

FOOD SECURITY HIGHLIGHTS

◆ This report serves as Early Warning for potentially widespread and severe food insecurity in both the northern pastoral and southern agricultural areas of Somalia. The situation is likely to require significant humanitarian assistance, and as such preliminary planning is in order.

◆ Estimated National Cereal Balance Forecasts for a below normal production scenario, indicate a cereal supply shortfall of about 70,000 MT. Taking into account the food access problems in the drought stricken north, an additional 8,000-16,000 MT could be needed over the next few months (p. 3).

◆ In the north and central, patchy rains have led to reactive and haphazard migrations by some pastoralists, while others are either unable to move with their animals or are left destitute from previous drought effects.

◆ As a result of below normal rainfall in key agricultural areas of Southern Somalia, crops are reported to be performing poorly, especially in maize producing areas of Shabelle and Juba Valley. Rainfall performance is also below normal in Gedo and parts of Hiran region (p. 2)

◆ Field reports covering pastoralists in the north continue to indicate a deteriorating food and livelihood security situation particularly in the Hawd of Toghedeer, Sool Plateau, North and South Nugal, South Bari, and Northern Mudug (p. 4).

◆ Civil insecurity continues to present a risk to food security in many parts of Somalia and reports from Mogadishu (31 May) suggest hundreds of people have left the city to escape the current conflict. In Belet Hawa, in Gedo region, ongoing insecurity has resulted in deaths and displacement (p. 4).

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FSAU ACTIVITIES

FSAU June Workshop Retreat - FSAU is under going a strategic and operational planning workshop during the month of June.

Gu 2004 Assessment - FSAU is planning a post Gu agricultural and livestock assessment in July, when the Gu Rains are fully exhausted.

Nutrition Survey - UNICEF, FSAU and partners conducted a nutrition survey in Sool plateau between 25th May and 8th June 2004. Results will be available mid-June. **Jilib Survey** - FSAU & partners carried out a survey in Jilib in May-June, main results are provided in Juba Regional Highlights (p. 4) and a full report will be available soon.

UPDATE ON THE GU RAINY SEASON

Figure 1 : Cumulative Rainfall

Total Precipitation (mm)
01 MAR 2004 - 31 MAY 2004

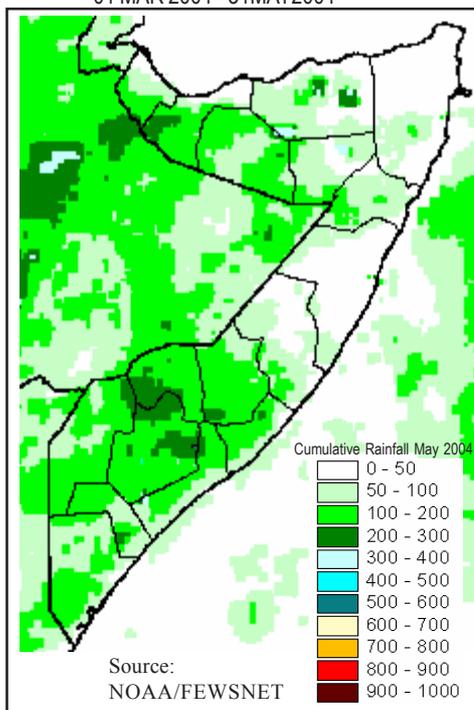
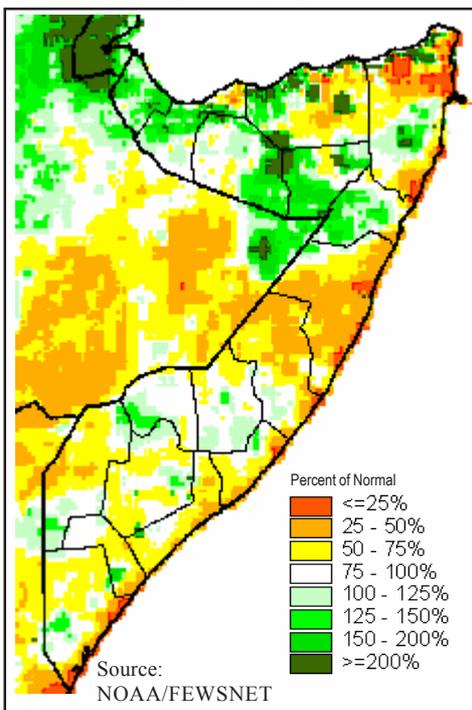


