

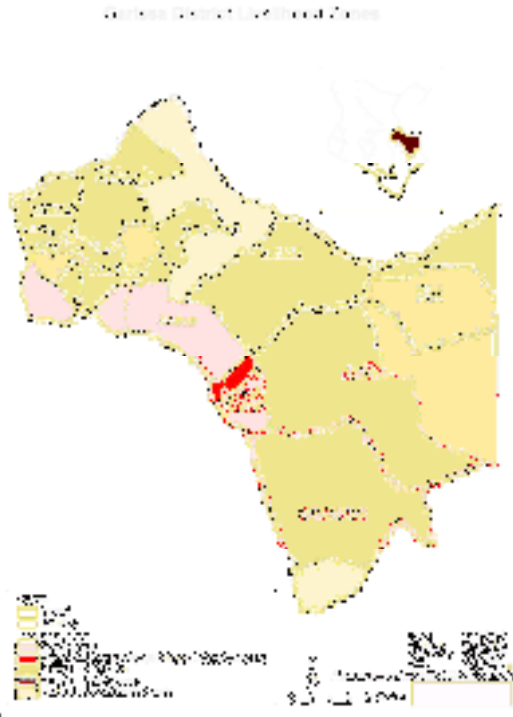


**OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER  
MINISTRY OF STATE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NORTHERN KENYA AND OTHER ARID AREAS  
ARID LANDS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECT II**

**DROUGHT MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR JUNE, 2008**

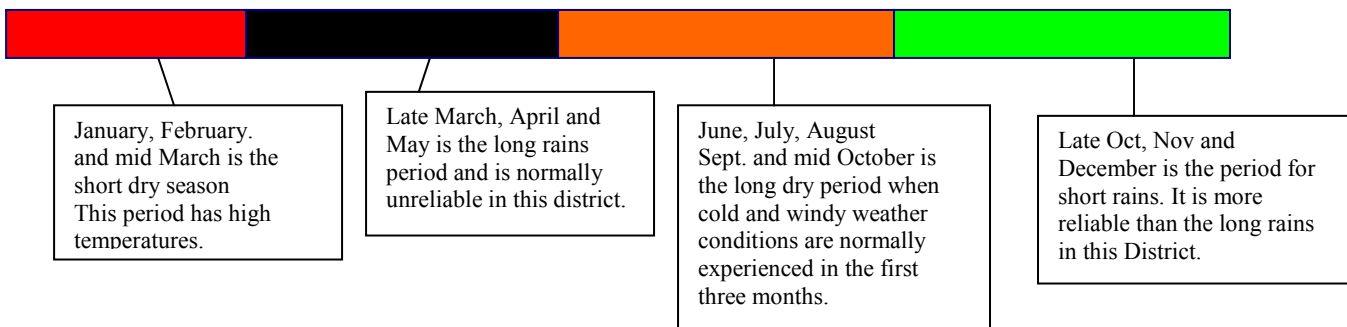
**GARISSA DISTRICT**

**WARNING STAGES**



Livelihood Zone	Warning stage	Trend
Agro-pastoral	Alert	Improving
Formal employment/ Casual labor.	Alert	No change
Pastoral-Cattle/Sheep.	Alert	Improving
Pastoral- all species	Alert	Improving
Pastoral: Camels and Goats	Alert	Improving
District	Alert	Improving

