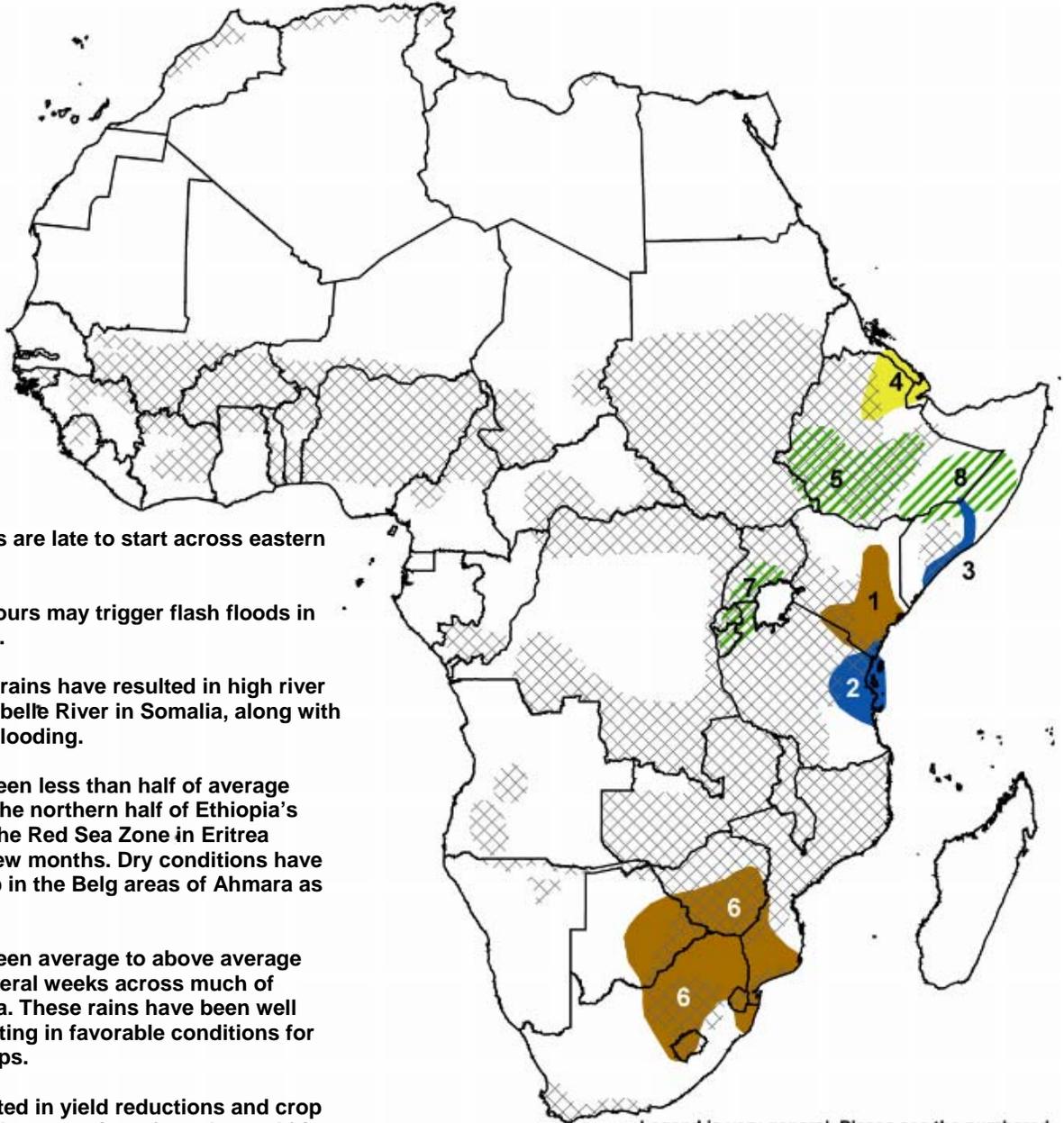


- Rainfall has been good across much of the Horn; however there are some areas where the rains thus far have been poor and others where flooding is a concern. Well distributed rains have resulted in favorable conditions across southern Ethiopia, parts of Somalia and western portions of the Lake Victoria Basin.
- Seasonal rains are late across eastern Kenya, resulting in drought development. Dry conditions have had a negative impact on pastures in Djibouti and adjacent parts of Ethiopia and Eritrea. A recent drying trend has raised concerns over crop stress in some parts of the eastern Ethiopian Highlands.