Figure 2 : RFE percent of Normal

Percent of Normal Precip (mm)
01 MAR 2004 - 31 MAY 2004



The Gu 2004 rains have been below normal in most parts of Somalia. In April the rains looked promising, but they subsided earlier than normal.

Rains started earlier than usual mainly in the northwest and northeast, while in the regions bordering Ethiopia rains started in late March. Rains have been sporadic in most of the drought-affected areas in the northeast especially the Sool Plateau, where rains started in late April and subsided towards the end of May. Pocket areas received moderate rainfall, with considerable variation between localized areas, especially in the agricultural sorghum belt.

Figure 2 shows the percent of normal rainfall and demonstrates that most areas in Somalia experienced dry spells. For example Juba and Shabelle Regions usually receive 400-500 mm of rainfall, but this Gu season as shown in Figure 1, they only received 100-200 mm.

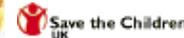
In the southern agricultural areas the Gu rains have confused farmers as they started late and stopped early. The subsequent dry conditions and high temperatures have led to the wilting of crops in rain fed agricultural areas, especially in Lower and Middle Shabelle.

FSAU's Key Funding Agencies

European Commission



United States Agency for International Development



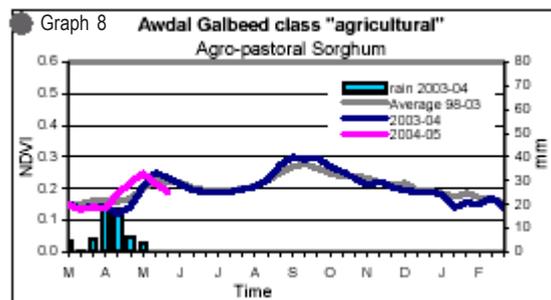
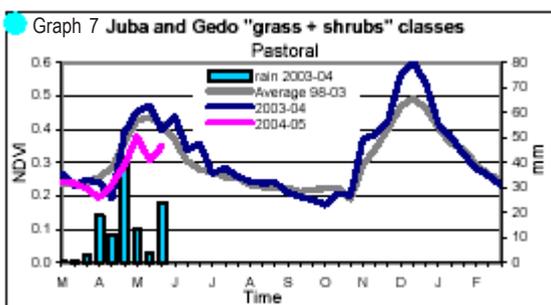
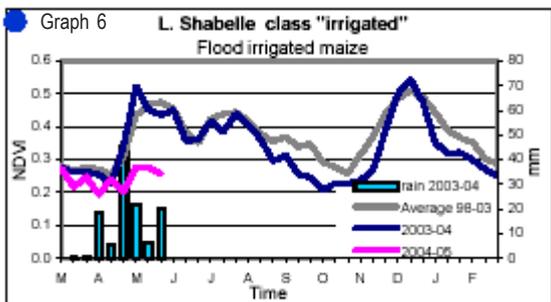
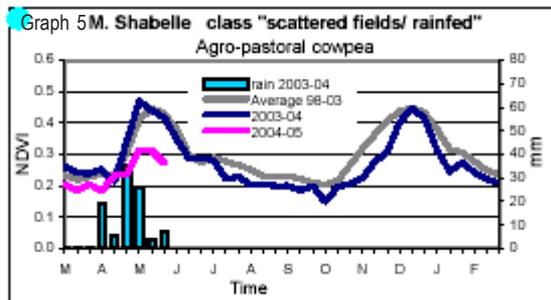
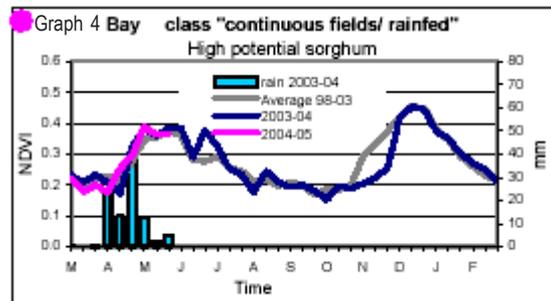
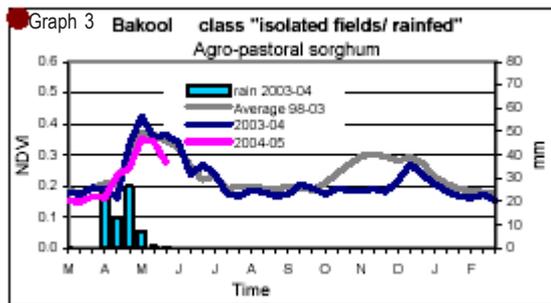
FSAU's Key Technical Partners

