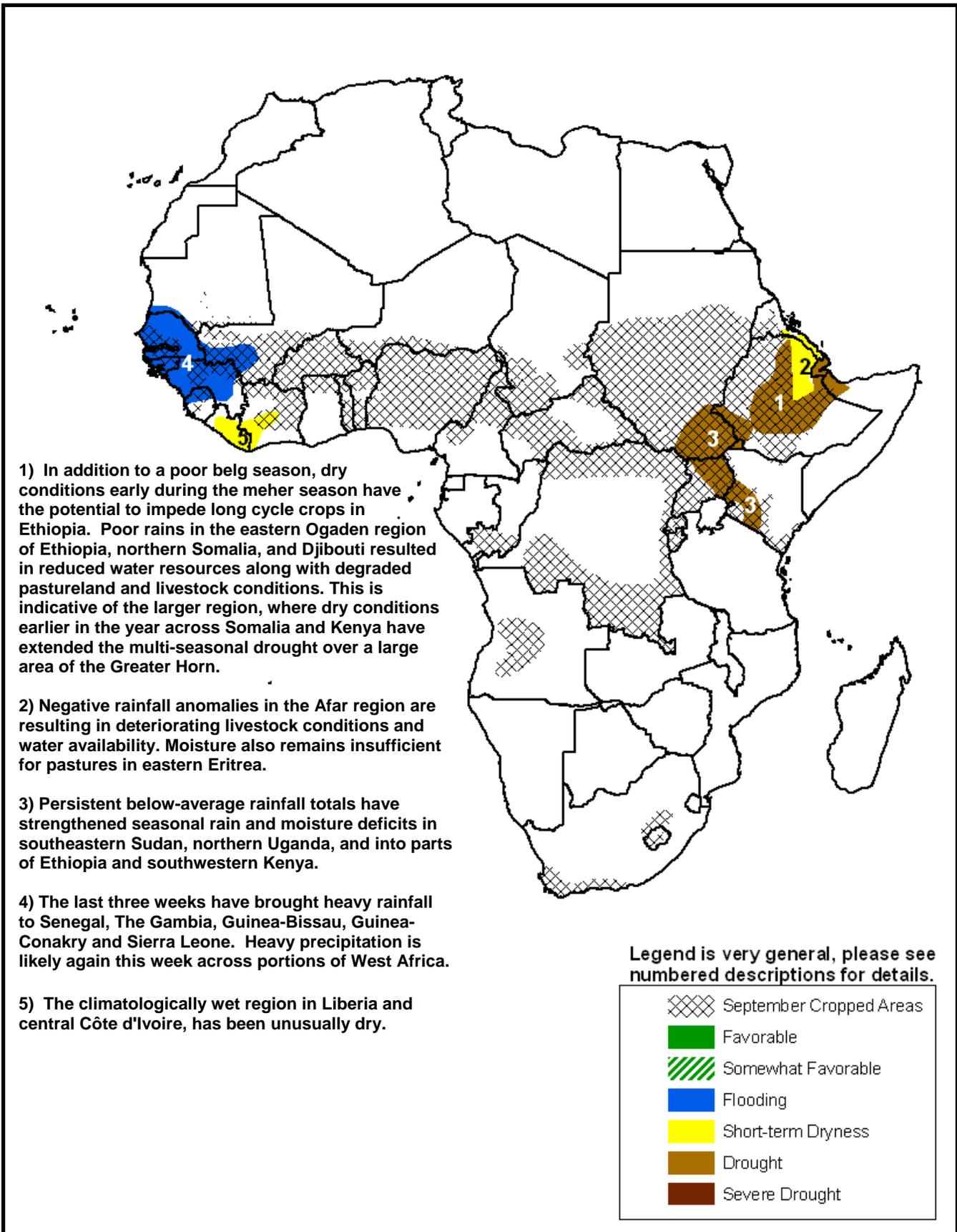


- Flood risk remains moderate to high over the western end of the Sahel and the Gulf of Guinea region. However, rainfall has somewhat eased in many other parts of West Africa.
- Heavy rainfall cause a flash flood in Kisumu, Kenya.
- Dryness remains widespread across parts of the Greater Horn.



