



KMD

AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETIN

KENYA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

25th Dekad, 1st to 10th September 2008

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HIGHLIGHTS

- *During the 25th Dekad i.e. 1st to 10th September 2008 light to moderate rainfall was experienced over the Western, Nyanza, and parts Central Rift Valley provinces, with Kakamega, Kisii, Kisumu, Kitale, Eldoret, Nakuru, Nyahururu recording a Dekadal total of 34.2, 65.1, 8.4, 15.5, 69.7, 31.5, 53.9mm respectively. Central province, Nairobi area, its environ, parts of Eastern province bordering Mt, Kenya experienced light to moderate rainfall with Nyeri, Embu, Dagoretti, Wilson Airport, Kabete recording 19.5, 6.0, 76.9, 61.6, 52.8mm respectively. The Coast province experienced light rainfall with Mtwapa, and Mombasa recording 7.1, and 14.4mm respectively during the Dekad. The rest of the country remained generally dry.*
- *Day time temperatures were relatively warm over most parts of the country. Night temperatures were moderate except, some parts of Central Rift Valley, with Nyahururu recording a minimum mean of 4.9deg Celsius on 6th September 2008 and a Dekadal minimum mean of 7.0 deg Celsius (Figs.2)*
- *The pastoral regions and game parks of Northern Rift Valley, Southern Rift Valley, North Eastern and South Eastern lowlands, experienced light or no rains at all resulting in inadequate pastures and water for livestock and wildlife. Incidences of wildlife and human conflict have been reported in areas bordering game parks and game reserves. (Figs.1, 2 & 3).*
- *Hunger and other drought related impacts are being experienced in some regions of Central, Eastern, Northeastern Northern and Southern Rift Valley Provinces which received inadequate rainfall during the growing season.*

CROP AND WEATHER REVIEW

(1st to 10th September 2008)

Central Province and Nairobi area:

Light to moderately heavy rainfall was experienced over several parts of Central province, Nairobi area and its environs. In the high ground areas the maize crop is at the maturity stage and harvesting is near completion with below normal yields being reported. For the low lying areas, of Nyeri North, Kirinyaga, Muranga, Kiambu, Thika and Maragua Districts hunger is looming, but food distribution has already started for the most vulnerable households in in this districts.

Eastern Province:

Light rainfall was experienced in parts Embu and Meru districts bordering Mt. Kenya. Maize crop is at the maturity stage and harvesting is near completion with below normal yields being reported. In the lowland areas of Mbeere District, the maize crop hunger is looming and food distribution is required for the most vulnerable households.

In the Southern Lowlands (Machakos, Makueni, Mwingi and Kitui districts), hot and dry conditions dominated this region. Hunger is looming and food distribution is highly required to avert the current food situation

Pastures and water for livestock and wild life is inadequate and animal human conflict may arise especially for the areas bordering the game parks/reserves. Loss of livestock through death is also likely.

Coast Province:

Light was received in this region during the review period. Maize crop is at the maturity stage and harvesting is commencing with above normal yields being reported. Grass/browse for livestock and game is also doing well and the animals are healthy.

North Eastern Province:

Light or no rains at all was experienced during the dekad resulting in inadequate pastures and water for for livestock, wildlife and human use. Hunger is looming and malnutrition levels are on the rise among children, urgent measures are required to save the situation. Death of livestock has been reported in some areas within the province. (Figs. 1, 2, & 3).

Western Province:

Light to moderate rainfall was received in several places in this region (Kakamega, Bungoma, Busia, Eldoret and Kitale). Maize crop is at flowering/maturity stages and corresponding to normal growth with normal yields expected. No adverse effect has been reported. (Figs.1 & 2).

Nyanza and Central Rift Valley:

Light to moderate rainfall was received in this region. Crops are doing well and corresponding to normal growth. Maize crop in areas around Kisii is at the maturity stage and harvesting is commencing with normal yields being reported. In the same region some farmers have planted and the maize and beans are at the emergenc stages. (Figs 1 & 2)

Northern and Southern Rift Valley:

Little or no rain was reported in the Northern Rift and North Western regions during the dekad. Hot and dry conditions dominated these regions resulting in inadequate pastures and water sources for both domestic and livestock. For the game parks/reserves, inadequate pasture, browse and water may cause animal /human conflict while migrating in search of food and water. Hunger is looming and malnutrition levels are on the rise among children, urgent measures are required to save the situation. Loss of livestock through death is also likely. (Figs.1-5).

