DESERT LOCUST CONTROL ORGANIZATION FOR EASTERN AFRICA (DLCO-EA)
(HARGEISA OFFICE)

MIGRATORY PESTS SITUATION IN NORTH SOMALIA

April, 2016

1.0 GENERAL SUMMARY OF THE SITUATION

During the month of April 2016, the Desert Locust and other Migratory Pests situations report continued to remain calm throughout the different regions of the country.
Survey operations were not conducted for the last month; however extensive communications that has been made at times with different stakeholders among the **C**ommunity **B**ased **D**esert **L**ocust **I**nformation **N**etwork **(CBDLIN)** and local residents in the frontline regions confirmed and stipulated the absence of locust activities in their respective regions.
The overall rainfall performance and pattern of distribution has gradually improved and enhanced mostly in different regions of the country juxastiposed with previous month's noxious drought and rainless conditions.
Good rains of moderate to light intensity and exceptionally localized heavy precipitation has reportedly fallen in the plateau and escarpment during the first and second dekads of the month, whilst potential breeding habitats in the coast remained largely dry except light to moderate amount of precipitation that has reportedly fallen during the second dekad of the month as indicated by Satellite-derived rainfall images of IRI[1] and recorded by meteorological stations network.
It is worthwhile to mention, that Puntland regional state and central regions of Somali remained rainless and dry, whilst Southern regions of Somalia partly received light to moderate precipitations during the first two dekads of the month.
Consequently, vegetation complexes in Northwestern regions remained mainly dry yet except localized greening condition and regeneration of pasture observed owing to current good precipitations received.
The vegetation complexes in Puntland, central and Southern regions of Somalia remained dry mainly; however, improvement of vegetation complexes is expected in Southern regions of Somalia due to the recent good rains.

2.0 WEATHER AND ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

The weather conditions in Northwestern regions steadily improved during the first and second dekads of the month as recorded by both **S**ynoptic and **A**utomatic **R**ain gauge **S**tations **N**etworks (**SARSN**) and depicted by Satellite-derived rainfall images of **IRI.**
Heavy cloud overcasts and dramatic temperature increases associated with good rains were characterized throughout the month of April, 2016.
During the first two dekads, moderate to light and localized heavy precipitations with good temporal and spatial distribution were recorded in most parts of the Northwestern

[1] International Research Institute

regions particularly in the plateau and escarpment as recorded by a series of meteorological network stations across the country and elucidated by Satellite-derived rainfall images.

For instance, an average precipitation of the first two dekads of **178 mm,135 mm,110 mm,71 mm and 70 mm** were recorded in **K**alabaydh, **G**abiley, **J**ufada, **Q**ulujeed, and **B**.Cas localities respectively in the plateau and escarpment that fell during the first two dekads of the month.

Similarly, a total of **52.5 mm,45.5 mm,23 mm,19.5 mm and 17 mm** of precipitation were recorded in **C**adadley, **M**alawle, **D**hubato, **L**ughaya and **Z**eila localities respectively during the first two dekads (1^{st} -20^{th}) of April,2016.

Nevertheless, primary potential breeding habitats in the coast received light to moderate precipitations during the second dekad as indicated by meteorological stations network and depicted by satellite-derived rainfall images of International Research Institute.

Consequently, the entire vegetation complexes were dry in most Northwestern regions except greening pockets observed in some parts along the plateau and escarpment that received good rains while regeneration of pasture and greening of annual and perennial vegetation in the localities that received recent precipitation is expected to embark on for the coming fortnights.

In Northeastern regions of Puntland autonomous state and central regions of Somalia continued to remain rainless and mainly dry throughout those regions, whilst Southern regions of Somalia received mixed rains of light to moderate intensity during the month.

Hence vegetation complexes are mainly dry in Southern regions but greening and rejuvenation of annual and perennials in limited portions started in areas that received recent precipitation and the rest is likely to revive thereafter.

Rainfall (mm) at Hargeisa, Boroma, Dila, Aburiin, Botor and Togochalle Synoptic Rain gauge Stations data respectively for April, 2016[2].

