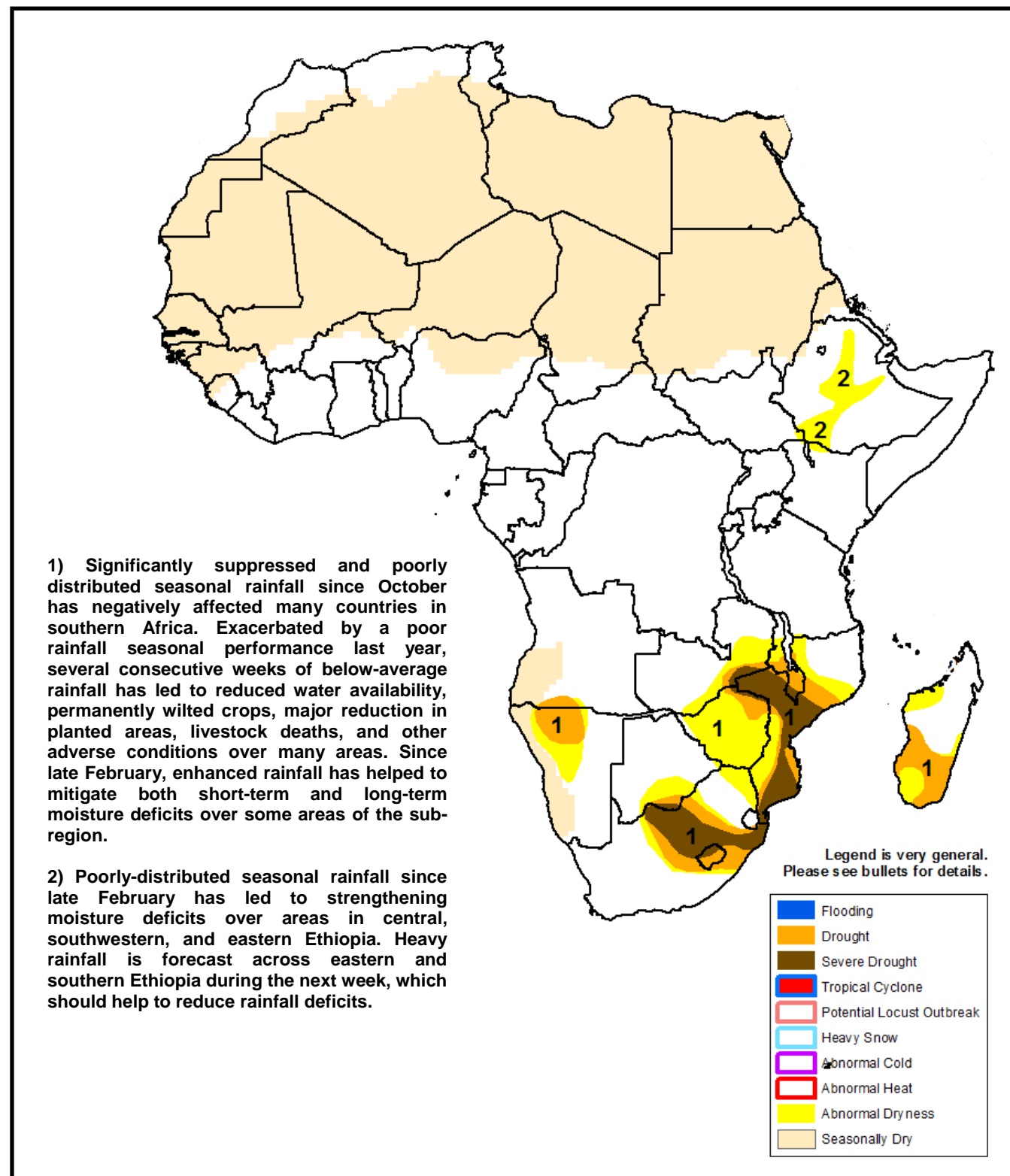




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook April 14 – April 20, 2016

- Moisture deficits persist across the *Belg*, March-May, producing areas of central and southwestern Ethiopia.
- Southern Africa monsoon is coming to an end.



Good rains received over the Greater Horn of Africa.

From April 6-12, a favorable distribution of rainfall was observed across the Greater Horn of Africa. Moderate to heavy rainfall fell over the eastern and southern parts of Ethiopia, northern and south-central portions of Somalia, and Lake Victoria region of southwestern Kenya and eastern Uganda (**Figure 1**). Meanwhile, light rainfall was recorded elsewhere. This past week's widespread rainfall pattern has helped to partially alleviate dryness that has resulted from a delayed onset and below-average rain over the Afar region of eastern Ethiopia. A continuation of adequate, seasonal rain should gradually reduce moisture deficits, replenish soil moisture, and benefit cropping activities over many local areas.

