

- 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.
- Potential Desert locusts threat in 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 experienced poor rainfall at the onset of seasonal rains. Recent rains have the potential to improve crop and pasture conditions there, however many roads are now impassible due to flooding. Small localized regions of Burkina Faso have had similar conditions.

3) Early season dryness was relieved by excessive rainfall improving crops in northern Ghana. Localized flooding along rivers and dams has caused some damage to crops and infrastructure.

4) Excessive rainfall continues over Ethiopia, western Eritrea and eastern Sudan. The Shabelle River has flooded as water has flowed down stream from the Ethiopian highlands into Somalia.

5) Precipitation has been heavy in Niger, Nigeria and Cameroon. Excessive rainfall has inundated crops and infrastructure, causing damage across the region. Additional heavy rain is expected during the coming period.

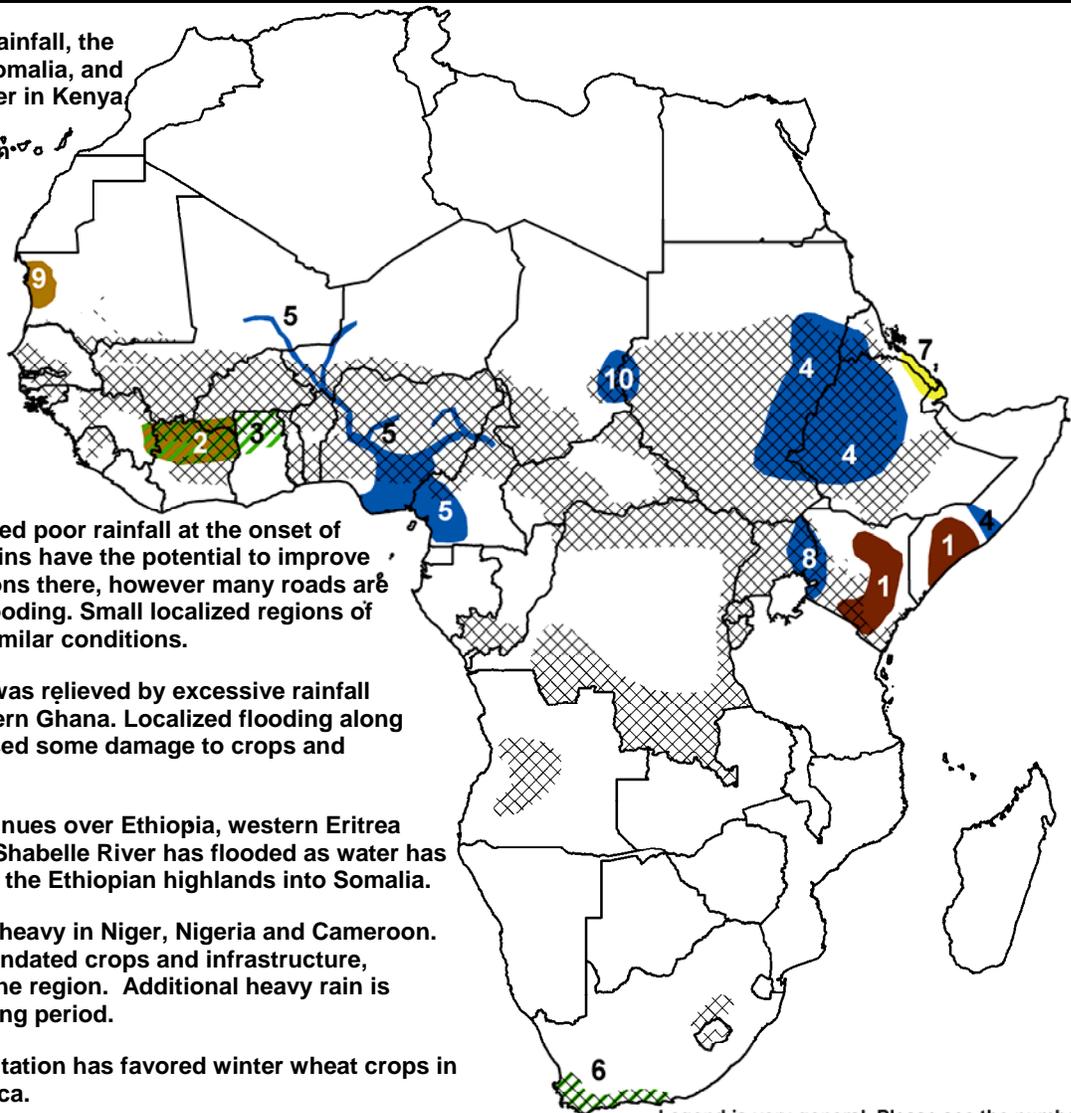
6) Well distributed precipitation has favored winter wheat crops in Western Cape, South Africa.

7) 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.

8) 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 just before harvest. Flash flooding along the Nzoia River is a concern as rains continue.

9) 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.

10) Flooding may limit accessibility of humanitarian aid in western Chad and the Darfur region.