Date	Hargeisa	Boroma	Dila	Aburiin	Botor	Togochalle
04/04/2016	-	1.5	-	-	-	-
05/04/2016	7.0	16.0	33.0	3.0	-	-
07/04/2016	1.0	2.5	86.0	-	58.0	58.0
09/04/2016	-	3.0	-	-	-	
10/04/2016	8.5	60.0	8.0	7.0	19.0	13.0
11/04/2016	9.5	8.0	5.0	-	10.0	23.0
13/04/2016	-	3.0	-	-	11.0	-
14/04/2016	-	9.0	-	-	-	-
15/04/2016	14.0	3.5	20.0	78.5	32.0	-
16/04/2016	22.0	-	1.0	24.0	18.0	-
17/04/2016	4.0	-	-	10.0	-	-
19/04/2016	-	-	5.0	1.0	-	34.0
Total	66.0 mm	106.5 mm	158.0 mm	123.5 mm	148.0 mm	128.0 mm

[2] On 11^{th} and 15^{th} of April, 2016, **7.5mm** and **0.5mm** of rain were recorded in **Burao** and **Berbera** respectively for the entire first two dekads of the month, whilst Caynabo and Xudun recorded nill during the month.

3.0 DESERT LOCUST SITUATION (*Shistocerca gregaria*)

During the month of April 2016, the Desert Locust and other Migratory Pests situations report in the key breeding habitats in the coastal plains and the secondary breeding habitats in the plateau and the escarpment continued to remain calm throughout the country as the previous months.

Although survey operations has not been undertaken during the month, however, reports received from local residents in the frontline regions and other stakeholders among the **C**ommunity **B**ased **D**esert **L**ocust **I**nformation **N**etwork **(CBDLIN)** confirmed and stipulated the absence of locust activities in their respective regions throughout the different regions of the country.

It is noteworthy to mention, that potential breeding habitats in the coast remained dry except light to moderate amount of precipitation received during the second dekad and ecological vegetation complexes remained largely dry and unfavorable for any breeding.

Nonetheless, moderate to light rains received in wider parts along the plateau and escarpment triggered localized greenness of vegetation whilst the rest remained dry yet however, it is expected to revive soon in areas that received recent rains.

Hence, careful monitoring and follow up of the nexus weather and ecological parameters and progression of current spring precipitation (vernacularly known as Gu') for the coming months ahead is indispensible.

4.0 Other Migratory Pests (Red-billed Quella birds and African Army Worm)

Reports and any pertinent information of other migratory pest incidences were not received so far.

5.0 Forecast until mid-June 2016

No significant developments are likely during the projected period owing to wide spread dry vegetation complexes in the key breeding habitats in the coast and wider parts along the plateau and escarpment except some pockets in the escarpment that appeared green. Nevertheless, it is forecasted that solitary adults in the escarpment could develop in to small scale breeding if further precipitations fell further and moisten the soil deeper and create optimum vegetation for D.L development.

