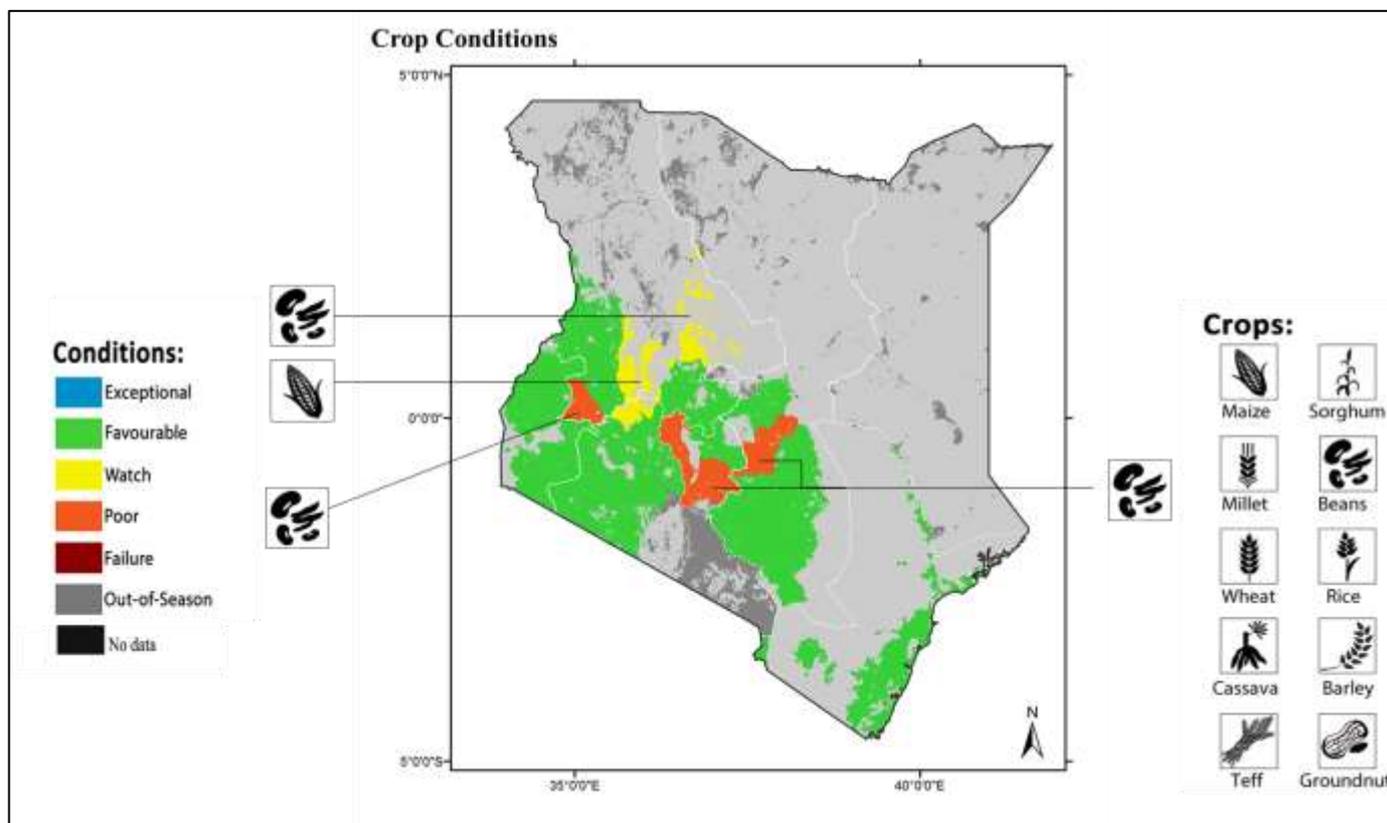


CROP CONDITIONS BULLETIN: July 2018

National Synthesis (Maize, Beans and Wheat)

SUMMARY

Prevailing conditions are favourable for maize production in most parts of the Country. Harvesting has commenced in most regions apart from North Rift and some parts of south Rift. Harvesting is expected to continue in August with favourable yields expected. There has been a reduction in FAW infestations due to enhanced rainfall and chemical spraying. However, extremely wet conditions adversely affected beans production in most parts of the country. Prevailing wet conditions in the Central highlands led to rotting and delayed harvesting. Wheat production is favorable in most of the growing areas although heavy rains resulted in late planting. Wholesale prices of most commodities continued to decline.