- 1) Seasonal rains are late to start across eastern Kenya.
- 2) Heavy downpours may trigger flash floods in eastern Tanzania.
- 3) Recent heavy rains have resulted in high river levels on the Shebelle River in Somalia, along with the potential for flooding.
- 4) Rainfall has been less than half of average across Djibouti, the northern half of Ethiopia's Afar region and the Red Sea Zone in Eritrea during the past few months. Dry conditions have begun to develop in the Belg areas of Ahmara as well.
- 5) Rainfall has been average to above average over the past several weeks across much of southern Ethiopia. These rains have been well distributed, resulting in favorable conditions for pastures and crops.
- 6) Drought resulted in yield reductions and crop failures across a large portion of southeast Africa. As the main crop season has ended and harvest is underway, this will be the last week the drought area will be depicted this season.
- 7) Abundant, well distributed rains resulted in favorable conditions for crops and pastures across the western portions of the Lake Victoria Basin.
- 8) Abundant rains benefited pastures and water supplies across southeastern Ethiopia and central Somalia.

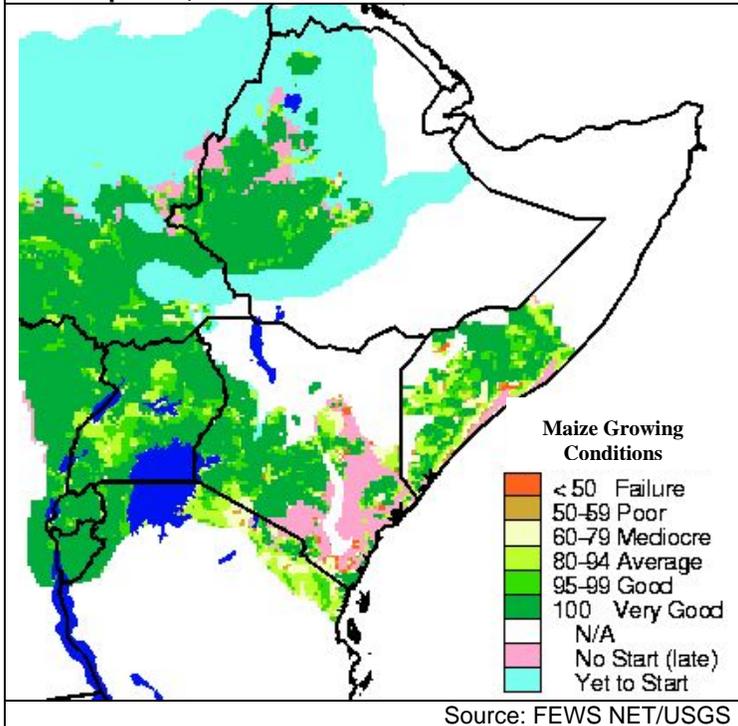
Legend is very general. Please see the numbered descriptions for each area depicted on the map.

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

**Good rains have resulted in favorable conditions this season thus far across much of the Horn, however late starting rains are causing problems in eastern Kenya.** Seasonal rains have started on time, and have been near normal across much of the Horn. Good rains in the pastoral areas of southeastern Ethiopia and central Somalia this season, along with abundant rainfall last season, have favored pastures and water supplies. However, these rains have also resulted in elevated water levels along the Shabelle River. Additional rain may result in further rises and has resulted in the risk for flooding along the river in Somalia. Normal to above normal rainfall has been well distributed across most of Oromiya and SNNPR in Ethiopia, resulting in favorable conditions for developing crops and pasture regeneration. Abundant rainfall has resulted in good conditions across Rwanda, Burundi and southern Uganda. However, seasonal rains have been slow to start across much of eastern Kenya. The rains are over a month late, and totals since March 1 are less than half of normal. The driest conditions are being observed in southeastern Kenya, where rainfall totals for the same period are less than one quarter of the average. Some areas have seen less than 10 mm of rainfall since the first of March. Just outside of the drought areas, isolated heavy downpours have occurred. A large amount of rain in a short amount of time triggered flash flooding in Kenya's Meru District, displacing a number of people.

many of these areas. The April rains came too late for main season crops. However, the increased moisture favored land preparation efforts for winter crops and may have resulted in some opportunities for flood recession cropping along major rivers. Since the main crop season has come to an end and the post-season rains have reduced moisture deficits, **this will be the last week the drought area will be analyzed in this assessment. However, the effects of this year's drought on regional food security will likely continue to be felt through the hunger season (October 2007 – May 2008).** The moisture deficits incurred during the drought may also result in diminished water supplies and possible water shortages in some areas.