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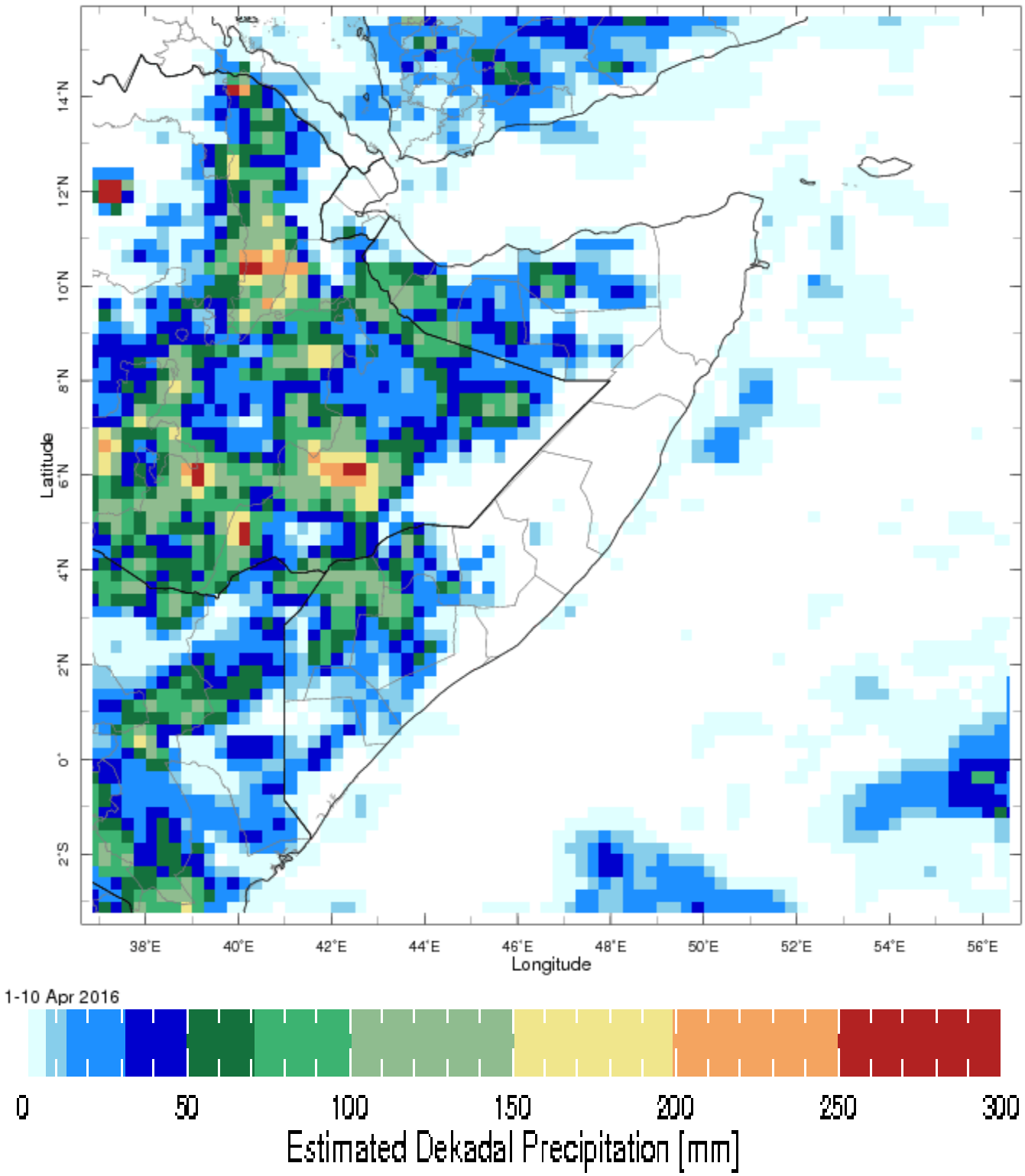
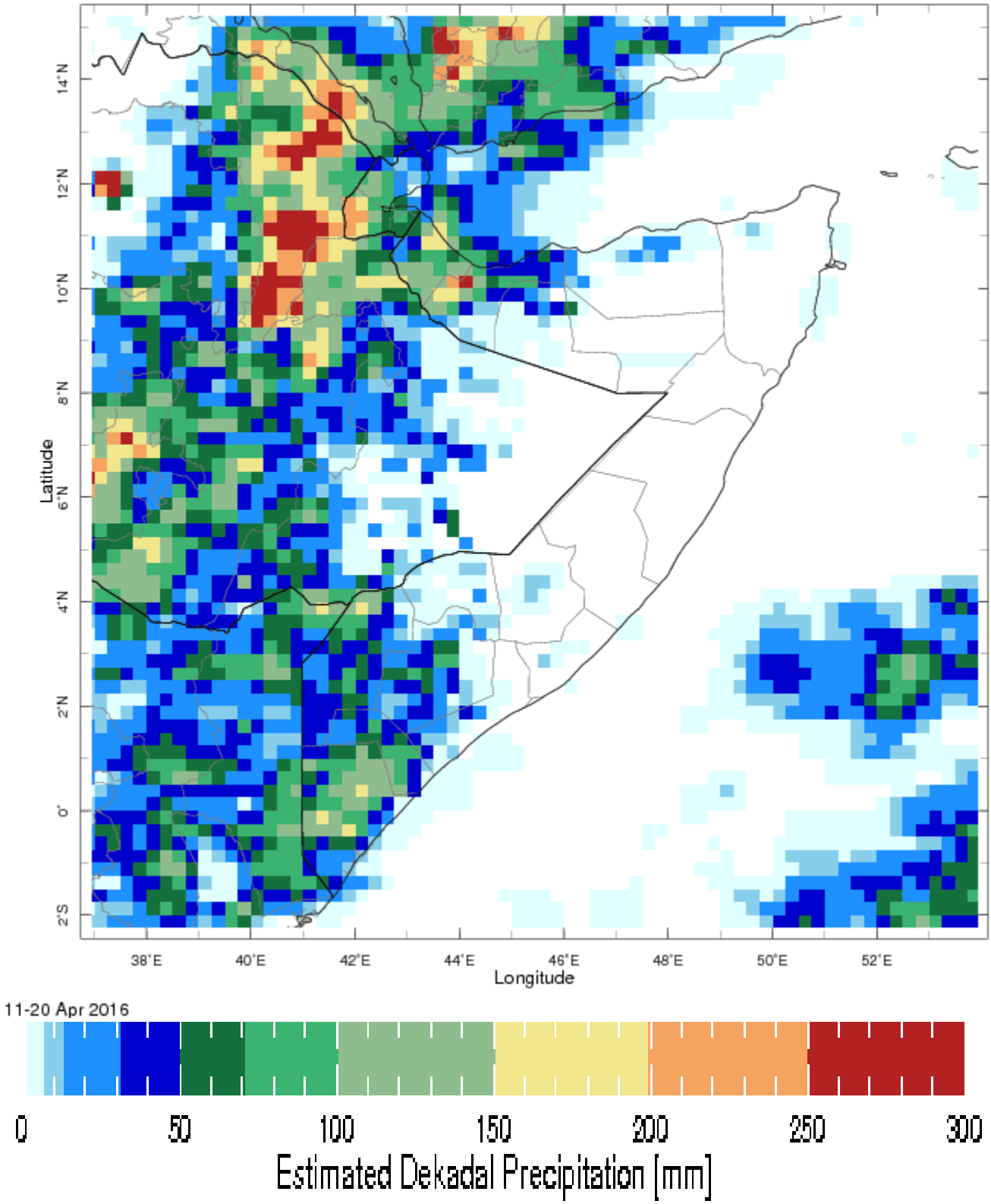