Map showing regional crop conditions information in Kenya as at 23rd July 2018 for maize, wheat and beans. The crop Monitor map is based on a combination of several variables including remotely sensed data, ground observations, field reports, national, and regional experts. **Crops with conditions other than favorable are labeled on the map with their driver.**

OUTLOOK (Kenya Met Department (KMD)/State Department of Crops Development (SDCD)

Good maize crop performance is expected to continue over most parts of Kenya. The expected dry conditions in most parts of the country will allow for drying and harvesting of the mature crops. However, beans production has been adversely affected in most parts of the country due very wet conditions which has resulted in depressed yields.

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Assessment by Region

In **Central region**, conditions are still favorable for maize production in all counties. In Nyandarua and Nyeri counties, wheat crop is in favourable condition. Beans performance is poor in the region, except in the lower hotter areas of Kirinyaga where the crop is in favorable condition. In Kiambu, Muranga, Nyandarua and Nyeri, continued wet conditions have affected beans production due to fungal infestations, rotting of pods, delayed ripening and drying; which has delayed the harvesting process.

Outlook: Following the good performance of the long rains and the current prevailing moist conditions coupled with the effective control of the FAW, favorable maize and wheat yields are expected. However, the persistent wet and moist conditions have affected performance of beans which is expected to result in depressed yields by approximately 40% below the long term mean.

In **Coast Region**, conditions are favorable for maize production in most parts of the region. However, in Kilifi and Tana River, prolonged wet conditions and pests' infestations have affected the crop which is in poor condition. In Lamu conditions have improved, although flooding and slight infestations by FAW have been observed in some area. In Kwale, Mombasa and Taita Taveta, harvesting has already started in the hotter lower areas. Beans have been harvested in the region.

Outlook: In Kilifi and Tana River, the prevailing wet conditions and infestations by FAW are expected to result in low maize stocks leading to food shortages in the two counties. Maize harvesting is expected to be completed in the August in the rest of the region. In Lamu, conditions for maize are expected to improve as the crop matures. Beans have been harvested in the region but low production was observed due to heavy rains resulting in flooding in several counties during the season.

In **North Rift**, favorable conditions for maize production are expected in the region. However, the crop has continued to be under watch in Elgeyo-Marakwet due to heavy rains leading to massive nutrient depletion and extended threat of FAW, which is expected to lead to a 30% reduction in yields. In June, over 40% of the area under maize production in Baringo was affected by FAW, however in July, conditions improved due to spraying with chemicals and enhanced rainfall. In Laikipia, the initially high infestations of FAW affecting about 20% of maize the crop has declined due to heavy rainfall and vigorous county and national governments campaign for chemical control. In Nandi, FAW infestation which affected about 2000 hectares of maize has drastically reduced due to the heavy rains and chemical sprays. In Samburu, 5-10% of the crop was affected by FAW, but the situation was mitigated by enhanced rainfall. In Trans-Nzoia, 80% of the crop is at tasseling to milky stage.

In West Pokot lowlands, harvesting of maize has commenced. Despite delayed planting due to enhanced rainfall, the wheat crop is in doing well. Beans are likely to perform poorly in the region due to wet and moist conditions which affected the crop during flowering and podding stages. There was also a high prevalence of fungal diseases with the situation expected to worsen. In Baringo, over 80% of the area under beans was affected by the wet conditions. In Elgeyo Marakwet, severe waterlogging and diseases affected the crop. In Samburu, the early planted crop which was affected by blight has been harvested, while the late planted crop is in the podding stage. In West Pokot beans have been harvested.

Outlook: Stable conditions are expected to continue with normal maize yields expected due to favorable conditions. However, the conditions of beans are expected to worsen resulting in low yields. In Nandi, prevailing poor conditions are expected to result in approximately 60% reduction in yields. In West Pokot where beans have been harvested, a 50% reduction in yields was observed. Favourable conditions for wheat production are expected to result in normal yields if prevailing rainfall conditions continue being experienced in the region.

In **South Rift region**, conditions are favorable for maize and wheat production. In Bomet, the crop is mature and 70% of the crop has been harvested in Sotik Sub-county. In Narok County, slight infestations by FAW and MLND were observed, 30% of the crop has been harvested. In the rest of the region, the crop is in various stages from tasseling to grain filling. In Narok the wheat crop is mature and approximately 7% of the crop has been harvested. However, yields are expected to drop due to heavy rains which hampered mechanization operations for topdressing, weed control and chemical spraying for disease and pest control.

