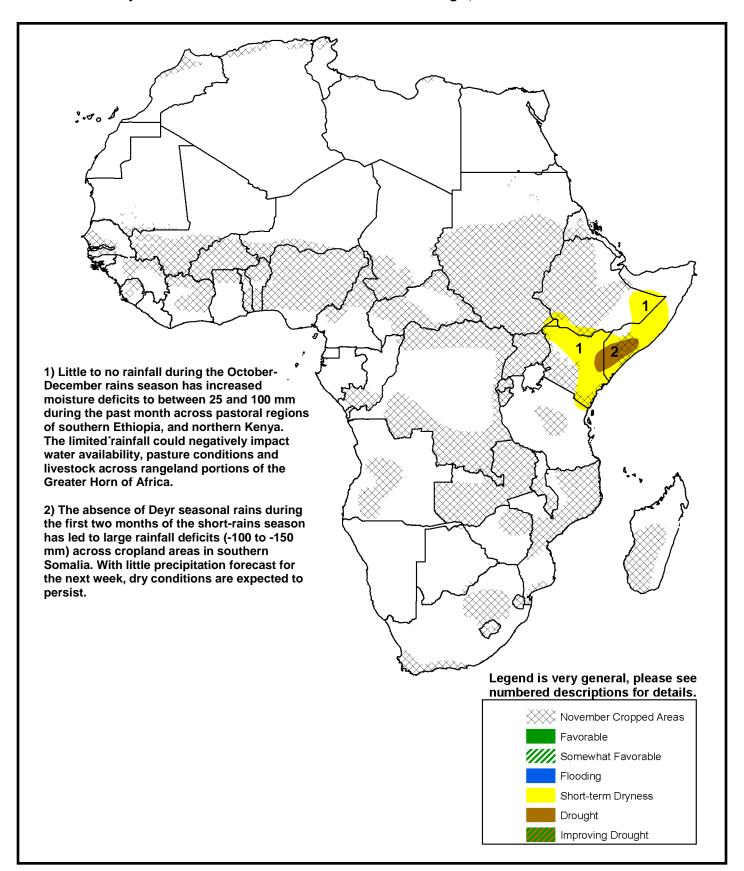


The USAID FEWS NET Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Africa November 25 – December 1, 2010



- Rainfall deficits increased across the Greater Horn of Africa as seasonal Deyr rains continue to be absent.
- Moderate early season rains fell across the northern Maize Triangle, Botswana and Zimbabwe.



Little to no rainfall was recorded across much of Somalia and Ethiopia.

Apart from rain showers in southern Kenya and localized areas in southern Somalia, seasonal rainfall across the Greater Horn of Africa was limited for a fourth consecutive week. Deyr rains continued to be absent across much of Somalia, southern Ethiopia and northern Kenya with the lack of rainfall helping increase rainfall deficits across the region to generally between -25 and -100 mm. The highest negative seasonal deficits (-100 to -150 mm) were located over cropland areas in southern Somalia and are expanding as the short-rains season progresses. Precipitation was equally light across rangeland areas of Ethiopia and northern Kenya. Stress on local water supplies will further increase as dryness continues and water availability decreases. However, in some areas including southeastern Ethiopia, previous above-average seasonal rains and sporadic showers during the current Deyr season have helped hold off even drier conditions. In contrast, showers have been prevalent over southeastern Kenya for the past three weeks helping to turn early short-rains season rainfall deficits into surpluses (Figure 1).

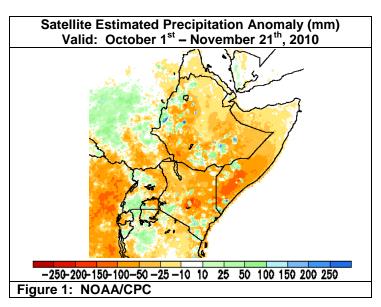
The scarcity of rainfall across cropland areas in southern Somalia has led to a continuation of the delayed start to cropping according to WRSI analysis during the second dekad of November. Further south in southeastern Kenya, recent rain showers have led to average to good cropping conditions (**Figure 2**).

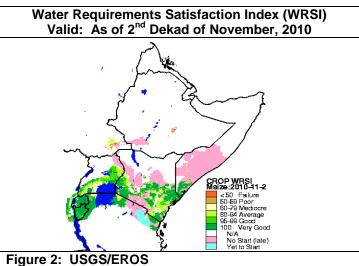
During the next week, rainfall is forecast to be limited across increasingly drier portions of Somalia and southeastern Ethiopia. However, rain (10-30 mm) is expected over much of eastern Kenya as well as drier portions of southwestern Ethiopia.

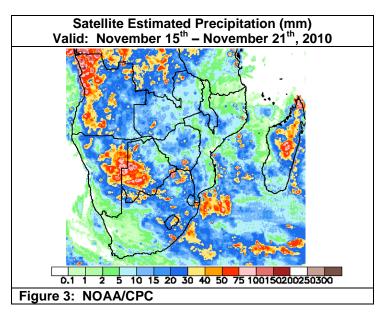
Favorable early season rains fell over Angola, Botswana, Zimbabwe and the northern Maize Triangle.

During the past seven days, moderate rainfall (20-30 mm) was observed across much of western and central southern Africa. The highest totals (> 75 mm) were located over eastern Namibia, western Botswana, southern Zimbabwe and western Angola. For parts of Angola and Namibia, the heavy precipitation was a relief from several weeks of drier weather. The abundant rains (20-40 mm) during the past several weeks across Zimbabwe and the northern Maize Triangle have created early seasonal rainfall surpluses. In addition, rainfall has gradually been increasing over the southern Maize Triangle helping to offset a slow start to the rainy season. In contrast, rains were light (< 10 mm) over much of Mozambique, eastern Zambia and southern Madagascar during the past week (Figure 3), enhancing drier than normal conditions across the eastern half of southern Africa.

Above-average rain is expected across much of southern Africa during the next week. The heaviest precipitation (> 50 mm) is forecast over Zambia, southern Angola, Namibia and the Maize Triangle which should help cropping activities.







Note: The hazards assessment 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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