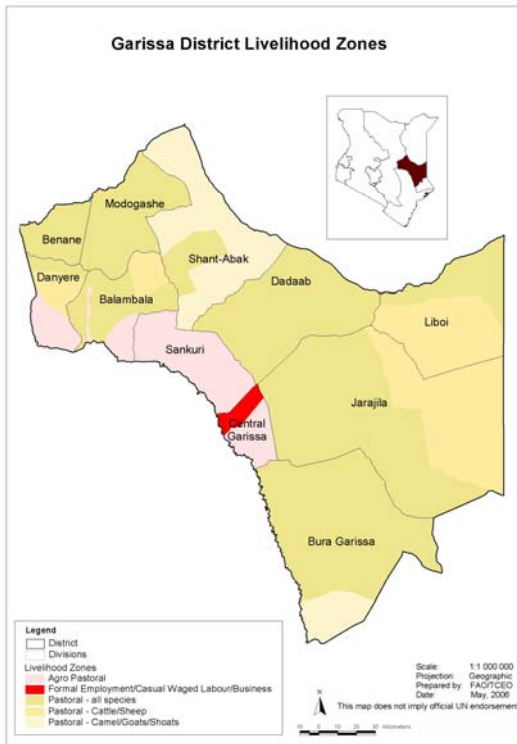




OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
 MINISTRY OF STATE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NORTHERN KENYA AND OTHER ARID AREAS
 ARID LANDS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECT II

DROUGHT MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR MAY, 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



January, February, and mid March is the short dry season. This period has high temperatures.

Late March, April and May is the long rains period and is normally unreliable in this district.

June, July, August, Sept. and mid October is the long dry period when cold and windy weather conditions are normally experienced in the first three months.

Late Oct, Nov and December is the period for short rains. It is more reliable than the long rains in this District.

Situation Overview

- Negligible amounts of rainfall were realized during the month of May. The rainfall received was 7.1 mm in Central and 17.1 in Dadaab.
- There was no sufficient regeneration of pasture/browse realized following the recent rains as the long rains was below normal. However, there is plenty of pasture/browse in the areas far from permanent water sources.
- There is considerable improvement on water sources in most parts of the District. Most of the large water pans have substantial amount of water. There is easy accessibility of water for both livestock and households.
- Since most of the large and small water pans have recharged household accessibility to water has improved considerably. The watering distances now range between 4-5Km for both livestock and domestic needs.
- Livestock accessibility to water improved in most parts of the District. The watering distance has reduced since the onset of the rains.
- There is no insecurity reported in the course of the month under review. However there is tribal conflict between two sub-clans of the Abdwak community.
- There is slight movement of livestock in search of lush pasture/browse in close area with rain water.
- Livestock body condition continued to improve since the onset of the rains.
- The health of livestock continued to improve when compared with the preceding month. However an out break of PPR in the neighbouring Districts is feared to spread into Garissa hence vaccination against the same has been started.
- Milk production continued to improve when compared with the preceding month. Milk production improved with the onset of the rains when lush pasture/browse regenerated leading to milk production and consumption at household level.
- Cattle prices have shown slight improvement when compared with the preceding month. It was Ksh 10,067 in April and Ksh 10,100 in May.
- Goats' prices continue to improve when compared with the preceding month. It was Ksh 1,543 in April and Ksh 1,593 in May.
- Sheep prices continue to improve when compared with the preceding month. A sheep was costing Ksh.1182 in April and Ksh.1200 in May.
- The nutritional status of children below five years (5) and above one year (1) continues to improve when compared with the preceding month. This is due to improved milk availability and consumption at household level. The improvement in children health is realized in all pastoral livelihood zones.

Current Intervention Measures

Non Food

- Support to small scale farmers along River Tana continued by ALRMP and other stake holders.
- Financing of community micro-projects by ALRMP continued.
- Capacity building of pastoral communities' on early warning, drought preparedness and environmental management by ALRMP continued.
- ALRMP support to veterinary department on disease surveillance, treatment and vaccination campaigns continued in all the livelihood zones. Vaccination against PPR is on going across the district with logistical support from ALRMP using the drought contingency fund.
- Support to Conflict resolution in areas where there was tension

- Repair of maintenance of boreholes by the Rapid response Team continued during the month.
- Drilling of Gurufa borehole was successfully completed

Food Aid

- Food aid (relief) distribution continued in all Divisions receiving food aid. Galmagalla, Jarajilla and Liboi are not receiving food aid. Food for Asset (FFA) is to be piloted in locations in any of the above Divisions which do not receive relief food. The current numbers of beneficiaries in the district are 47,002 individuals.
- Supplementary feeding program is going on in all the health facilities in the District.