DEKADAL RAINFALL

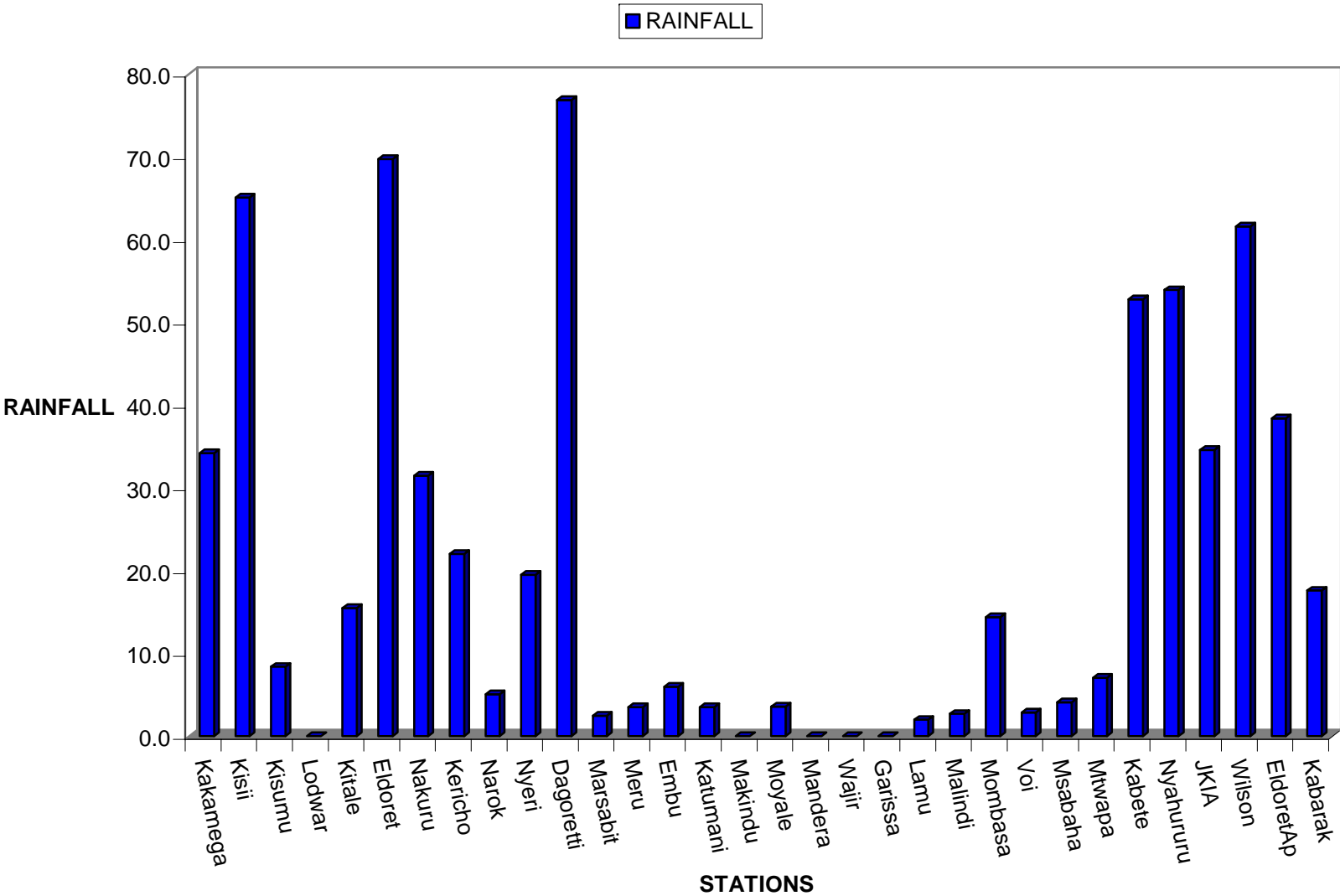


Fig. 1: Actual Rainfall (1st to 10th September 2008)