Outlook: Normal yields are expected for maize in most of the counties except in Nakuru and Kericho counties where the yields will be above normal if the current favourable conditions persist. Normal wheat yields are expected in Nakuru but a reduction in yields is expected in Narok due to excess rainfall during the growing period.

In **Nyanza region**, maize conditions were favorable. The crop is mature and harvesting has commenced and is expected to be completed in August.

Outlook: Normal maize yields are expected in most counties with harvest of the crop having commenced in early July. In all counties, bean production was average to below average due to the heavy rains that did not favor crop development.

In **Western region**, conditions are favorable for maize production. The crop is mature and 30%-50% of the crop has been harvested and harvesting is expected to be completed in August. Weather conditions were favorable for drying and harvesting. In Busia and Vihiga, farmers have already began preparing land for the short rains planting. Due to the good harvest, maize prices have dropped in Busia.

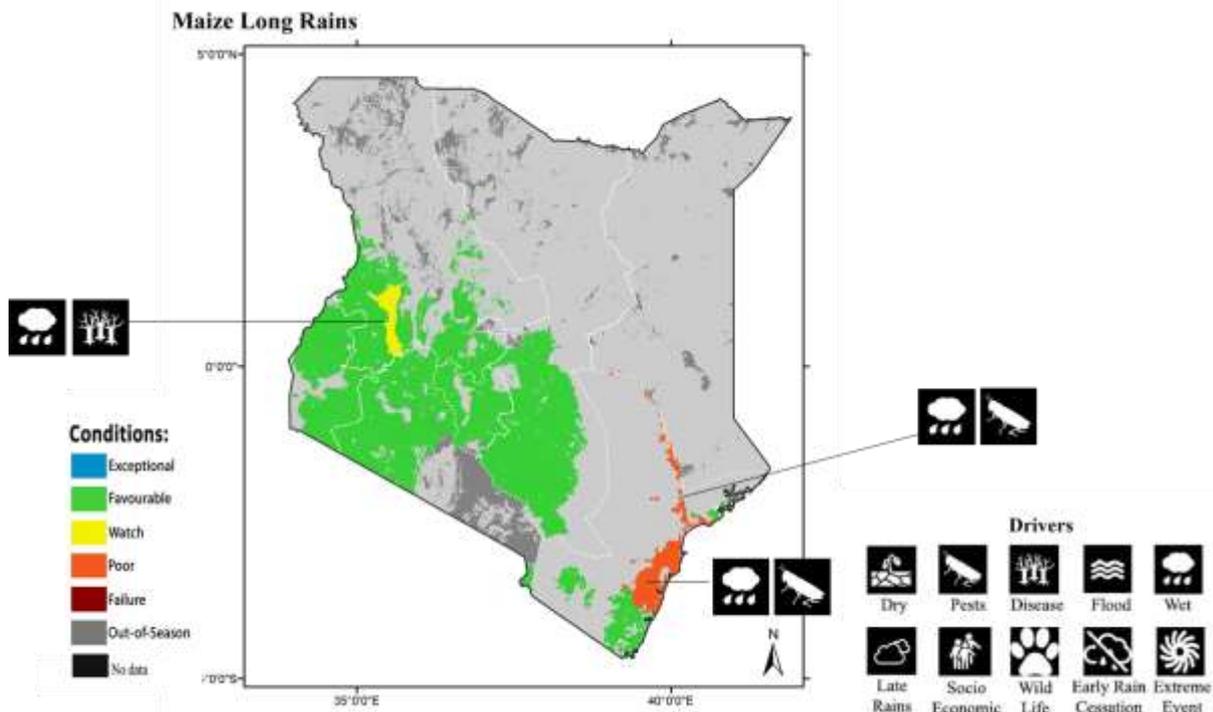
Outlook: Above normal maize production is expected. However, the heavy rains contributed to low beans production due to rotting and other postharvest losses.