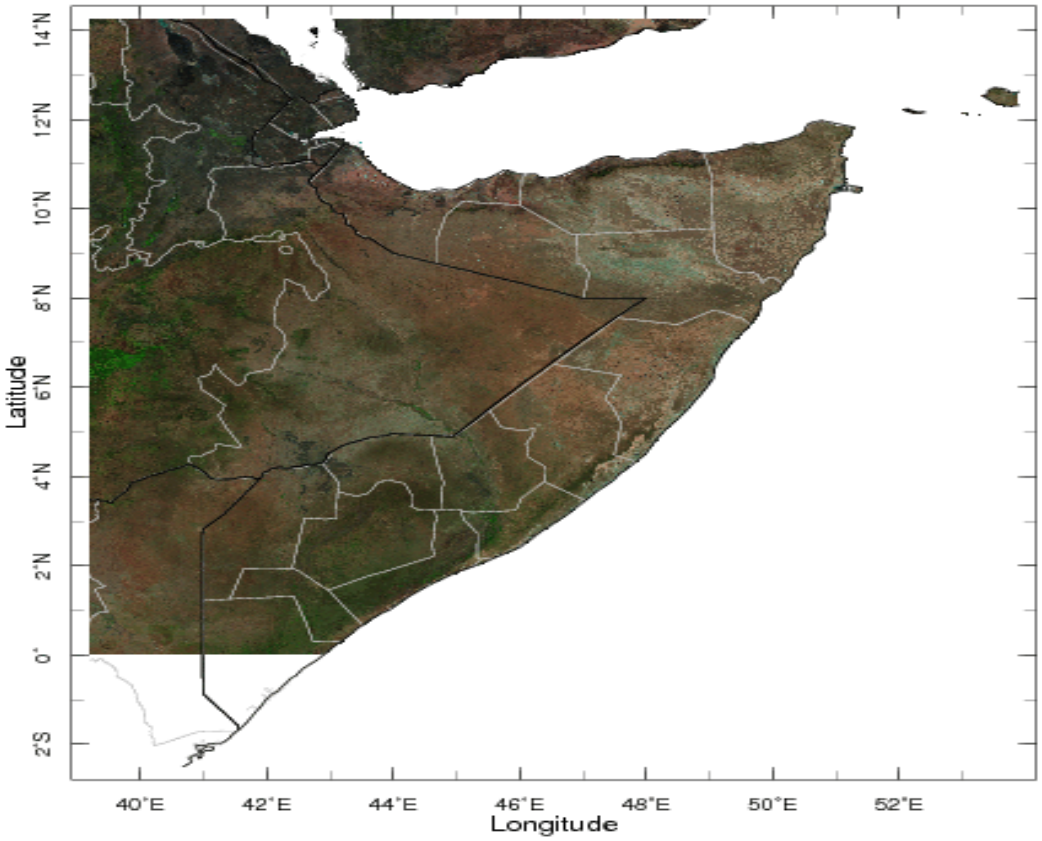
6.0 Rainfall estimates for the first dekad of April, (RFE) 2016



