

- Recent flooding across major portions of GHA and West Africa has led to displacement, crop and other asset loss. With large amounts of flooding there is potential for outbreaks of waterborne disease.
- Desert locusts threaten the Greater Horn of Africa.

1) Due to poor seasonal rainfall, the recent harvest failed in Somalia, and pastures continue to suffer in Kenya. This is likely to continue until the next rainy season in October.

2) Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana experienced poor rainfall at the onset of seasonal rains. Early season dryness was relieved by excessive rainfall improving crops in those regions. However many roads in Côte d'Ivoire are now impassible due to flooding. Small localized regions of Burkina Faso have had similar conditions. Localized flooding along rivers and dams has caused some damage to crops and infrastructure.

3) Rainfall has weakened over Ethiopia, western Eritrea and eastern Sudan. However there were reports of landslides in Ethiopia. The Shabelle River continues to flood as water has flowed down stream from the Ethiopian highlands into Somalia displacing hundreds and affecting farmland.

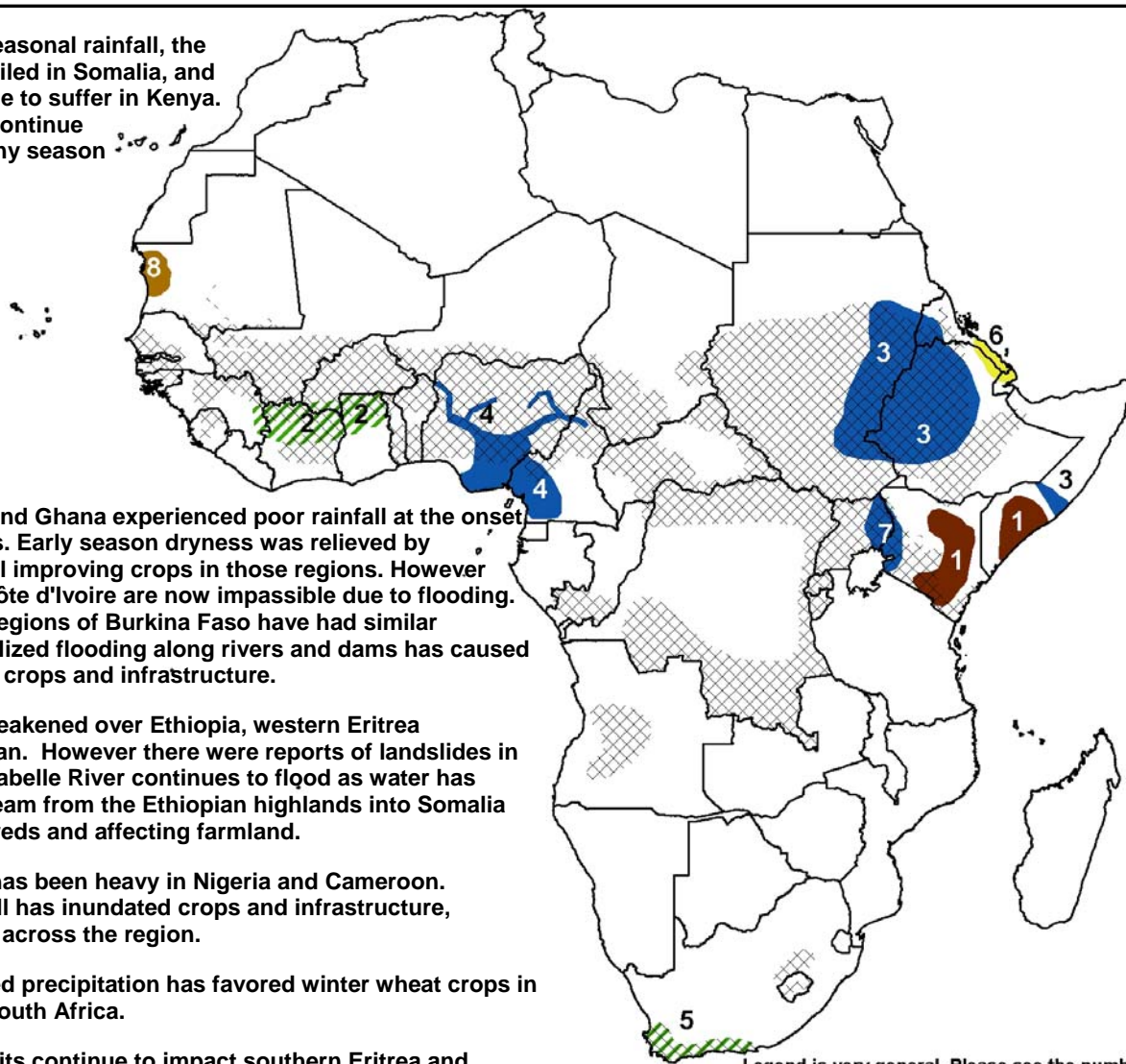
4) Precipitation has been heavy in Nigeria and Cameroon. Excessive rainfall has inundated crops and infrastructure, causing damage across the region.