West Africa flooding event begins to wind down, some areas still at risk

The heavy rains that caused flooding from Burkina Faso and Niger to Senegal and Sierra Leone, have eased over much of the area during the past week. Although heavier rainfall totals were observed by satellite, during the last week, the area impacted was smaller. The large precipitation totals in West Africa during the last three weeks have resulted in high positive rainfall anomalies (Figure 1).

There are continued problems with damage to crops and infrastructure associated with the rainfall. Standing water, primarily in low lying areas, poses a potential area of concern due to the spread of disease. The most destructive incident remains the flooding of Ouagadougou on September 1. During the last week, flooding reports have primarily come out of Guinea-Conakry, Sierra Leone and Mali. Most incidences remain localized and are likely only to be of concern for the short-term.

Dryness remains in place across numerous areas of the Greater Horn

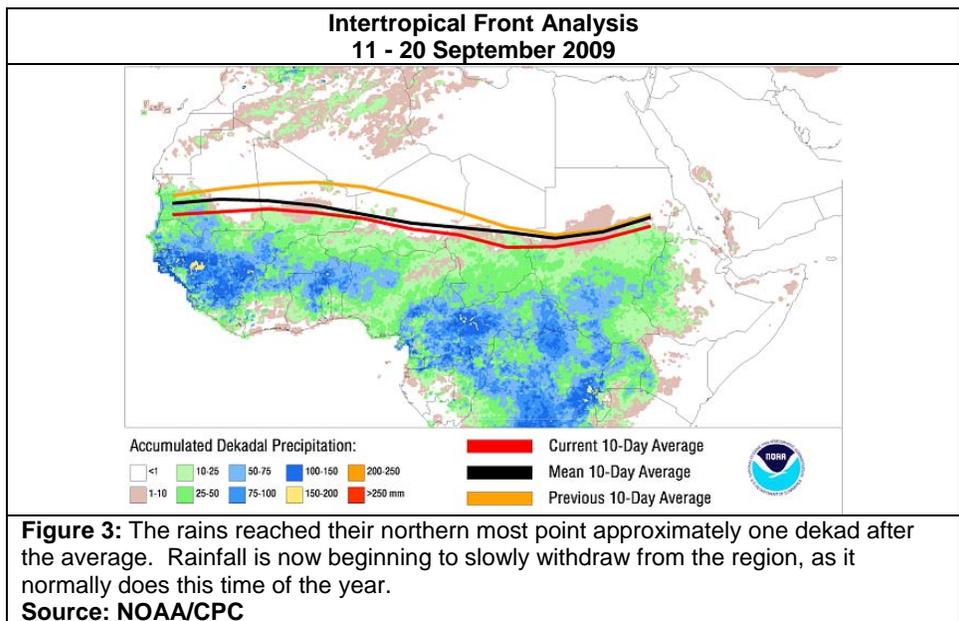