**TIME LINE**



### **Situation overview**

- There was no rainfall realized during the month in most parts of the District except the Southern and Eastern most Divisions which had experienced the extended coastal showers. Galmagalla Division had experienced more showers while parts of Jarajilla and Bura Divisions realized some light showers.
- Despite poor regenerations of vegetation during the long rains, there is still substantial pasture/browse in most parts of the District. Galmagalla and parts of Jarajilla where coastal showers were realized still remain green with lush pasture.
- Most of the large water pans were filled during the long rains and still hold substantial amount of water. Other sources like River Tana and boreholes also remain as permanent source. Water is available in most parts of the district but they are localized areas experiencing water shortage.
- Household accessibility to water has improved since the start of the long rains in April. Large water pans in most parts of the District are filled hence close accessibility of households to water sources. The watering distance remained 4-5 Km.
- Most of large water pans have recharged and livestock have easy accessibility to water. The trekking distance between pasture and water sources has reduced to 4-5 Km since the onset of the long rains in April.
- No incident of insecurity/conflict and human displacement reported in the course of the month under review.
- There is no distinct movement of livestock noted in the course of the month. Most of the livestock remained where they moved to in search of lush pasture during the onset of the long rains.
- Mass vaccination for small ruminant was conducted by veterinary department throughout the District. This was in fear of the peste des petit ruminante(PPR) in the neighboring Districts spreading to Garissa.
- All types of livestock species health continued to improve. The DSG recommended the use of contingency fund in order to curb the disease coming to the District.
- Milk production continued to improve from the onset of the long rains. However, towards the end of the month the amount of milk produced continued to reduce. This is due to reduced amount of lush pasture available in the District.
- Cattle prices have continued to improve when compared with preceding month. It was Ksh.10,100 in May and Ksh.11,750 in June. This is 17% improvement when compared with the previous month of May.
- Goats' prices slightly improved when compared with the preceding month. It was Ksh.1,593 in May and Ksh.1,596 in June.
- Sheep prices continued to improve when compared with preceding months. It was Ksh.1,200 in May and Ksh.1,237 in June.
- The nutritional status of children aged above one year and below five years continued to improve in most parts of the District. This is due to stable health situation and milk availability at household and market level.

### **Current intervention measures**

#### **Non food**

- Support to small scale farmers practicing irrigation along River Tana continued.
- Financing of community micro-projects by ALRMP and Livestock Ministry continued.

- Capacity building of pastoral communities' on early warning, drought preparedness and environmental management by ALRMP continued.
- Vaccination campaign and disease surveillance by veterinary department and supported by ALRMP continued in the District.

### **Food aid**

- Food aid continued to be distributed in the district except the divisions of Galmagalla, Jarajilla and Liboi. However parts of Jarajilla is realizing food for assets starting in the mid of the month under review.
- The total number of relief food beneficiaries is 47,002 individuals in the nine Divisions covered by EMOP.

### **Coping strategy**

- Pastoralists concentrate on areas with the best pasture/browse at close range to water sources.
- Petty trade is being done mainly in the urban and peri-urban centres.
- Sale of livestock is practiced as an alternative coping strategy.

### **Recommendations**

- Continue to support small scale farms along River Tana in terms of procuring pumping sets and construction of water canals.
- Continue to support livestock disease surveillance, treatment and vaccination campaign in the District.
- Finance micro-projects for youth and women groups in Garissa Municipality in order to improve their livelihood.
- Food for assets should be piloted in areas or Divisions that do not receive relief food (EMOP).
- Continue to capacity build the rural and urban communities on necessary micro-projects and how to manage their natural resources.
- Provision of mobile extension services should continue in order to assist the pastoralists not benefiting from the static health facilities.

## **1. Environmental indicators (Stability)**

### **1.1 Rainfall**

- There was no rainfall realized during the month in most parts of the Districts except the Southern and Eastern most Divisions which had experienced the extended coastal showers. Galmagalla had experienced more showers while parts of Jarajilla and Bura Divisions realized light showers.

### **1.2 Natural vegetation and pasture condition**

- Despite poor regenerations of vegetation during the long rains, there is still substantial pasture/browse in most parts of the District. Galmagalla and parts of Jarajilla where coastal showers were realized still remain green with lush pasture.
- This is normal at this time of the year when these areas experience coastal showers resulting in the regeneration of pasture and browse.

### **1.3 Water sources and availability**

#### **1.3.1 Use of water sources**

- Most of the large water pans were filled during the long rains and still hold substantial amount of water. Other sources like River Tana and boreholes also remain as permanent sources of water. Water is available virtually in most parts of the District with exception of few localized areas.
- Large pans like Rethab, Hagar Jarer, Dujis, Ashadin, Goh , Rahole, Durwaya and Guyo Bombi which are scattered in the Northern Divisions still hold substantial amount of water.
- Gubakibir, Egge, Fafi and Amuma water pans in the Eastern Divisions also contain substantial amount of water. In the south Bura and Galmagalla water pans are filled up to their capacities.
- The water in the large pans is expected to last for the next one or two months.