In **Eastern Kenya**, Favorable conditions are being experienced in the Lower Eastern region for both maize and beans production. In Makueni, Machakos and Kitui counties, maize is drying and harvesting has commenced in the lower hotter areas. In Upper Eastern Region, conditions remain favorable for maize production due to adequate rainfall, coupled with effective control of FAW which resulted into a favorable crop. However, beans are in poor conditions due to persistent humid and very cold weather conditions hampering the harvesting of the crop. Excessive wet condition also favored fungal diseases attack, rotting of pods and delayed ripening/drying thereby affecting the harvesting process. In Embu, beans are mature, however, the quality of the crop has been affected by caterpillars in some wards; coupled with damage occasioned by excessive moisture during drying period. In Buuri Sub-County of the Upper Eastern region, where wheat is planted, the crop is mature and performed well due to adequate rainfall. Wheat production is done by large scale farmers who carry out proper management of the crop, hence contributing to the good conditions of the wheat crop.

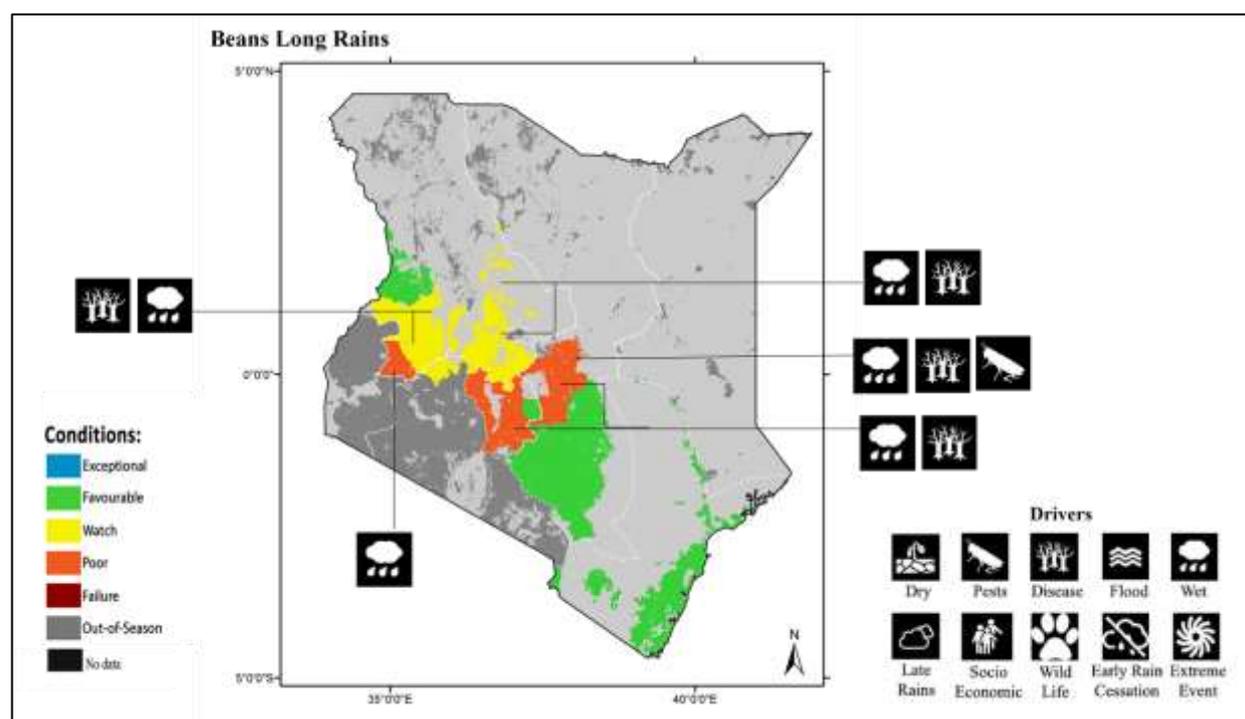
Outlook: Favorable maize and beans yields are expected in the Lower Eastern region. Harvesting of maize is expected to commence in early August. In the Upper Eastern region, maize yields are expected to be better than 2017 long rain season. Beans are expected to perform poorly resulting in depressed yields, due to prevailing poor conditions. Normal to high yields are expected for wheat in Buuri, Upper Eastern Region.

Assessment by Crop

This section provides crop specific assessments for the three major crops that were reported; namely maize, bean and wheat.