GU RAINFALL ANALYSIS - Southern Agricultural Areas

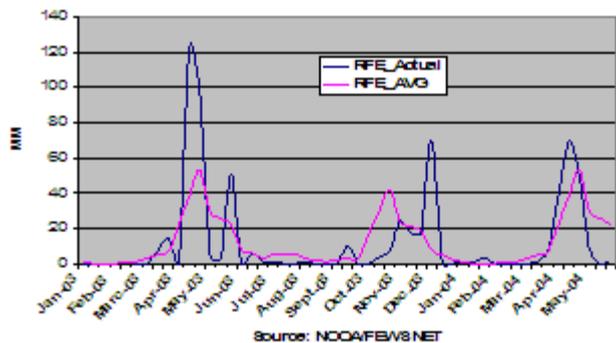
Mars NDVI and rainfall estimates indicate low greenness values and poor crop performance in the maize producing areas (Graph 3-8 opposite). The situation is particularly severe in Lower and Middle Shabelle, where a nearly complete crop failure can be expected. The low greenness values in the Shabelle regions may have been influenced by cloud contamination and could therefore be underestimated, but field reports tend to support the conclusion that late, erratic, and uneven distribution of the rains in the Shabelle Valley has adversely affected crop performance. NDVI estimates for Juba are below average, but show higher greenness values than those in Lower and Middle Shabelle.

In the main sorghum producing regions of Bay and Bakol regions, NDVI image indicate that crop greenness is close to normal. Low greenness values are observed for Gedo and parts of Hiran Regions. In Awdal and Galbeed in the north west the Gu crop season is expected to be normal.

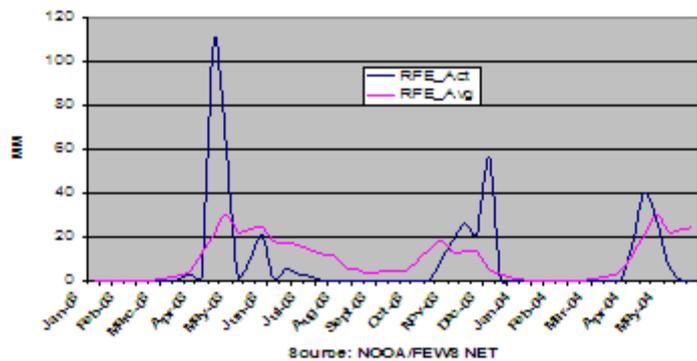
A comparison of actual and average rainfall performance in high potential maize and sorghum agriculture areas in the south are shown in Graph 1 & 2. Rains started on time in these areas, was near normal in April for two dekads, but then subsided in May 2004. The long dry spell of May is expected to negatively impact crop performance, especially maize which is a more susceptible crop. Sorghum, however, received slightly more rainfall and is expected to have near normal performance, as it is a drought resistance crop. Field reports already indicate early stages of a drought in most of the maize producing areas, especially in Shabelle and Juba Valleys.