#### **1.3.2 Household accessibility to water**

- Household accessibility to water has improved since the start of the long rains in April. Large water pans in most parts of the District are filled hence close accessibility of households to water sources. The watering distance remained 4-5 Km.

#### **1.3.3 Livestock accessibility to water**

- Most of large water pans have recharged and livestock have easy accessibility to water. The trekking distance between pasture and water sources has reduced to 4-5 Km since the onset of the long rains in April.

### **1.4 Emerging issues**

#### **1.4.1 Insecurity/Conflict/ Human displacement.**

- No incident of insecurity/conflict and human displacement reported in the course of the month under review.

#### **1.4.2 Migration**

- There is no distinct movement of livestock noted in the course of the month. Most of the livestock remained where they moved to in search of lush pasture during the onset of the long rains.

#### **1.4.3 Implication on food security**

- Improved accessibility to water and pasture has a positive impact on food security situation in the District.

## **2. Rural economy indicators (food availability)**

### **2.1 Livestock production**

#### **2.1.1 Livestock body conditions**

- Livestock body conditions continued to improve for all species throughout the District. This is mainly attributed to the availability of pasture/browse in most parts of the District. The birth rate for small stock improved while it reduced for large stock when compared with preceding month.
- When compared to a normal year the livestock body condition is normal.

### 2.1.2 Livestock health and diseases

- Mass vaccination for small ruminant was conducted by veterinary department throughout the district. This was in fear of the peste des petit ruminant in the neighboring Districts of Isiolo, Ijara and Wajir to spread to Garissa.
- All types of livestock species health continued to improve with no major out break of livestock diseases reported.

### 2.1.3 Milk Production

- Milk production continued to improve from the onset of the long rains. However, towards the end of the month the amount of milk produced continued to reduce. This is due to reduced amount of lush pasture available.

## 2.2 Crop production

### 2.2.1 Crop production activities along River Tana

- The activities of farms along River Tana continued to improve. More fruits and vegetables are grown by farmers.

### 2.2.2 Pests and crop diseases

- No crop pests or diseases reported from the farms along the River Tana.

### 2.2.3 Crop Harvest

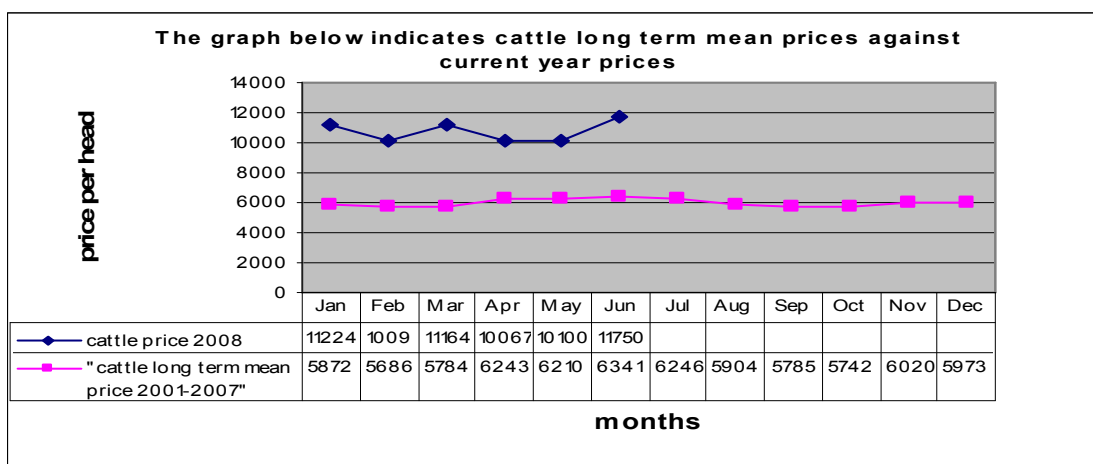
- Farms along River Tana continued to supply fruits and vegetables to Garissa Municipality which has ready market. Long rains were not enough for rain fed farms to grow any cereals.