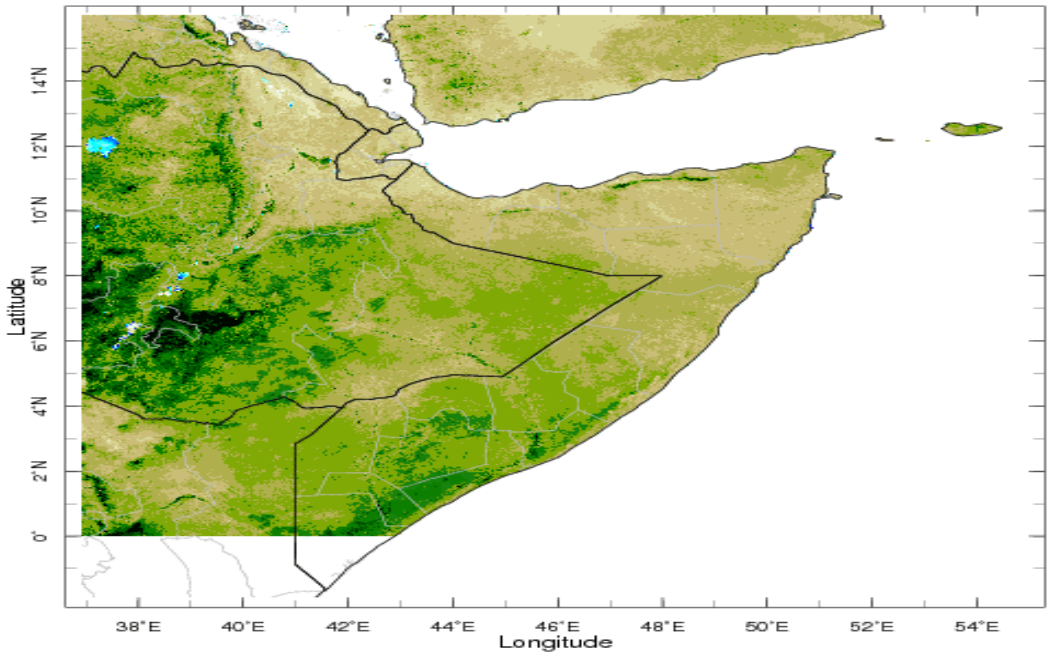
6.1 Rainfall estimates for the second dekad of April, (RFE) 2016