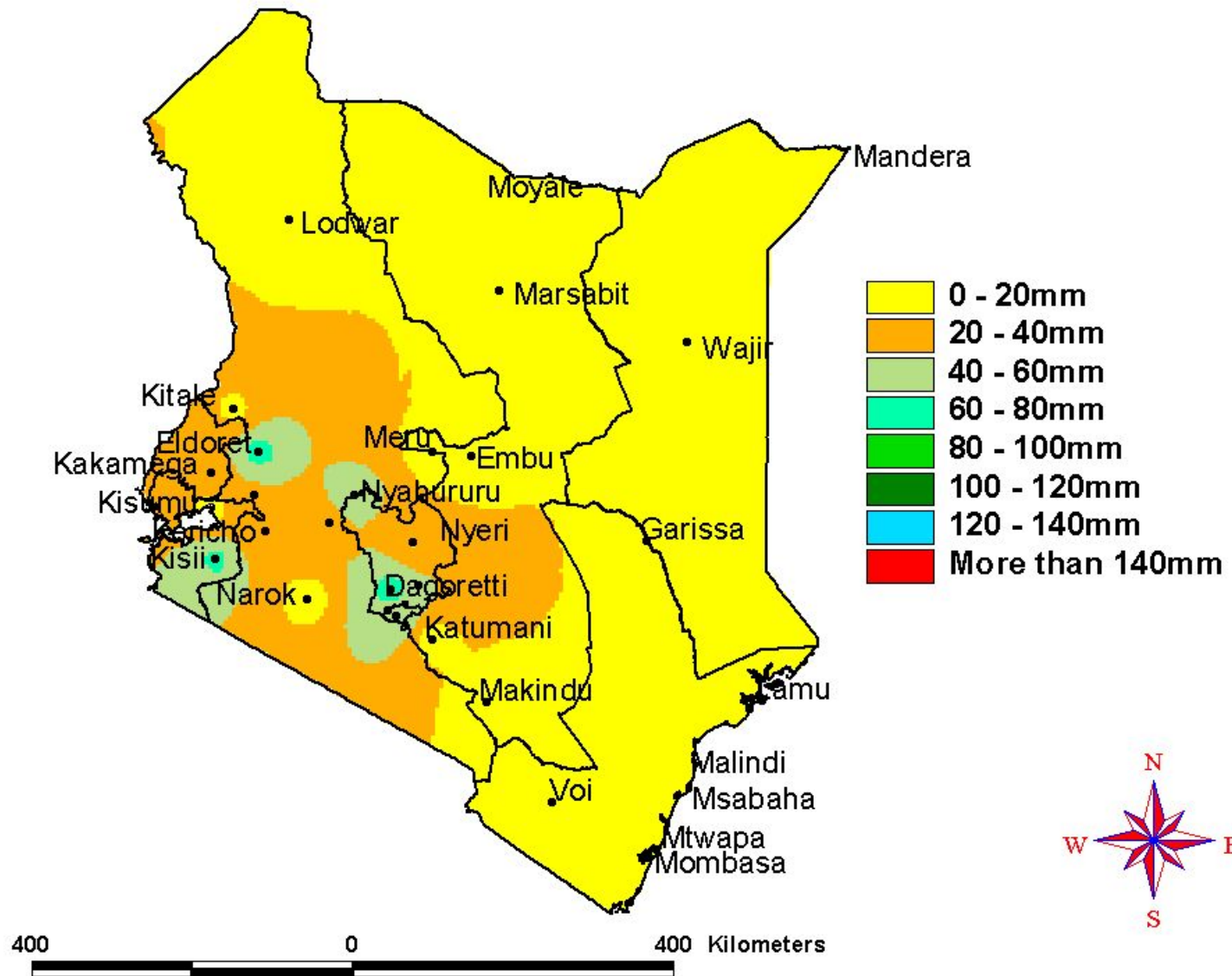


Fig. 2: Actual Rainfall (1st to 10th September 2008)