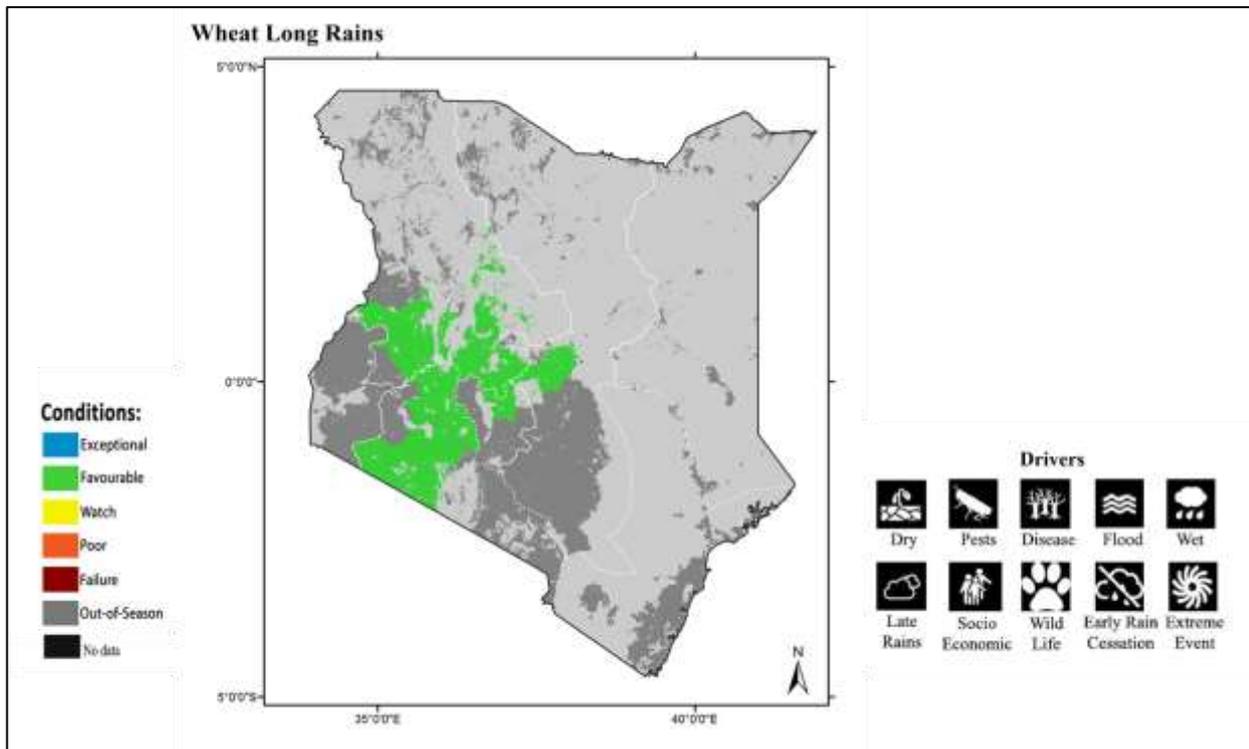


Most parts of the country are experiencing favourable conditions for maize production except for Kilifi and Tana River due to FAW infestations and excess rains. The poor conditions are expected to continue in the two counties. In Elgeyo-Marakwet, the crop was under watch due to wet conditions and FAW infestations, however, the conditions are expected to improve. Harvesting has begun and is expected to continue in August. Normal production is expected in most areas.



