

Rainfall & Vegetation Assessment of August 1999

Wet weather condition persisted over most summer rain benefiting parts of the country during the month of August. Hence scattered to wide spread rain shower was observed over most parts of the high-grounds and western lowlands of the country. The spatial and temporal distribution of rainfall during this month is fairly good over most parts of the country. However, there was a slight decrease in rainfall amount over western lowlands during the third dekad of this month. Distribution of rainfall over the whole country for August 1999 is depicted in Figure 1. The spatial patterns indicate that **above 60mm of rain** was received over most parts of the high-grounds and western lowlands of the country.

This year's monthly rainfall during August was **above average** over most parts of the high-grounds and western lowlands of the country. Figure 3 shows rainfall amounts during August 1999, 98, 97 and the long year average. Rainfall amounts during this month and the percentage of Normal (long year average) for selected stations is as follows: Asmara (102mm = 69% of the long year average), Adi Caih (92mm = 187%) Adi Quala (227mm=122%), Mendefera (194mm=128%) Keren (247mm=176%), Afabet (59mm=74%), Nakfa (131mm=87%), Agordat (201mm=157%), Barentu (224mm=157%), Tessenei (150mm=132%), Ghinda (36mm=95%).

The NDVI image for August 1999 (Fig.2) shows a significant increase in the greenness of vegetation as compared to the last month.

Fig. 1 Distribution of Rainfall for August 1999

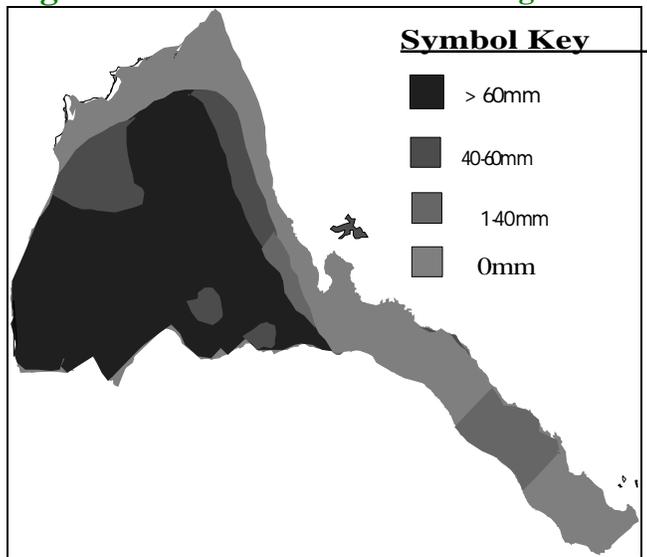


Fig. 2 Vegetation Map for August 1999

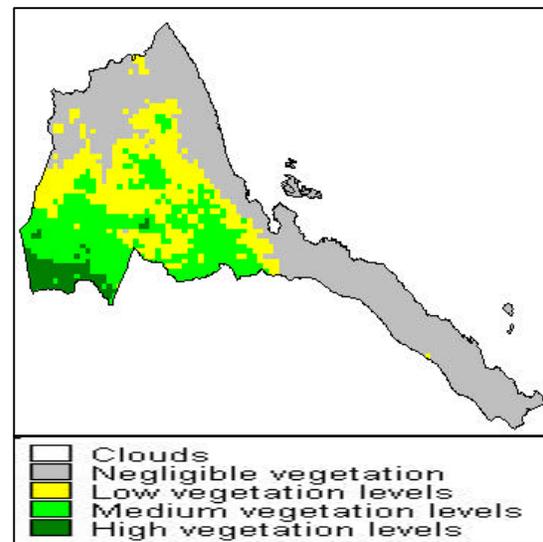


Fig 3. Comparison of Monthly Rainfall in August 1999, 98, 97 & long year Avg.