5) Well distributed precipitation has favored winter wheat crops in Western Cape, South Africa.


6) Moisture deficits continue to impact southern Eritrea and Djibouti. In recent weeks there has been little rainfall accumulation, not significant enough to reverse the dryness thus far.

7) Heavy rains inundated the Kenya-Uganda border area. Maize crop production is of concern in the northern Rift Valley due to the arrival of rains during harvests. Flooding in northern Uganda has already had a significant impact on IDP camps and their accessibility. It is feared that water-borne disease outbreaks will occur. Uganda has the potential of above normal rains in late September to December.

8) While recent rains have improved pasture conditions for small ruminants, dry conditions throughout much of July and August have made it difficult for large animals (especially cattle) to access adequate grazing land.



Legend is very general. Please see the numbered descriptions for each area depicted on the map.

	Extreme Event		Flooding
	Humanitarian Concern		Severe, Long Term Drought
	Favorable		Drought
	Somewhat Favorable		Short Term Dryness or Drought Recovery
	In Season Crop Areas		

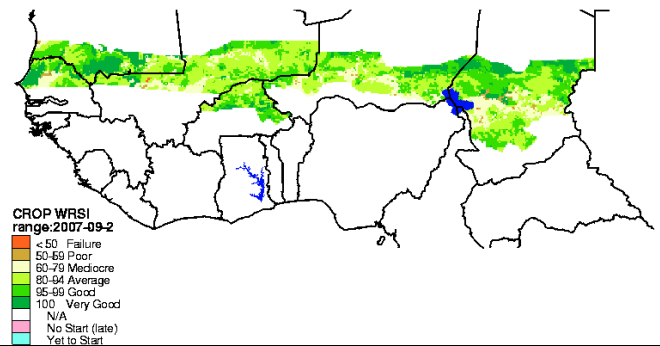
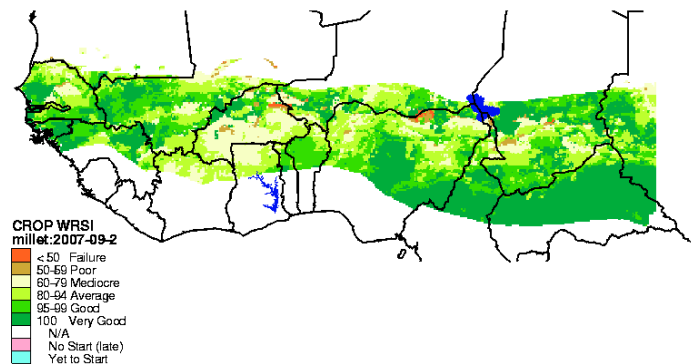
## Heavy rains cause significant flooding in west.

Since mid July excessive rainfall has characterized the majority of the Sahel to the Greater Horn of Africa. Flash floods and localized flooding have been the cause of lost homes, agriculture, infrastructure, and death.

Approximately 12 countries have been hit with excessive rains. In Ghana and Burkina Faso the early season drought experienced in late June into July had non-major impacts on crops. Quickly following these conditions were excessive rains. Rains have reversed the drought conditions in those regions, however have caused localized flooding. According to counterparts in the field, flooding conditions in Burkina-Faso were the most serious in the south-west of the country near Bobo-Dioulasso, in the north-west near Ouahigouya, and the Center-South near Manga. Overall, agricultural impacts of the flooding are very local and not significant on the national level. If farmers in Ghana planted a shorter duration variety of seeds that coincided with the onset of favorable rains, then this seasons harvest should be very good as long as rains now continue at normal.

In the coming observation period heavy rains will continue across the lower Sahel region as the ITCZ continues its southern trek.

## Crop and Rangeland Water Requirement Satisfaction Index September Dekad 2



Source: USGS/FEWS-NET

## Locusts Threaten GHA

According to the FAO, local populations of Desert locusts are already present on the northern coast of Eritrea and in the Tokar Delta in Sudan. During periods of strong northerly winds, swarms from Yemen could reach northern Somalia. In northeastern Somalia, there have been several reports of locusts. Locusts were first reported near Iskushuban in mid September. Locust swarms were also reported over Gardo. It is unclear if these are local infestations or from Yemen.

Swarms have also been reported in eastern Ethiopia along the Djibouti and northern Somalia borders near Aysha and Teferi Ber. Surveys are now being conducted in the infested areas.

During the remainder of September, there is a risk that a few more swarms may cross the Gulf of Aden from southern Yemen and reach eastern Ethiopia and northern Somalia. Swarms that appear near Hargeisa are likely to drift east towards Burao, Erigavo, Gardo and Iskushuban. Heavy rains in recent weeks have allowed favorable breeding conditions and consequently, locusts will increase in the coming months in the traditional summer breeding areas of the countries.

## Potential Eastward Drift of Locusts As of September 24, 2007



Source: FAO