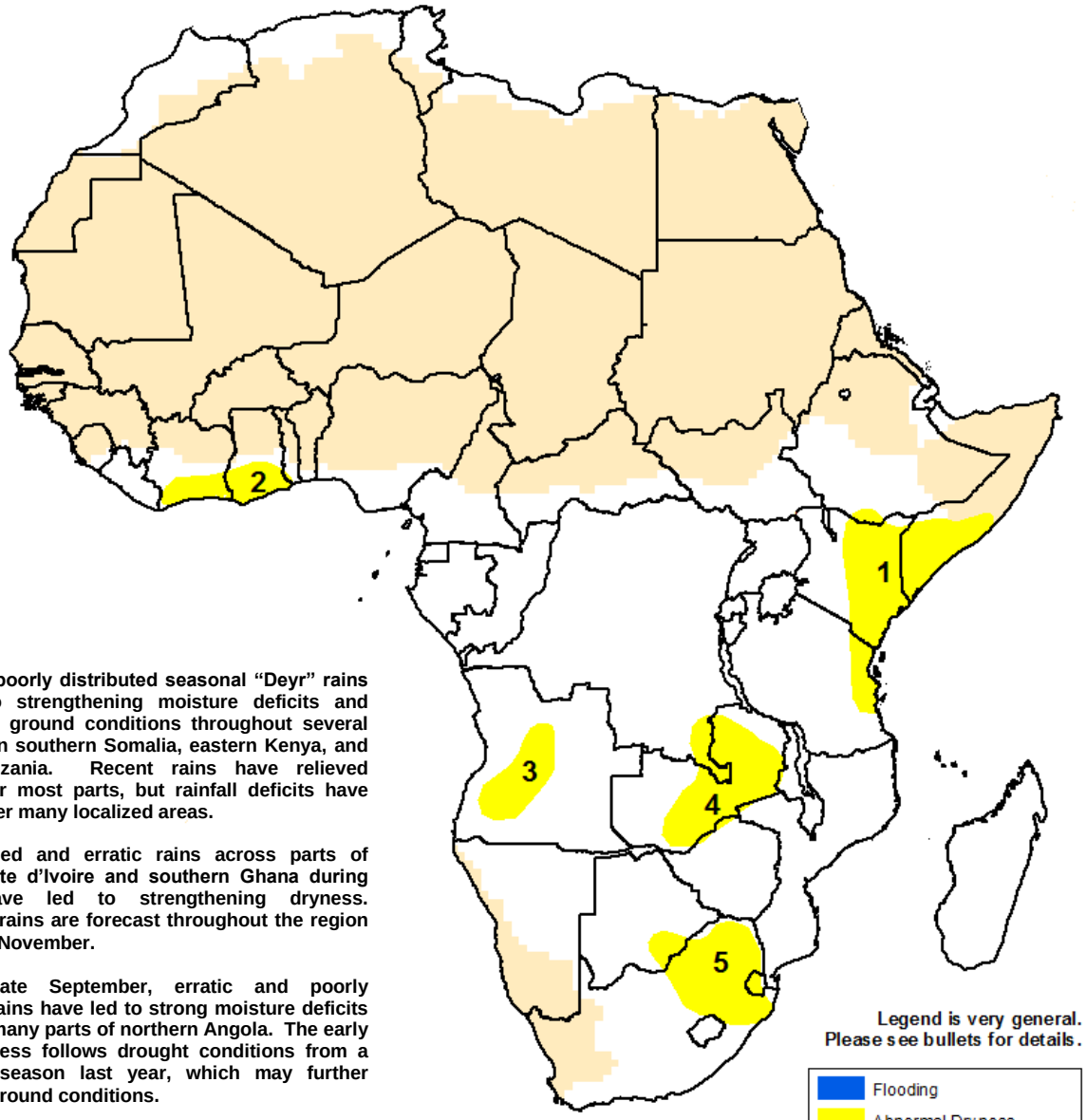
Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook
November 27 – December 3, 2014

- **Scattered moderate to heavy rains observed in southern Somalia and eastern Kenya.**
- **Below-average rains persist in central Angola, southern Zambia, and eastern South Africa.**



1) Low and poorly distributed seasonal "Deyr" rains have led to strengthening moisture deficits and deteriorating ground conditions throughout several local areas in southern Somalia, eastern Kenya, and coastal Tanzania. Recent rains have relieved dryness over most parts, but rainfall deficits have persisted over many localized areas.

2) Suppressed and erratic rains across parts of southern Cote d'Ivoire and southern Ghana during October have led to strengthening dryness. Suppressed rains are forecast throughout the region during early November.

3) Since late September, erratic and poorly distributed rains have led to strong moisture deficits throughout many parts of northern Angola. The early season dryness follows drought conditions from a poor rains season last year, which may further exacerbate ground conditions.

4) Several weeks of infrequent and low rainfall totals have led to anomalously early season dryness throughout parts of southern DRC and Zambia. The forecast suppressed rains during the next week are likely to worsen conditions on the ground.