Coping Strategy

- Pastoralists now take advantage of the long rains and concentrate on areas with best pasture/browse at close range to water sources

Recommendations

- Continue to support small scale farms along the River Tana in terms of making canals and procuring pumping set.
- Continue to support livestock disease surveillance, treatment and vaccination campaigns. Special attention should be given to the vaccination of the deadly PPR.
- Support Youth and Women groups in urban areas to start micro projects which can change their livelihood.
- Food for Asset Project should start immediately in divisions that don't receive relief food. Continue to capacity build pastoral communities on how to utilize and manage their natural resources and develop sustainable project.

1 Environmental indicators (Stability)

1.1 Rainfall

- The amount of rainfall realized during the month was negligible.
- In most parts, the long rains came in form of light showers. The rainfall received was 7.1 mm in Central and 17.1mm in Dadaab. This amount is far below the long term average and this is an indication of earlier cessation of the long rains.

1.2 Natural vegetation and pasture condition

- There was no sufficient regeneration of pasture/browse realized following the recent rains in some parts of the District as the long rains was below normal, however, there is plenty of pasture/browse in the areas far from permanent water sources and it is expected to last for the next three to four months.
- Livestock concentration was noted around Fafi, Dujis, Modogashe and Gurufa area and in the Central grazing corridor livestock is concentrated between Sankuri, Dertu, Shanta Abak and Hagarbul.

1.3 Water sources and availability

1.3.1 Use of water sources

- The main sources of water utilized by both livestock and households remained water pans, shallow wells, benane spring and boreholes. There is considerable improvement on water availability in most parts of the District. Most of the large water pans have

impounded substantial amount of water and it is expected to last at least in the next two months. There is easy accessibility of water for both livestock and households.

- In the Northern part of the District, Koriale, Dujis, Rethab, Ashadin, Hagar jarer, Koriaad, Durwaya, Guyo bombi, Owliya, Faf Kalala and Ahmed Khalow water pans are filled up with water. Also in the eastern part of the District Amuma, Egge, Fafi and Guba Kibir water pans in are filled up.

1.3.2 Household accessibility to water

- Since most of the large and small water pans have recharged household accessibility to water has improved tremendously.
- The watering distances now range between 4-5Km for both livestock and domestic needs. This implies that there is less time spent in search of water by working members of the households.

1.3.3 Livestock accessibility to water

- Livestock accessibility to water remained good in most parts of the District. This is attributed to the recent rains which recharged most of the water sources. Most of the water pans far away from permanent water sources are filled up hence close to pasture/browse.

1.4 Emerging issues

1.4.1 Insecurity/Conflict/ Human displacement.

- There is no insecurity reported in the course of the month under review. However there is tribal conflict between two sub-clan of the Abdwak community. Elders and religious teams have been visiting the area in order to reduce the tension with facilitation of ALRMP.

1.4.2 Migration

- There is slight movement of livestock in search of lush pasture/browse

1.4.3 Implication on food security

- Improved water availability, easy accessibility of water for households and livestock and improved regeneration of pasture/browse indicate positive impact in food security.

2. Rural economy indicators (Food availability)

2.1 Livestock production

2.1.1 Livestock body condition

- Livestock body condition continued to improve considerably and this is attributed to the abundant water and pasture availability.

2.1.2 Livestock health and diseases

- An out break of Peste Des Petit Ruminante (PPR) has been reported in the district. It is in this regard that the department of veterinary services conducted a mass vaccination of shoats following recommendation of the DSG which mandated the use of the Contingency Fund to support the department in carrying out the vaccination.

2.1.3 Milk Production

- Milk production continued to improve when compared with preceding month. This is attributed to the onset of the rains which led to improved availability of pasture/browse, leading to improved milk production and consumption at household level.

2.2 Crop production

2.2.1 Crop production activities along River Tana

- Most of the irrigated farms along River Tana continued to produce fruits and vegetable.
- Farmers continue to supply Garissa municipality market with tomatoes, mangoes, kales, bananas and pawpaw produced from most of the farms.

2.2.2 Pests and crop diseases

- There was no crop diseases reported in the month under review.