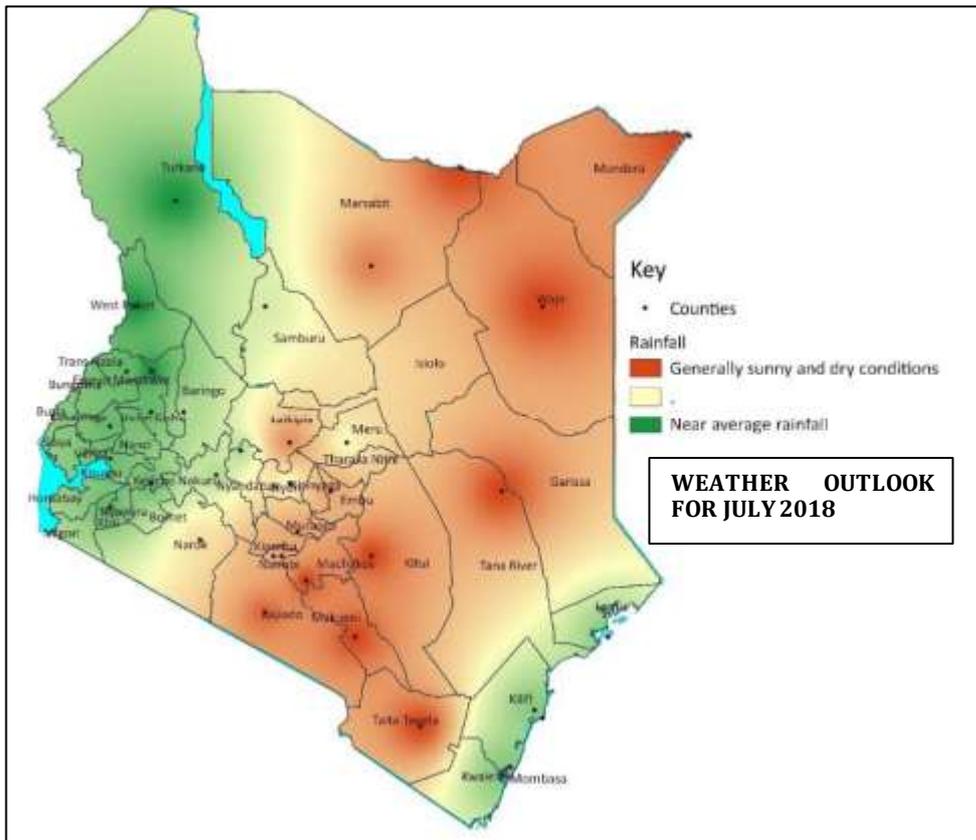
Beans production was poor in most parts of the country. However, production was favourable in Lower Eastern Region, coastal areas where the crop is planted. In Central Kenya the crop was in poor

condition due to prevailing wet conditions and diseases except in the lower hotter areas of Kirinyaga. In the North Rift Region, the crop was under watch in most parts with the conditions expected to worsen due to wet conditions and diseases. Yields are expected to be below normal in most of the affected areas.



Conditions for wheat production were favorable in the country, although planting of the crop was delayed by the heavy rains. Normal yields are expected.

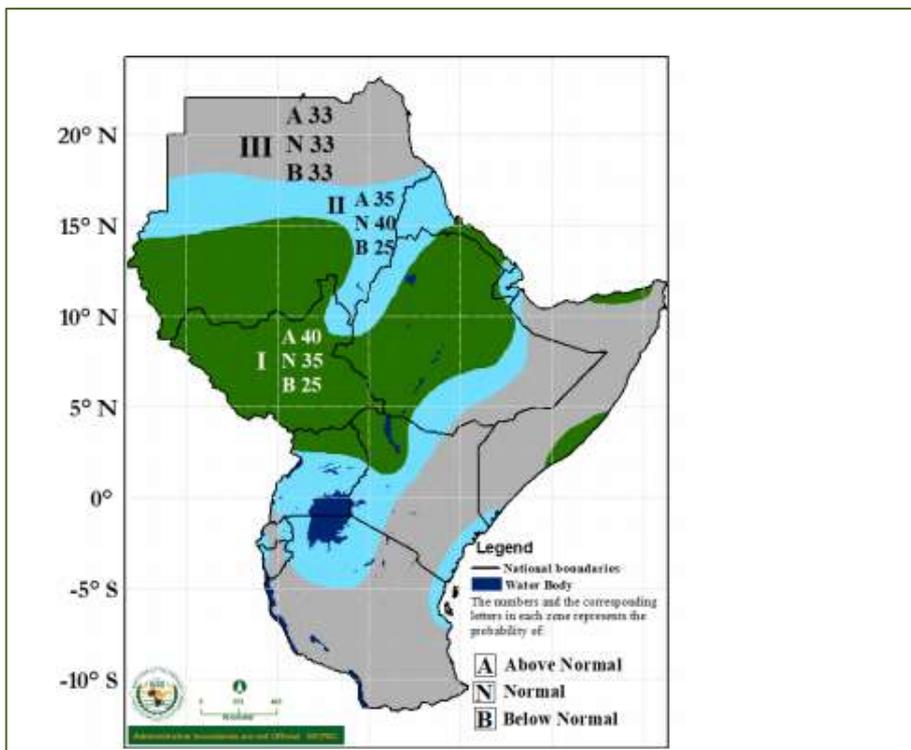
Climate outlook



National Outlook

July 2018

The outlook for July 2018 indicated that the better part of the country would continue to experience generally dry conditions. However, the western and parts of Central Rift Valley; near average to above average rainfall was expected. Coastal areas would also receive near normal to below normal rainfall.