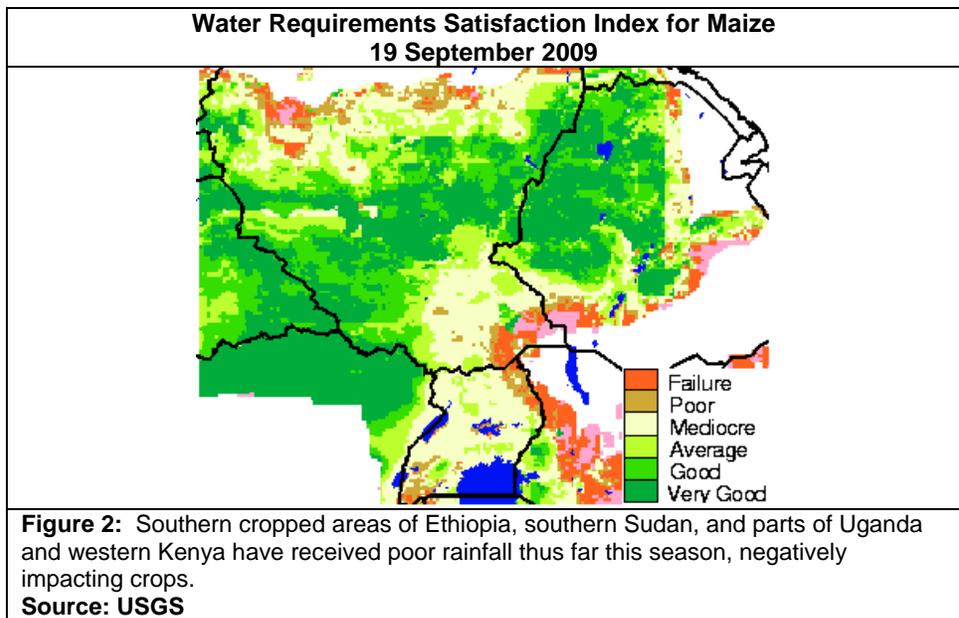
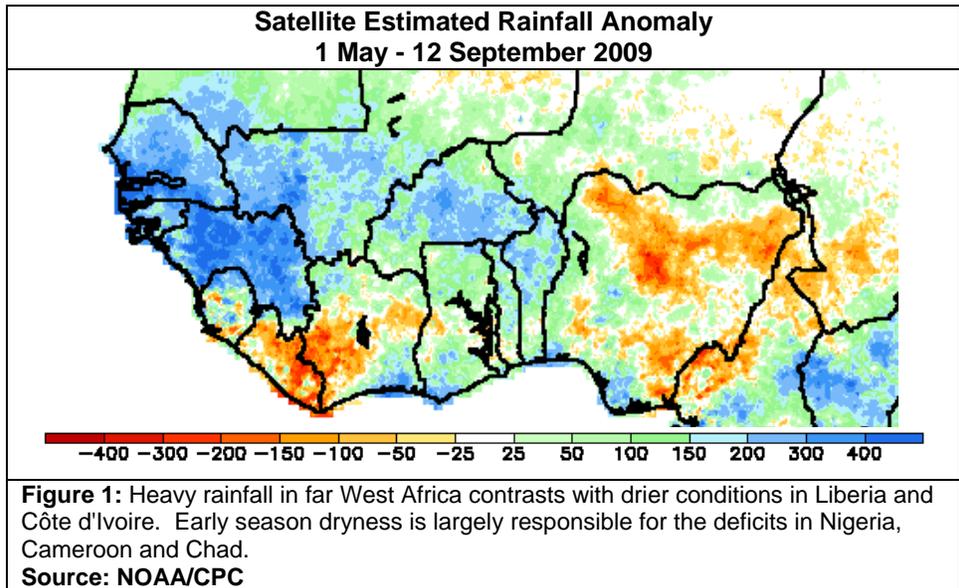
Poor precipitation totals remain firmly in place across southern Sudan, southwestern Ethiopia, much of Uganda, and western Kenya. This has had a negative impact on crops in the region (Figure 2). In addition, rainfall has been somewhat poor across the Afar region of Ethiopia, and in the marginal areas of Sudan.

Although the distribution of the rainfall has been good over most of these areas, the rainfall has been lighter than average. There has been very little variation of this pattern since April.

Northern extent of the rainfall peaks, begins to head south

The Intertropical Front (ITF), or the northern edge of the rainfall, reached its northern most point approximately one dekad than usual across the Sahel. Further east across Sudan, the ITF peaked at the usual time.

The ITF has already begun its annual withdraw from the region. The current analysis shows the ITF slightly north of normal in the west, and near normal in the east. (Figure 3)



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