2.2.3 Crop harvest

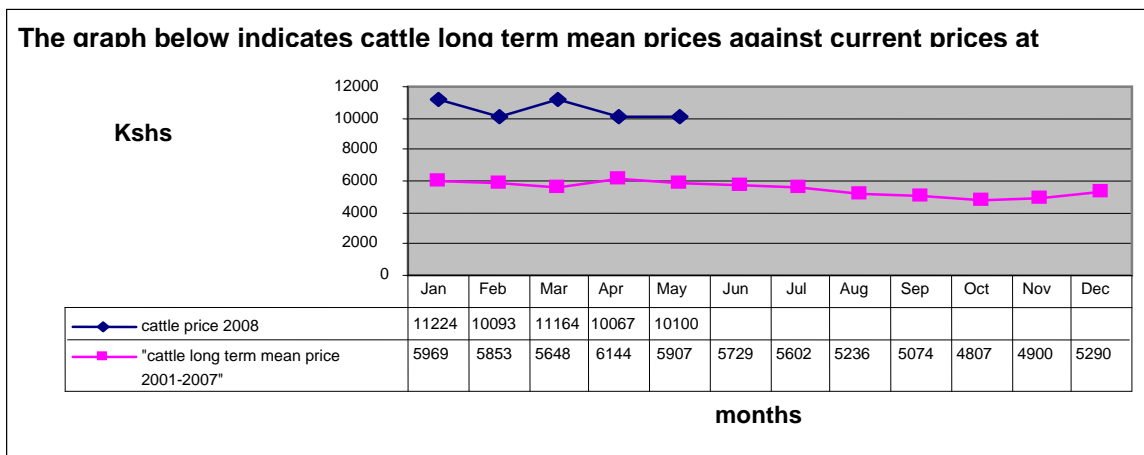
- Fruits and vegetables are continuously supplied to municipality market from irrigated farms along River Tana. No planting has taken place on the rainfed farms since the long rains were insufficient to sustain growth.

3. Access to food.

3.1 Livestock marketing

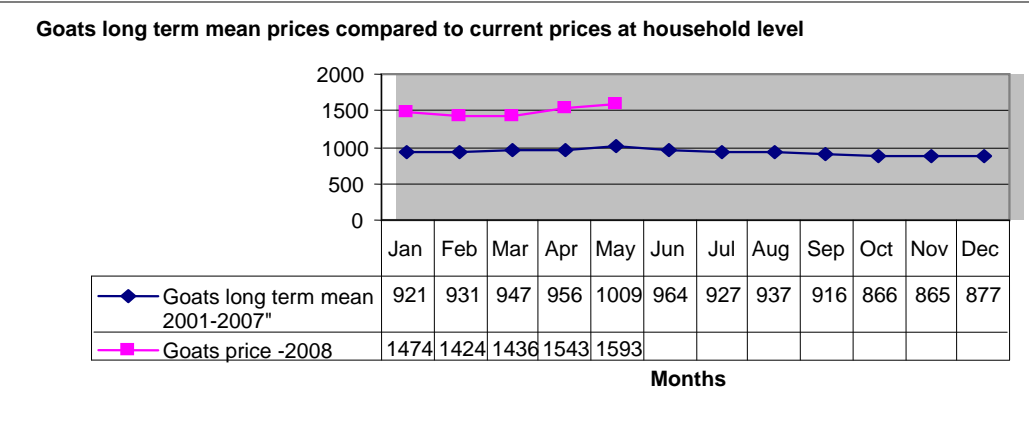
3.1.1 Cattle prices

- Cattle prices have shown slight improvement in comparison with the preceding month. The prices increased from Ksh 10,067 in April to Ksh 10,100 in May.