DEKADAL TEMPERATURES

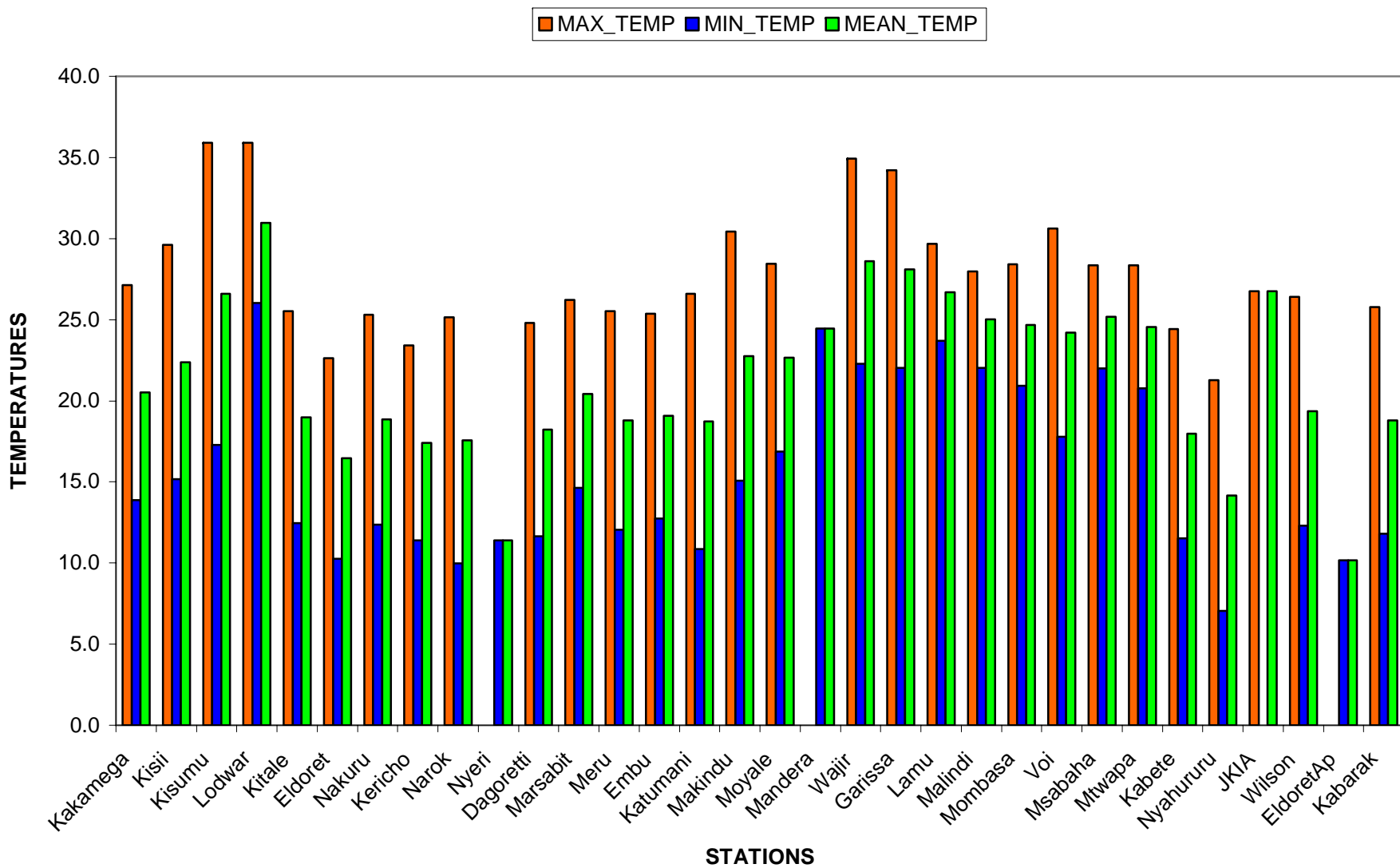


Fig 3: Mean Temperatures (1st to 10th September 2008)