Graph 1: Comparison of Actual and Average Rainfall Performance in High Potential Sorghum Belt, from 2003 and 2004 (May)



Graph 2: Comparison of Actual and Average Rainfall Performance in Maize Rainfed Areas, from 2003 and 2004 (May)



Source of graphs 3 to 8:

MARS-JRC, Monitoring agricultural vegetation in Somalia using SPOT Vegetation Index, AFRICOVER and ECMWF Global Meteorological Modelling



CEREAL FOOD BALANCE SHEET

In response to a growing concern over the poor performance of the Gu rains in agricultural areas of southern Somalia (see page 1-2), FSAU has estimated preliminary Somalia Cereal Supply/Demand Balance Forecasts to assist in contingency planning for the coming few months. Table 1 presents three scenarios of a Cereal Balance Sheet for Somalia for the next year depending on whether the Gu agricultural season is normal, 'below' normal, and 'above' normal. Gu agricultural production is critical in Somalia's annual food supply as it constitutes 75-80 percent of annual production in normal years.

Below and above 'normal' Gu production estimates are based on three year averages of historical post-war data for the three worst and three best agricultural production years. Calculations and underlining assumptions of the Balance Sheet are fully referenced in the notes below.

Cereal Balance Sheets only provide an overall indication and estimation for the macro-level cereal supply and demand situation, i.e. overall cereal availability in relation to overall per capita needs. It does not address issues of food access nor vulnerability levels related to access problems. FSAU will address access and related food security vulnerability in depth during the full post-Gu Assessment in July/August 2004.

Summary of Scenario Analysis of Cereal Supply/Demand Balance in Somalia:

Using (WHO 2002) population Total Cereal utilization requirements during the 2004/05 marketing year (August/July) at 590MT

- ◆ If the Gu rainfall performance remains poor, with 'below' normal agricultural production levels comparable to the worst case scenario of around 130,000 MT, then it is estimated that there will be a cereal supply shortfall of 68,000MT.
- ◆ This national cereal supply shortfall estimate does not account for food access problems for the ongoing humanitarian emergency in the northern pastoral areas.
- ◆ If the rains continue to be poor in the northern pastoral areas, i.e. areas that have experienced a severe and ongoing drought for the past four consecutive seasons, an additional 10-20,000 MT may be required over the next few months to address the pastoral food access crisis⁹.

Table 1: Estimated Somalia Cereal Supply/Demand Balance Forecast for 2004/05 Marketing Year: Scenarios for a "Good" and "Bad" Gu 2004 Season Production

Cereals Balance Sheet for Somalia, 2004/05	Post War Average ¹ ('000 MT)	Bad Gu Scenario ² ('000 MT)	Good Gu Scenario ³ ('000 MT)
DOMESTIC AVAILABILITY	303	252	341
Opening Stocks ⁴	20	20	20
Domestic Cereal Supply 2004/05	283	232	321
Gu 2004	182	131	220
Deyr 2005 ⁵	101	101	101
DOMESTIC UTILIZATION			
Cereal Utilization Requirement ⁶	590	590	590
IMPORT REQUIREMENTS			
Anticipated Commercial Imports ⁷	242	242	242
Food Aid in Transit or Pipeline ⁸	28	28	28
Estimated Shortfall - Cereal Gap	17	68 ¹⁰	-21