5) Since October, poorly distributed rains and dry spells have led to a deterioration of ground conditions throughout several states of South Africa, southeastern Botswana, and Swaziland.

Favorable rains continued in Eastern Africa.

During the past week, a favorable distribution of rainfall was observed over Eastern Africa. Scattered moderate to locally heavy rains fell across southern Somalia and eastern Kenya (**Figure 1**). The heaviest rains were recorded throughout eastern DRC, southern Uganda, and western Tanzania. Light rains were observed elsewhere. In southern Somalia and eastern Kenya, the continued enhanced rains over the past few weeks have helped replenish soil moisture over many dryness-affected areas.

However, an analysis of rainfall anomalies has indicated that a wide portion of northern Kenya and localized areas of southern Somalia have experienced rainfall deficits between 50-200 mm since the beginning of the October-December season (**Figure 2**). Recent vegetation health indicators have also showed below-average conditions over southern Somalia and the eastern two-thirds of Kenya due to the delayed onset and poor distribution of the rainy season. Sustained favorable distribution of rainfall is needed to overcome moisture deficits over many local areas of the region.

During the next week, model forecasts call for moderate to heavy rains across southern Ethiopia, northern Kenya, northern Uganda, and the Lake Victoria region. In contrast, light rains are expected in southern Somalia and eastern Kenya.

Satellite Estimated Rainfall (mm)
Valid: November 17 – November 23, 2014

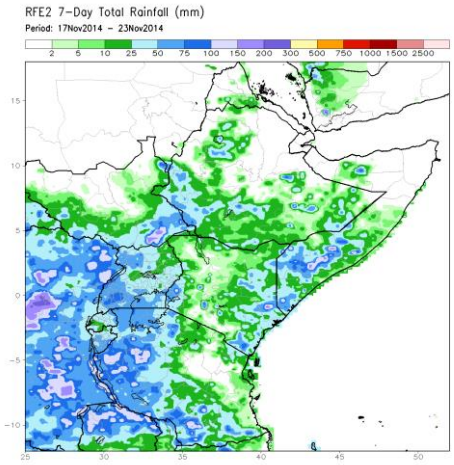


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Satellite Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: October 1 – November 23, 2014

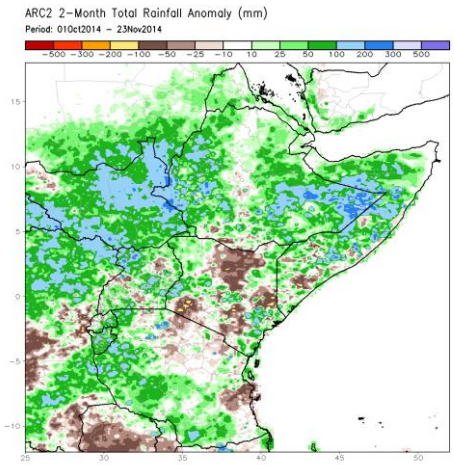


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

Abnormal dryness observed over many parts of Southern Africa.

During the past week, moderate to heavy rains were observed in northwestern Angola, southern DRC, northern Zambia, and western Tanzania. Localized heavy showers were also recorded in central Namibia, central Zimbabwe, and southern Mozambique. Light rains were observed elswehere. Compared to climatology, this past week's rainfall was above-average across the northern parts of Southern Africa, but it remained below-average throughout much of the southern portions, including parts of southern Angola, southern Zambia, western Zimbabwe, and the Maize Triangle Region of northern South Africa. Rainfall anomalies over the past thirty days have indicated below-average rains in central Angola, the eastern and southern parts of Zambia, and the eastern-third of South Africa (**Figure 3**). The start of the season was delayed by 1-2 dekads (10-day period) over most of these dry portions of Southern Africa. However, the onset of the season was late by up to 4 dekads over the Maize Triangle Region and Kwazulu-Natal province of South Africa.

During the next week, model rainfall forecasts suggest moderate to heavy rains in western Angola, northern South Africa, and Madagascar. This is expected to reduce accumulated rainfall deficits and benefit cropping activities over many local areas. In contrast, suppressed rains are expected in across southern Zambia, parts of Zimbabwe, and Mozambique. This is likely to increase moisture deficits and worsen conditions on the ground.

Satellite Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: October 25 – November 23, 2014

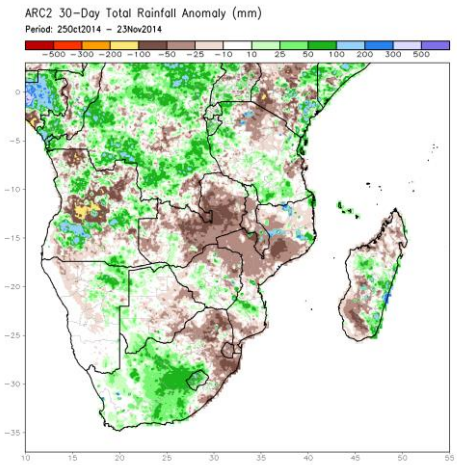


Figure 3: NOAA/CPC

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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