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



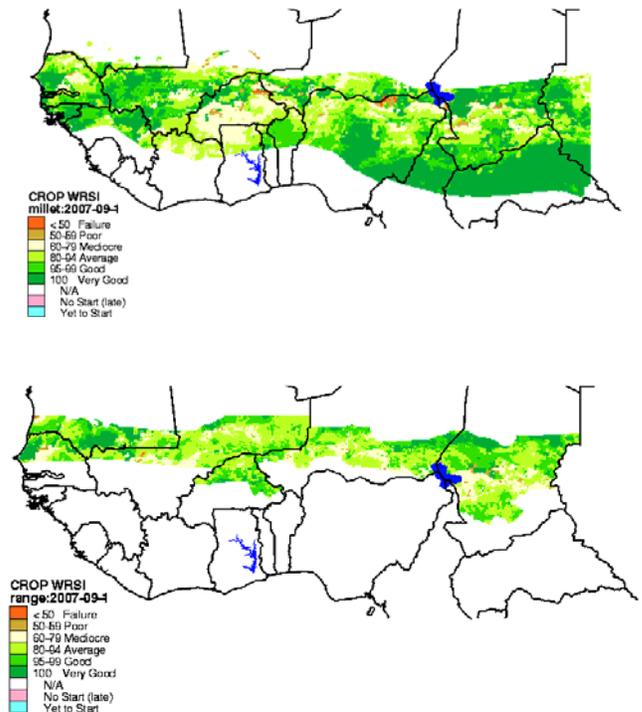
Heavy rains cause significant flooding in west.

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.

In the Sahel region, Mauritania, Togo, Mali, Burkina-Faso, Nigeria, Niger, Liberia, The Gambia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, and Senegal have all 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 rains now continue at normal the country will likely produce a very good harvest, much like that of 1999.

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

Cropland and Rangeland Water Requirement Satisfaction Index September Dekad 1



Source: USGS/FEWS-NET

Seasonal Rainfall Outlook

In East Africa odds are favoring above average rains locally along the northern coast of Kenya. There is a small chance of local rains over northern Uganda with normal rainfall accumulation expected elsewhere.

In the Northern Horn of Africa normal accumulation totals are expected except for local areas in southern Sudan where rains may be a little below normal.

In southern Africa the outlook favors above average rains over central Mozambique, eastern South Africa, southern Angola, and locally in northern Namibia, southern Botswana, and central South Africa. Elsewhere normal rains are expected.

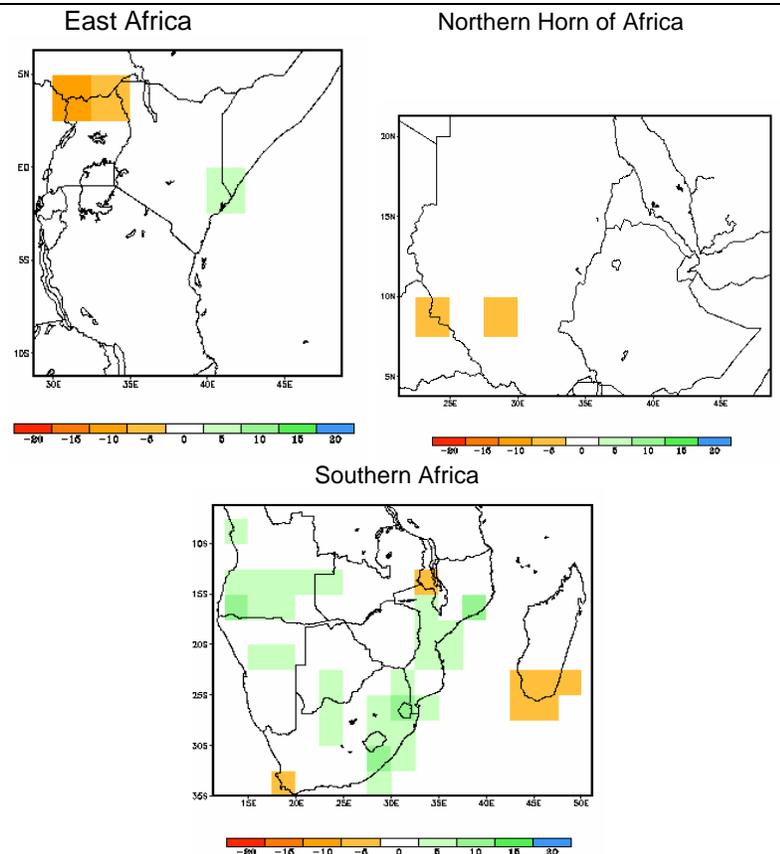
Weak La Nina conditions are expected to develop in late September into October. If La Nina conditions develop above normal rainfall will likely occur.

Potential Locusts Threat

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. Heavy rains in the past month have allowed favorable breeding conditions and consequently, locusts will increase in the coming months in the traditional summer breeding areas of the countries.

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October – December 2007 Rainfall One Month Lead



Source: NOAA/CPC