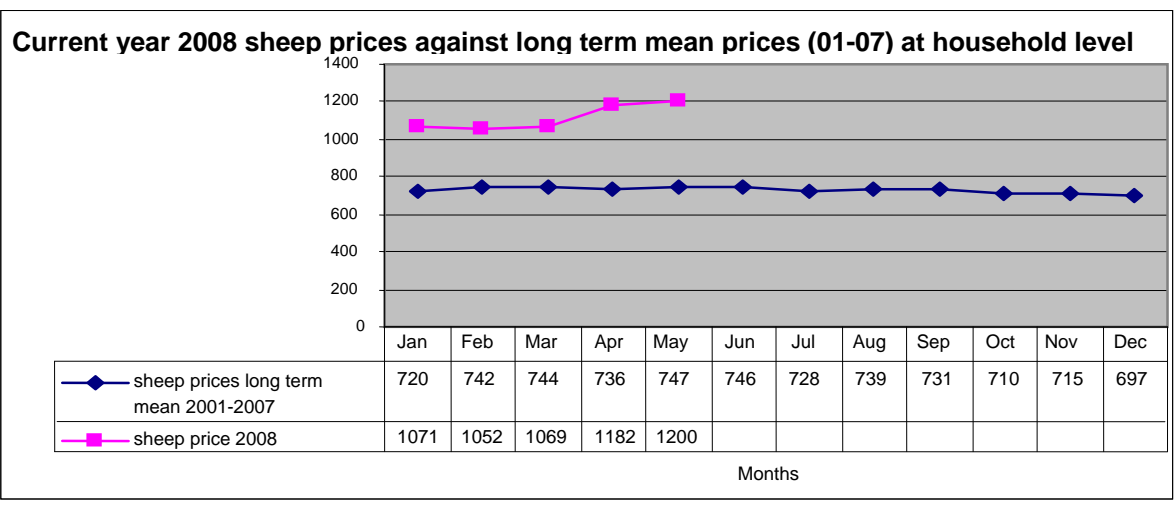
3.1.2 Goats prices

- Goat prices continue to improve when compared with the preceding month, from Ksh 1,543 in April to Ksh 1,593 in May. This is higher than the long term mean.



3.1.3 Sheep prices.

- Sheep prices improved in comparison with the preceding month, from Ksh.1182 in April to Ksh.1200 in May. This price is higher than the long term mean.



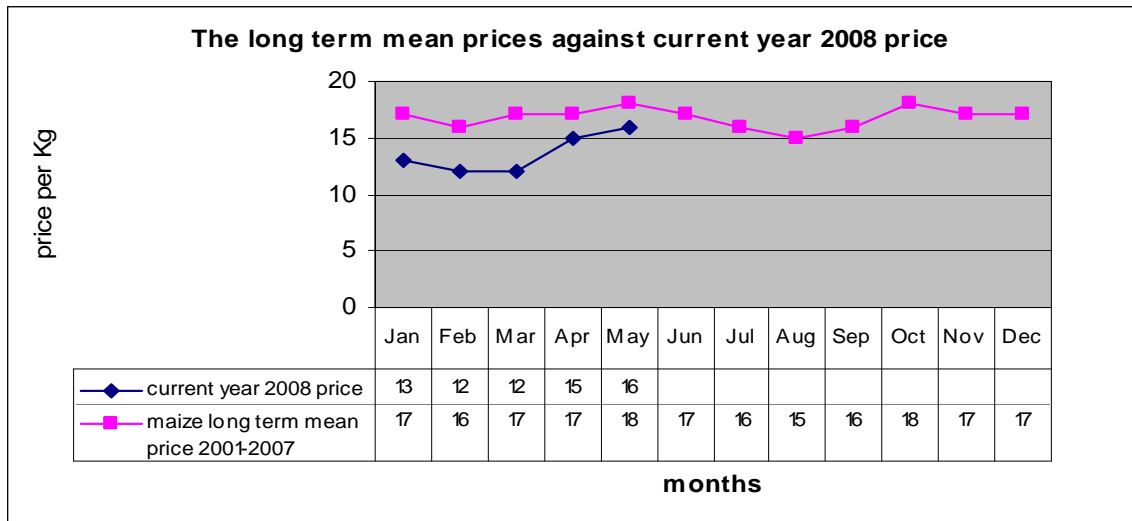
3.1.4 Livestock sale

- The number of livestock presented for sale reduced in comparison to the preceding month. This is due to onset of the long rains in which the pastoralist take advantage by taking their livestock to areas with best pasture/browse.

3.2 Crop prices

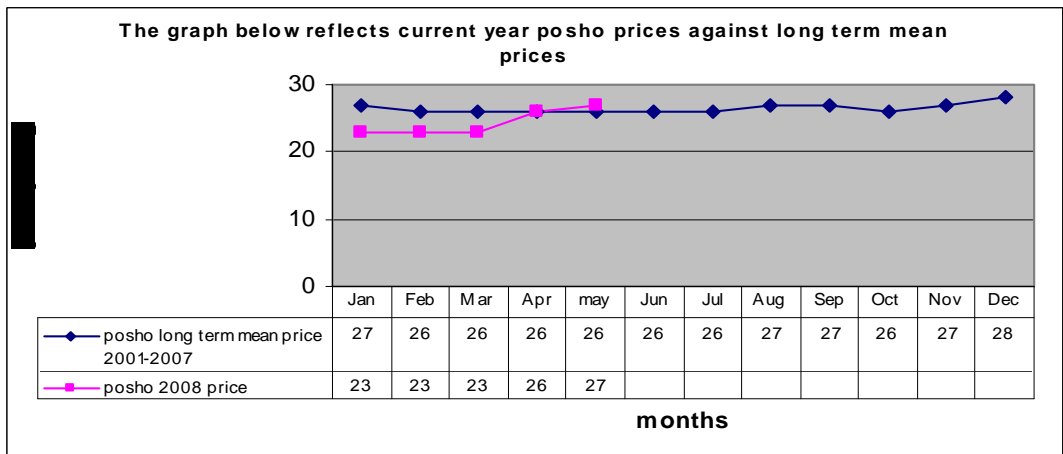
3.2.2 Maize price

- The price of maize continued to increase when compared with the preceding month, from Ksh.15 in April to Ksh.16 in May.