6.2 Modis and NDVI images for Northern and Southern Somalia, for late March and early April 2016.

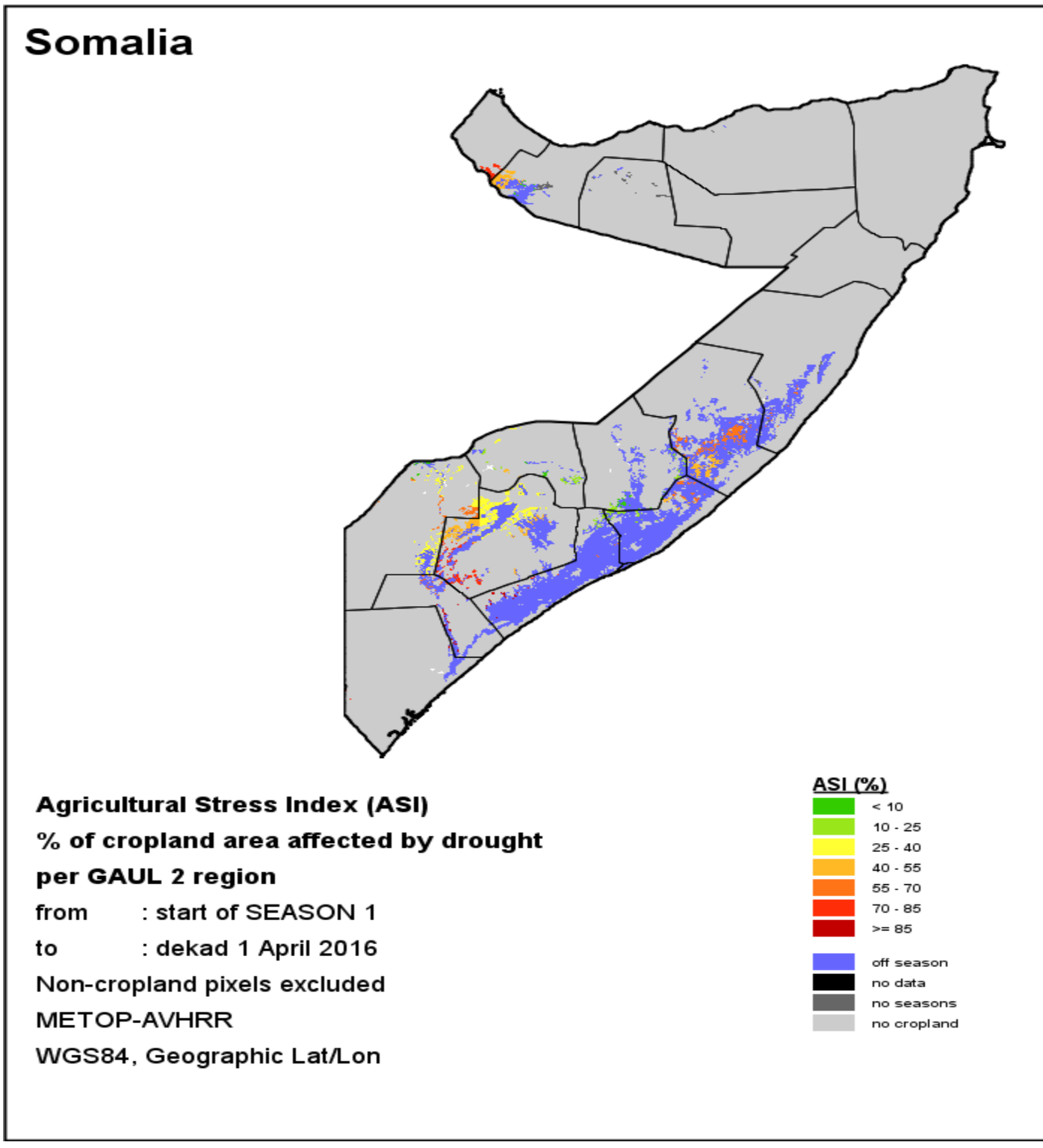


21 Mar 2016 - 5 Apr 2016



21 Mar 2016 - 5 Apr 2016

6.3 Vegetation Health Index for the 1st dekad of April, 2016 for Northern and Southern Somalia.



6.4 Vegetation Health Index for the 2nd dekad of April, 2016 for Northern and Southern Somalia.