## 3. Access to food

### 3.1 Livestock Marketing

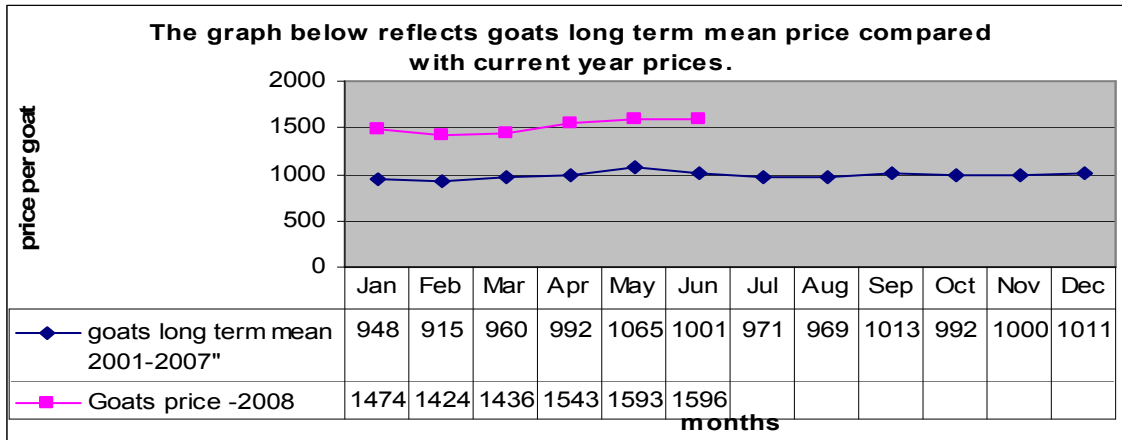
#### 3.1.1 Cattle prices

- Cattle prices have continued to improve when compared with preceding month. It was Ksh.10, 100 in May and Ksh.11, 750 in June. This is 17% improvement when compared with the previous month. This may be attributed to the good body condition of the cattle and access to good market outlets.



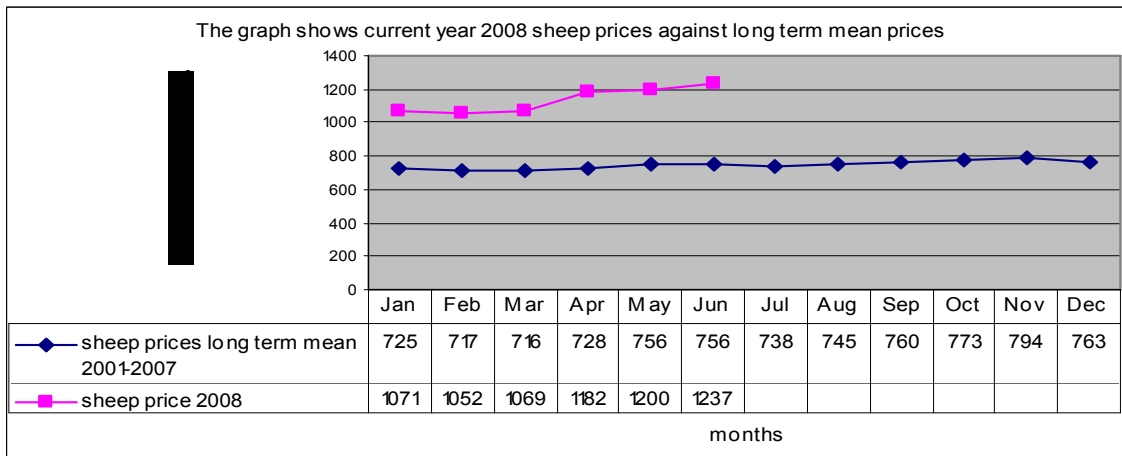
### 3.1.2 Goats prices

- Goats' prices slightly improved when compared with the preceding month. It was Kshs. 1, 593 in May and Ksh.1, 596 in June. This may be attributed to the good body condition.



