

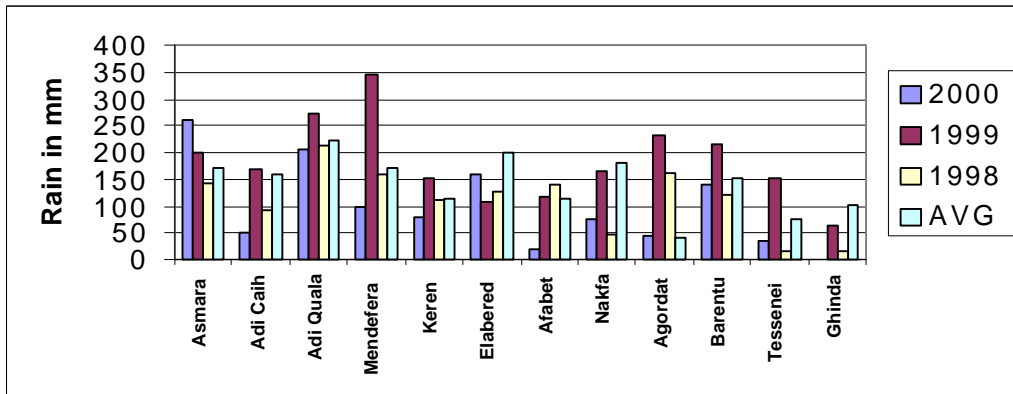
# Rainfall and Vegetation Assessment of July 2000

July is the major rainfall season in Eritrea, which is characterized by widespread rainfall activities over the High-grounds, Western lowlands, and Eastern Escarpments. Most of the country received little rainfall during the first two dekads of July this year. Hence cumulative rainfall was **Below Normal** during this period over most parts of the country. A significant increase in rainfall amount and distribution was observed during the third dekad of July over most summer rain-benefiting parts of the country. During third dekad of July **moderate to heavy thunderstorm** experienced over the High grounds and Western Lowlands. Especially heavy rainfall associated with **strong Hailstorm** has brought cumulative monthly totals Much above the long year averages over zoba Maakel. The percentage of cumulative monthly rainfall ranged from 33% over Adi Caih (zoba Dehub) to 153% over Asmara (zoba Maakel).

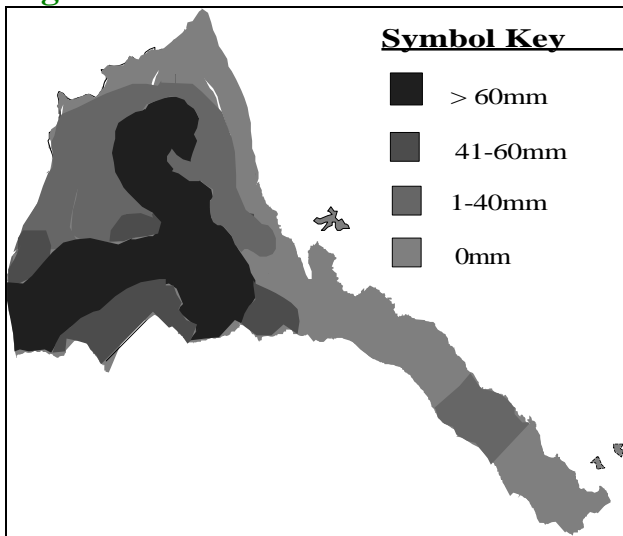
Rainfall distribution over the whole country for July this year is depicted in Figure 2. Highest monthly rainfall totals were received over Asmara 259, Adi Quala 206, Tsada Christian 178, Hayelom 196, Adi Tekelezan 177, Barentu 140, Halhale 140, Areza 136, Halhal 134 and Nakfa 97mm. Comparison of July rainfall during 2000, 1999, 1998 & long term mean for selected stations is shown in Fig.1. Adi Caih, Mendefera, Keren, Afabet, Nakfa, Tessenei and Ghinda stations received Below Normal monthly rainfall during July 2000.

Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) image of July 2000 depicted in Figure 3 indicates lower than normal vegetation levels over most summer rain-benefiting parts of the country.

**Fig 1. Cumulative Rainfall during July 2000.**



**Fig. 2 Distribution of Rainfall for June 2000**



**Fig. 3 Vegetation Map for July 2000**