Regional Outlook:

Forecast for June-July-August-September (JJAS)

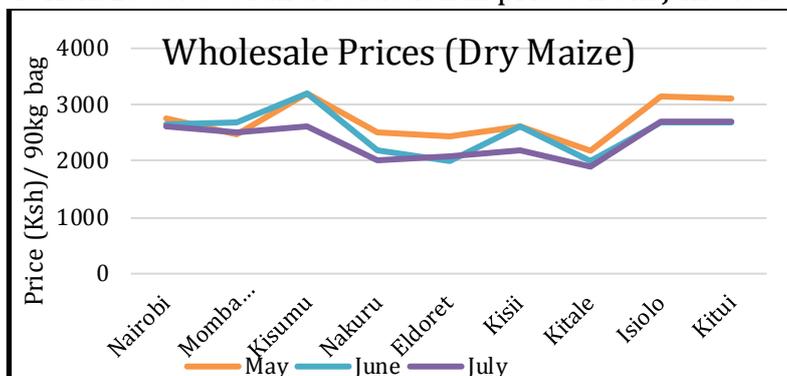
During March-April above normal rainfall was received in most parts of the country. The forecast for June-September (JJAS) 2018 period indicates increased likelihood of near normal to enhanced rainfall over the country. Western and North West Kenya enhanced rainfall is expected to trigger additional flooding.

Market information

The section provides the early morning wholesale monthly average prices of Maize, beans and wheat in major markets across the country.

1. Maize

In June Dry maize prices averaged Ksh. 2300 down from Ksh 2500 in June, with Isiolo and Kitui selling at the highest price of Ksh. 2700 per 90 Kg bag. In Kitale Maize was selling at the lowest price recorded at Ksh. 1900. Overall a reduction in prices from June was observed in the markets.

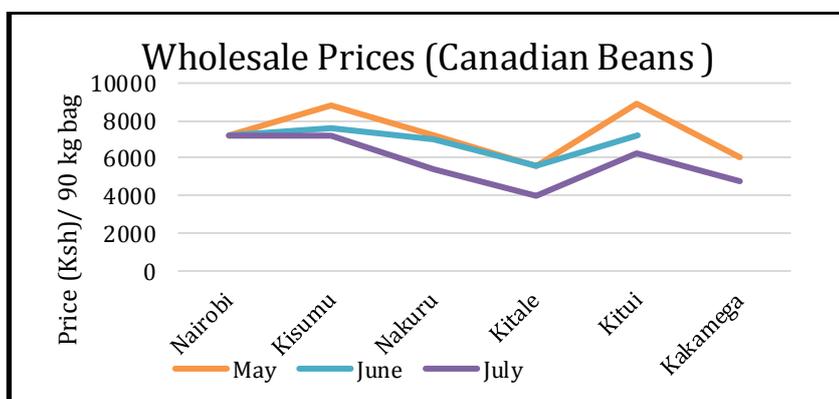


Green maize was selling at an average price of Ksh 2300 a decrease from June's Average price of Ksh. 2800 with Mombasa topping the price at Ksh 5000 down from Ksh. 5400 in June per 115 Kg bag. Nakuru recorded the lowest prices at Ksh. 1500 per bag of green maize.