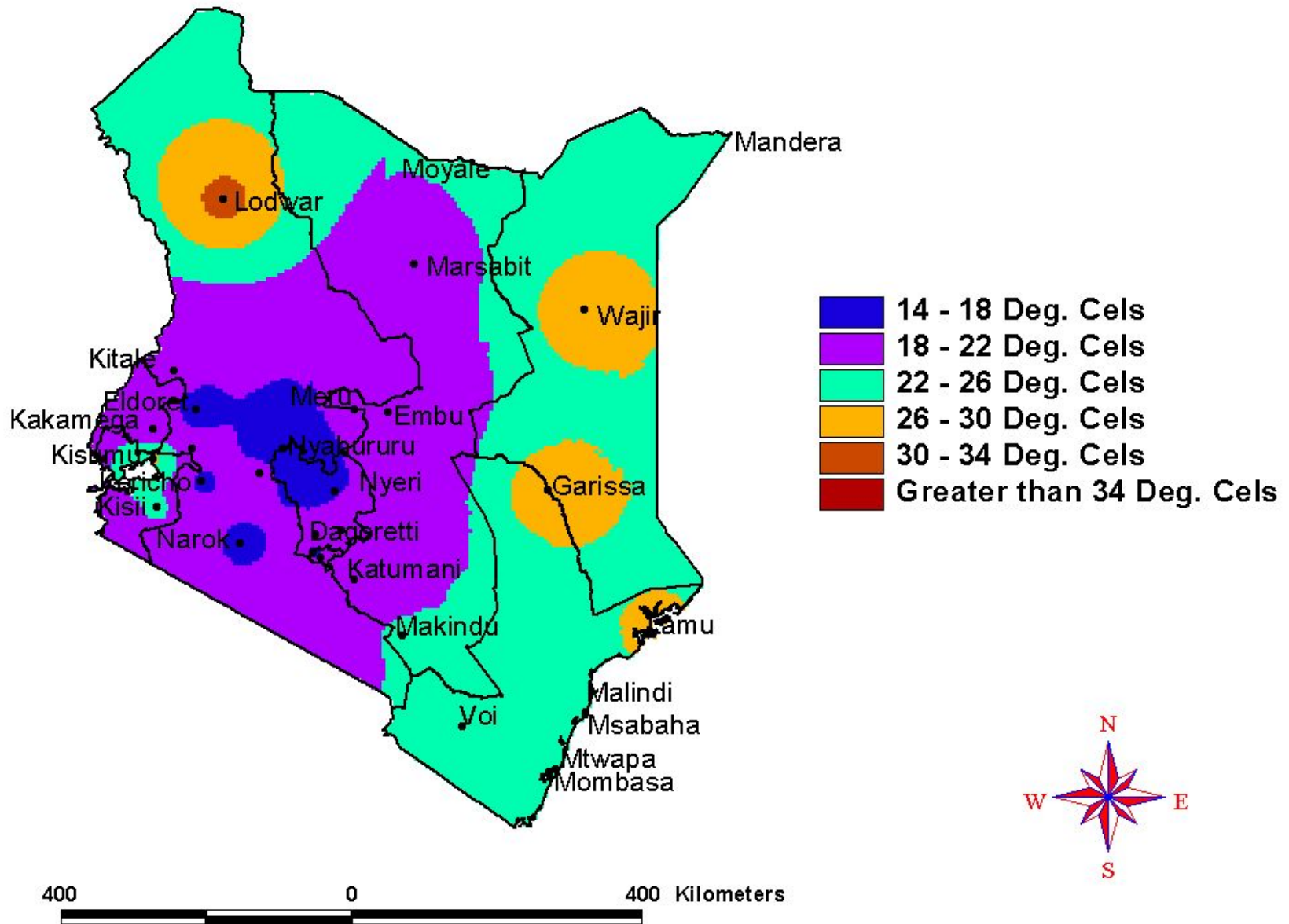


Fig 4: Mean Temperature (1st to 10th September 2008)