3.2.3 Posho

- The pastoral main diet, posho and jogoo prices per Kg have increased when compared with the preceding month.
- The price of posho and jogoo was Ksh.26 and Ksh.37 in April respectively and Ksh.27 and Ksh.38 in May respectively. These are products of maize hence any change in prices affects the other products.



3.2.4 Other food items

- The price of beans, sugar and cooking oil continue to increase when compared with the previous month. The price of beans is Ksh.79/Kg, sugar Ksh.75/Kg and cooking oil Ksh.120 per liter.

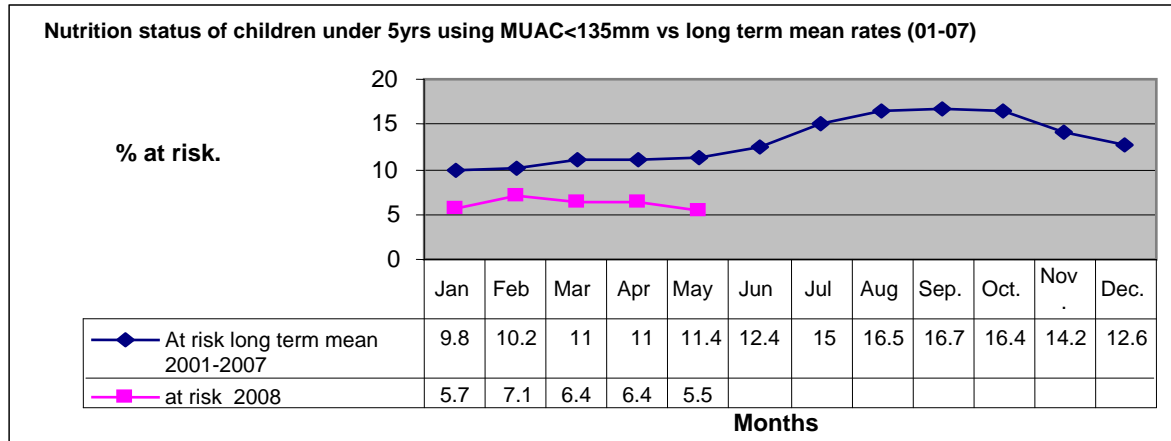
3.2.5 Food security implications

- Improved livestock prices particularly small stock, improved milk production with the onset of the rains reflects a positive food security for the District. However, the increase in food price worries the pastoral communities.

4. Human welfare indicators

4.1 Nutritional status

- The nutritional status of children below five years (5) and above one year (1) continues to improve when compared with the preceding month. This is due to improved milk availability and consumption at household level. The improvement in children health is realized in all pastoral livelihood zones.



4.2 Human health

- There are no reported cases of any disease in the entire District. Both adults and children remained healthy.

5. Current intervention measures

5.1 Non - food

- Support to small scale farmers along River Tana continued by ALRMP and other partners.
- Financing of community micro-projects by ALRMP continue.
- Capacity building of pastoral communities' on early warning, drought preparedness and environmental management by ALRMP continued.
- ALRMP support to veterinary department on disease surveillance, treatment and vaccination campaigns. PPR vaccination started in the middle of the month and continued across the District.
- Facilitation provided in areas where there is tension between the warring clans on conflict resolution.

5.2 Food aid

- Food aid (EMOP) continued to be distributed to all the Divisions receiving food aid. Galmagalla, Jarajilla and Liboi are not receiving food aid.
- Food for Asset (FFA) is to be piloted in the above Divisions which do not receive relief food.
- The current numbers of beneficiaries in the District are 47,002 individuals.

5.3 Coping strategy

- Pastoralists now take advantage of the long rains and concentrate on areas with best pasture/browse at close range to water sources.

6. Recommendations

- Continue to support small scale farms along the River Tana in terms of making canals and procuring pumping set.
- Continue to support livestock disease surveillance, treatment and vaccination campaigns. Special attention should be paid to the vaccination of PPR which is a deadly viral disease
- Support youth and women group in urban areas to start micro projects which can change their livelihood.
- Food for assets should start immediately in divisions that don't receive relief food.
- Continue to capacity build pastoral communities on how to utilize and manage their natural resources and develop sustainable project.