**Water Requirements Satisfaction Index (WRSI) for Maize as of April 30, 2007**



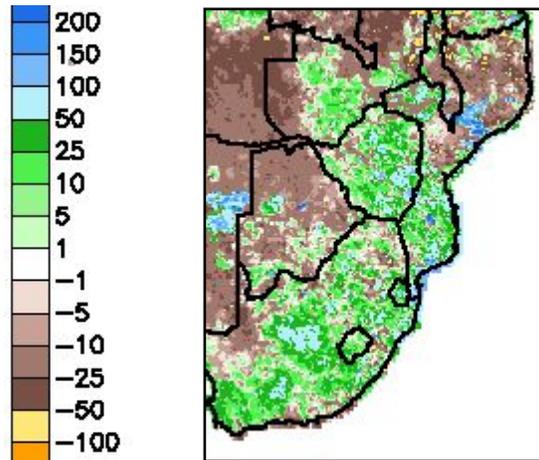
Conditions have been dry across Djibouti, northern portions of Ethiopia's Afar region, and Eritrea's Red Sea Zone. Less than half of the average rainfall has occurred over the past few months. While this is not uncommon in this arid region, the shortfalls have stressed pastures and water supplies in this marginal pastoral region. Rainfall in recent weeks has been scant in the Belg producing areas of eastern Ahmara. This has raised concerns about stress to Belg and Long Cycle crops.

**Drought during the main growing season resulted in widespread yield reductions and crop failures across southeastern Africa.**

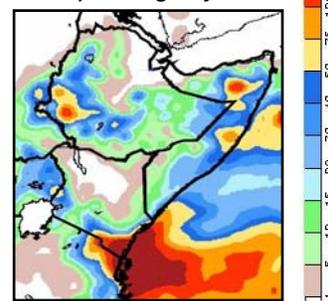
Rainfall from January through March was well below normal across much of RSA, southern Zimbabwe and adjacent parts of neighboring countries. This caused widespread crop stress in the region. Furthermore, hot temperature during sensitive stages of development accentuated crop stress. However, the month of April was quite wet in

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**Rainfall Departure from normal for April 2007 (in mm)**



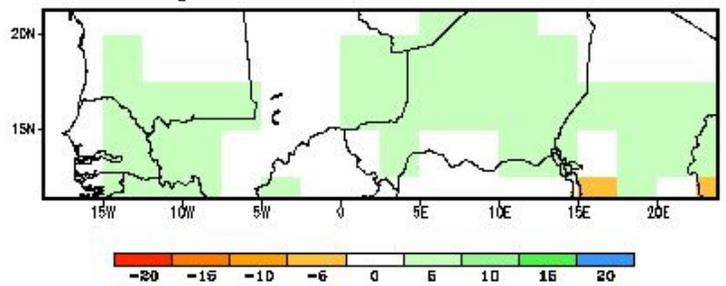
**7 Day Rainfall Forecast (in mm): ending May 15**



Rain, some of which may be heavy, is expected across Ethiopia's southern and western Highlands, as well as eastern Ethiopia and much of Somalia. Unfortunately, dry conditions are expected to persist across Djibouti and Afar. Moderate to heavy rains are expected to reduce moisture deficits across southeastern Kenya, but may trigger some flash floods. Locally heavy rains could result in flash floods in parts of eastern Tanzania as well.

**Departure from Climatological Probabilities**

**Jun-Aug 2007 Sahel Rainfall, One Month Lead**



There is a tilt in the odds favoring above average rainfall across portions of the Sahel including Senegal, southern Mauritania, western Mali, Niger, and Chad. Climatology is expected locally over central Mali and most of Burkina Faso.