### 3.1.3 Sheep prices

- Sheep prices continued to improve when compared with preceding months. It was Ksh.1,200 in May and Ksh.1,237 in June.



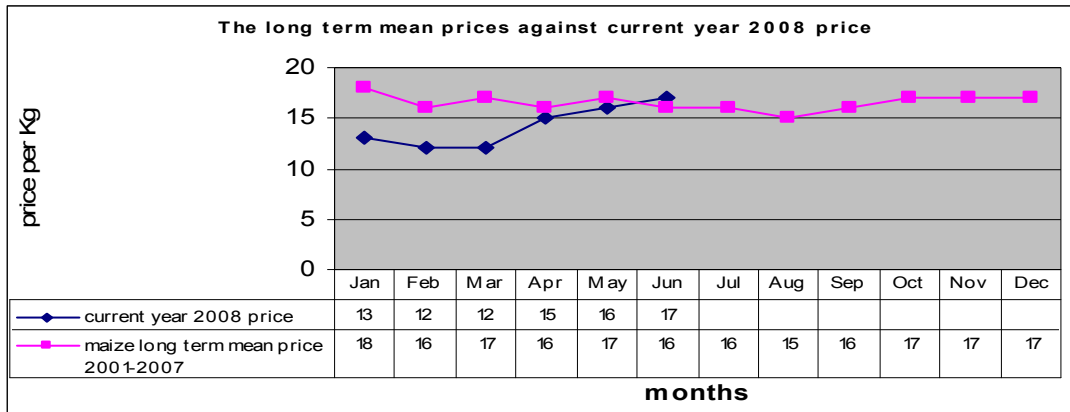
### 3.2 Livestock sale

- The number of livestock sold was much smaller than the number sold in May. This may be attributed to availability of milk and other livestock products.

### 3.3 Purchase price of food commodities

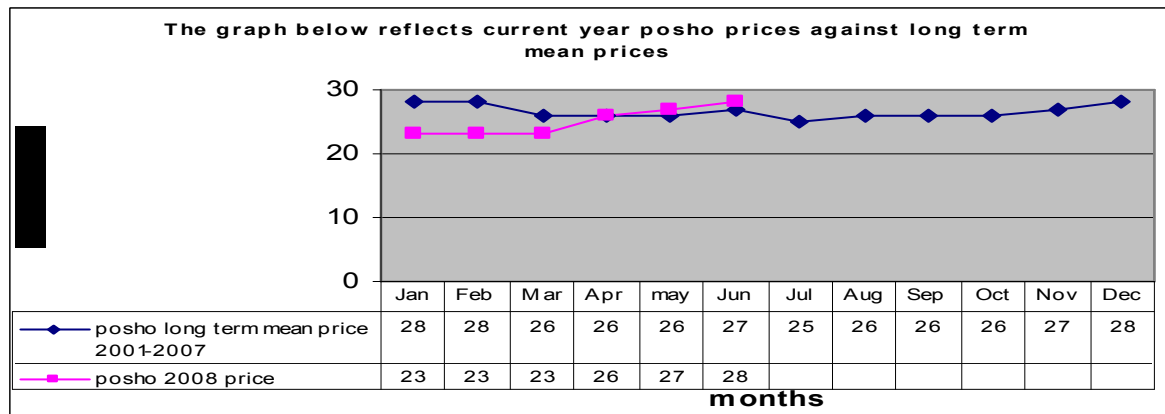
#### 3.3.1 Maize price

- Maize prices continued to increase when compared with preceding month. It was Ksh.16 in May and Ksh.17 in June. However it is lower than the long term mean in the same period.



### 3.3.2 Posho (locally milled and Jogoo)

- Posho and jogoo product of maize which forms the pastoral main diet continue to increase in prices whenever the price of maize increases.