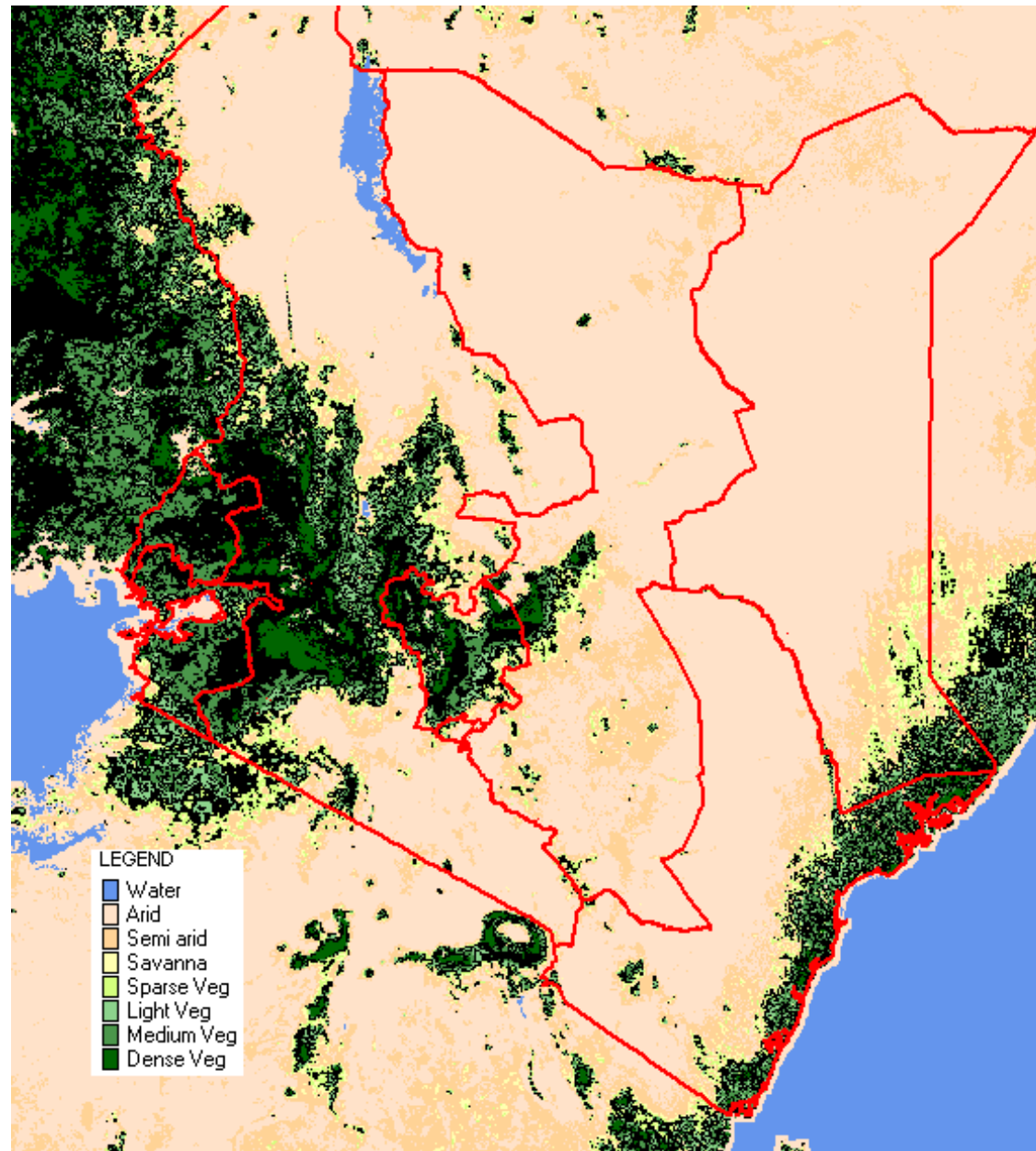


Fig. 5: Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (1st to 10th September 2008)

EXPECTED WEATHER AND CROP CONDITIONS DURING THE NEXT 10 DAYS (11th –20th September 2008).

During the next 10 days (11th –20th September 2008), Western, Nyanza and Central Rift Valley regions are expected to experience light to moderate rainfall over several places. Crops are expected to continue doing well and correspond to normal growth with normal yields being expected.

Central Highlands, Nairobi area and its environs, are expected to experience warm conditions with light rains in several places. For the highland areas of Nyeri and Kirinyaga districts bordering Mt. Kenya maize harvesting is expected to continue. In Eastern Province regions of Embu and Meru districts bordering Mt Kenya are expected to experience warm conditions with light rains. Maize harvesting is expected to continue.

In South-Eastern lowlands, dry and hot conditions are expected prevail resulting in inadequate pastures and water for human, livestock and wildlife use. Several livelihoods experiencing the impacts of drought that has hit the region.

The Coastal region is expected to experience warm condition with light rains. Harvesting of maize crop is expected to continue.

In the pastoral regions of Northwestern, Northeastern and South Rift Valley districts sunny and dry conditions are expected to prevail, resulting in poor pastures and inadequate drinking water for human and animal/wildlife use. Hunger and death of livestock is likely to be on the increase as has been reported in some parts of Northeastern province and the pastoralists may be forced to cull their livestock to avoid loss through death.

In summary maize crop is at the flowering/maturity stages in most places of Western Kenya and parts of central Rift Valley around Kakamega, Kitale and Eldoret and is corresponding to normal growth with normal yields being expected. In the Highland areas of Central and Eastern Provinces the maize crop is at the maturity stage and harvesting is continuing with below normal yields being reported. Hunger and other drought related impacts are being experienced in the regions which received inadequate rainfall during the Long Rains Season.

This product should be used in conjunction with Kenya Meteorological Department weather forecasts

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