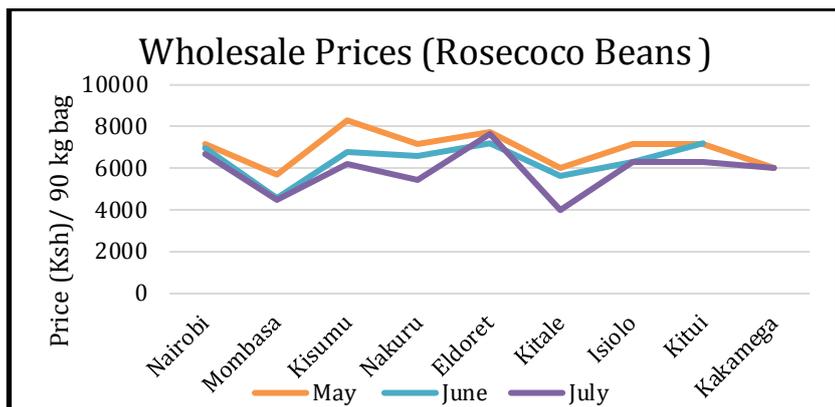


2. Beans

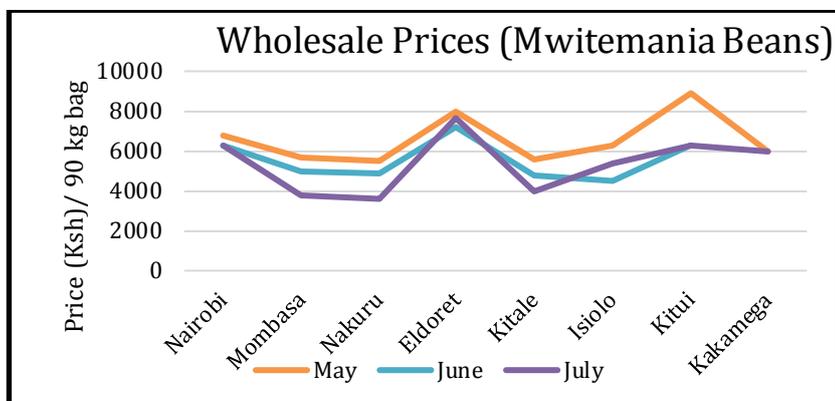
In July beans were selling at an average price Ksh. 5800 for the Canadian Wonder variety, Ksh. 5380 for Mwitemia beans and Ksh5880 for the Rosecoco variety per 90Kgs bag. This represented a decrease in prices for all the varieties when compared with prices in June.



Nairobi and Kisumu recorded the highest prices for the Canadian Wonder Variety at Ksh. 7200 with the lowest prices being observed in Kitale at Ksh. 4000.



Eldoret recorded the highest prices for the Rosecoco Variety at Ksh. 5880 with the lowest prices being observed in Kitale at Ksh. 4000.



Eldoret recorded the highest prices for the Mwitmania variety at Ksh. 7650 while the lowest prices were observed in Nakuru at Ksh. 3600.

3. Wheat

Wheat was selling at an average price of Ksh. 4100. Busia recorded the highest average prices at Ksh. 4500. Prices were unavailable from most markets in July, except for Kisii where wheat was selling at Ksh. 3300.



Definitions

Crop Conditions:

Exceptional: Conditions are much better than average* at time of reporting. This label is only used during the grain-filling through harvest stages.

Favourable: Conditions range from slightly lower to slightly better than average* at reporting time.

Watch: Conditions are not far from average* but there is a potential risk to final production. The crop can still recover to average or near average conditions if the ground situation improves. This label is only used during the planting-early vegetative and the vegetative-reproductive stages.

Poor: Crop conditions are well below average. Crop yields are likely to be 10-25% below average. This is used when crops are stunted and are not likely to recover, and impact on production is likely.

Failure: Crop conditions are extremely poor. Crop yields are likely to be 25% or more below average.

Out of Season: Crops are not currently planted or in development during this



Drivers:

These represent the key climatic drivers that are having an impact on crop condition status. They result in production impacts and can act as either positive or negative drivers of crop conditions.

Wet: Higher than average wetness that results in destruction ie due to water logging and leaching of nutrients

Extreme Events: This is a catch-all for all other climate risks (i.e. frost, hailstorms, mudslides etc.)

Late rains: Late start of the season. **Flood:** Area is flooded

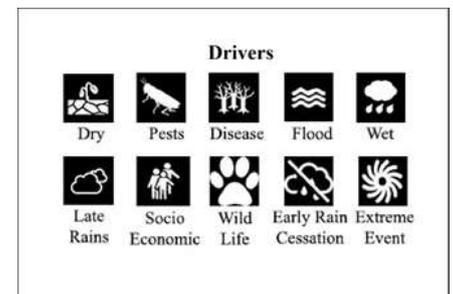
Early Rains Cessation: Rains end earlier than expected in the season

Pests: Destructive insects, birds or animals. **Diseases:** Destructive plant diseases. **Dry:** Drier than average

Socio-economic: Social or economic factors that impact crop conditions (i.e. policy changes, agricultural subsidies, government intervention, etc.)

Conflict: Armed conflict or civil unrest that is preventing the planting, or harvesting of the fields by the farmers.

Wildlife Damage: Crop destruction by wildlife



Partnerships