### 3.3.3 Other foods prices

- The price of beans increased from Ksh.79 in May to Ksh.80 in June per Kilogram while the price of cooking oil and sugar remained stable (Kshs.70 and Kshs. 120) respectively when compared with the preceding month.

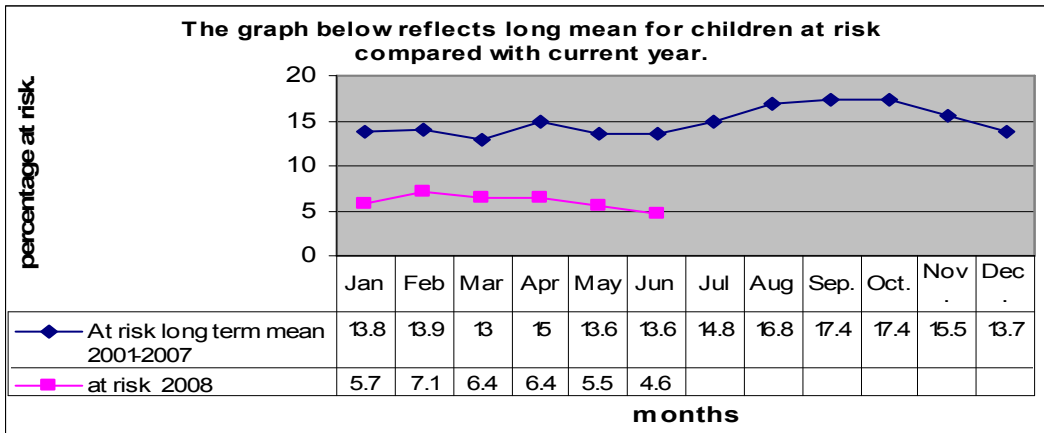
## 3.4 Food security implications

- Increase in livestock prices, good human welfare (health and children nutrition) and good body condition of livestock reflects a positive food security situation in the District.

## 4. Human welfare indicators

### 4.1 Nutritional status (used MUAC method)

- The nutritional status of children aged above one year and below five years continued to improve in most parts of the District. This may be due to improved milk availability at household and the supplementary feeding being under taken at all health facilities.



#### 4.2 Human health

- No reported cases of human disease outbreak in the district. Adults and children health continue to improve. There are minor cases of respiratory track infection reported from rural dispensaries.
- This is due to prevailing cold and windy weather conditions at this particular time of the year.

#### 4.3 Flagged areas (affected areas)

No affected areas reported in the course of the month under review.

### 5. Current intervention measures.

#### 5.1 Non-food

- ALRMP and other partners continued to support small scale irrigated farms along River Tana.
- Support to community micro-projects by ALRMP and Ministry of Livestock in the District continued.
- Awareness creation on drought early warning, preparedness and environmental management by ALRMP continued.
- Vaccination campaign and disease surveillance by veterinary department and supported by ALRMP continued in the District.

#### 5.2 Food aid

- Food aid continued to be distributed in the District except the Divisions of Galmagalla, Jarajilla and Liboi. However parts of Jarajilla is realizing food for assets starting in the mid of the month under review.
- The total number of relief food beneficiaries are 47002 individuals in the nine Division covered by EMOP.

#### 5.3 Coping strategy

- Pastoralists concentrate on areas with the best pasture/browse at close range to water sources.
- Petty trade is being done mainly in urban and peri-urban centers.
- Sale of livestock is practiced as an alternative coping strategy.

## **6. Recommendations**

- Continue to support small scale farms along River Tana in terms of procuring pumping sets and construction of watering canals.
- Continue to support livestock disease surveillance, treatment and vaccination campaign in the District.
- Finance micro-projects for youth and women groups in Garissa Municipality in order to improve their livelihood.
- Food for assets should be piloted in areas or divisions that do not receive relief food (EMOP).
- Continue to capacity build the rural and urban communities on necessary micro-projects and how to manage their natural resources.
- Provision of mobile extension services should continue in order to assist the pastoralists not benefiting from the static health facilities.
- Carry out rehabilitation of boreholes.