Despite this past week's increase in rainfall, many areas of Eastern Africa have received below-average rainfall over the past thirty days (**Figure 2**). Negative rainfall anomalies have persisted and worsened ground conditions across the *Belg*, March-May, producing areas of central and southwestern Ethiopia. The uneven spatial distribution of rainfall during the past week has further exacerbated dryness over local areas. To the south, widespread and moderate to large thirty-day rainfall deficits, with negative anomalies in excess of 50 mm have crept in over Kenya and some areas of Uganda. If insufficient rainfall continues over the next several weeks, rainfall deficits will further increase and possibly lead to reduced water availability for pastoral and agricultural activities in the region.

For next week, rainfall forecasts indicate continued wet weather pattern across the Greater Horn of Africa, with heavy rain over the eastern half and southern parts of Ethiopia, northern Somalia, western Kenya, and Uganda. Meanwhile, widespread, light rainfall is forecast elsewhere.

Erratic Southern Africa monsoon observed.

An analysis of rainfall anomalies over the past ninety days has indicated moderate to large (50-200 mm) seasonal deficits over Angola, western Namibia, eastern Zambia, southern Malawi, western and southern Mozambique, southern Madagascar, eastern and central South Africa (**Figure 3**). These deficits were attributed to a delayed onset and prolonged dry spells. This had led to wilted crops, reduced water availability, and livestock deaths over many areas of Southern Africa. Conversely, seasonal surpluses that resulted from an unusual increase in rainfall during March were observed over Botswana, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. Large positive anomalies were also recorded over Tanzania, northern Malawi, and northern Mozambique. During the past week, moderate to heavy rain fell in southern Tanzania, northern Malawi, northern and central Mozambique, and central South Africa, while light rain was received elsewhere. In Malawi, the abundant rainfall resulted in flooding, leaving fatalities in the north. During the next week, as the rainfall season is ending, suppressed rainfall is expected over much of Southern Africa. Light to locally moderate rain is forecast in northern Mozambique and southern Tanzania.

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.

Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-683-3424.

Satellite-Estimated Rainfall (mm)

Valid: April 06 – April 12, 2016

RFE2 7-Day Total Rainfall (mm)
Period: 06Apr2016 – 12Apr2016

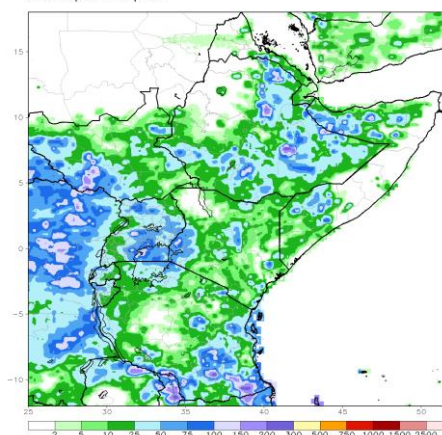


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

Satellite-Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)

Valid: March 14 - April 12, 2016

ARC2 30-Day Total Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Period: 14Mar2016 – 12Apr2016

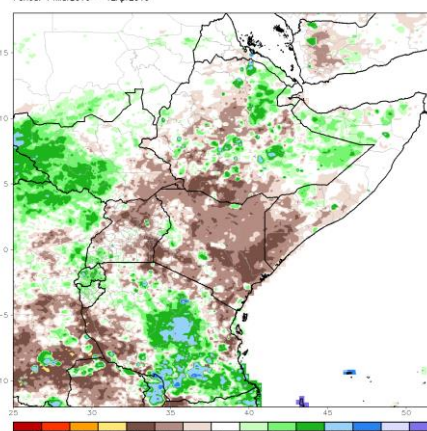


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

Satellite-Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm)

Valid: January 14 – April 12, 2016

ARC2 90-Day Total Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Period: 14Jan2016 – 12Apr2016

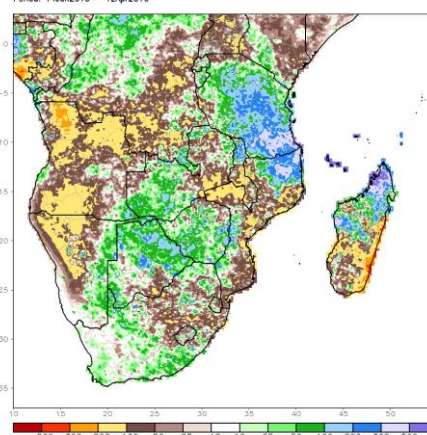


Figure 3: NOAA/CPC