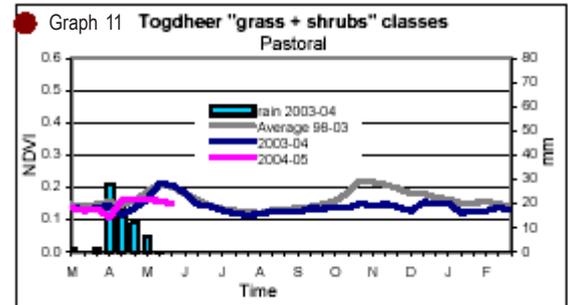
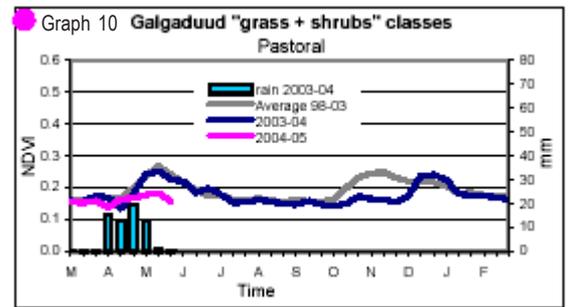
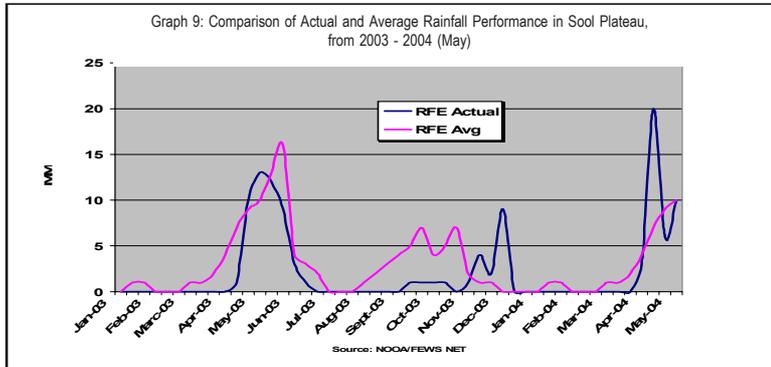
List of assumptions and calculations:

- ¹ Post War Average (PWA) Gu crop production estimate (1995-2002). Historical Crop Production Estimates 1995-2003 FSAU.
- ² Bad Gu Season Scenario derived from average of the three worst Gu production seasons in post war Somalia: 1995 at 150,698 MT, 1998 at 188,843 MT, and 2001 at 123,044. Historical Crop Production Estimates 1995-2003, FSAU.
- ³ Good Gu Season Scenario derived from average of the three best Gu production seasons in post war Somalia: 1997 at 217,353 MT, 2000 at 226,135 MT, and 2002 at 217,800. Historical Crop Production Estimates 1995-2003, FSAU.
- ⁴ Estimated opening stock consists of food aid and commercial import stocks at ports to markets. As of June 1, 2004 WFP stocks are roughly 4000MT, CARE 0 MT, and commercial stocks are estimated at 16,000 MT based on 1999 FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment, Sept 9, 1999.
- ⁵ Annual Domestic Cereal Supply assumes an 'average' 2005 Deyr Crop Production, calculated as average of 1995-2002 and is 101,458 MT. Historical Crop Production Estimates 1995-2003 FSAU.
- ⁶ Total cereal utilization requirement composed of 546,000 MT food use, 3,000MT feed use, 21,000MT seed losses, and 20,000MT closing stocks. 'Food use' calculated based on assumption of total population of 6,823,288 (WHO 2002) and per capita cereal consumption of 80 kg/year (1999 FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment, Sept 9, 1999). Per capita cereal consumption in Somalia is lower than would be dictated by the standard 2100 kilo-calorie per capita per day. The percentage of kilocalories from cereals needs further research. Feed use and seed losses based on estimates derived for Cereal Supply/Demand Balance, 1999/2000, FAO/WFP Crop and Food Supply Assessment, Sept 9, 1999.
- ⁷ Anticipated commercial imports estimated as actual three year average cereal imports for 1999 – 2001, for Berbera, Bossaso, El-Ma'an and Jazira Ports. The three year average is 242,176MT, with 255,618MT in 1999, 255,756MT in 2000, and 215,153MT in 2001. Berbera and Bossaso Official Port Import Statistics and El-Ma'an and Jazira Port Figures collected by WFP. Estimated commercial imports consist of rice, wheat flour, and pasta and are expressed in cereal equivalents with conversion factors of wheat flour = 1.33, pasta=2.00 and rice= 1.
- ⁸ As of June 1, 2004 WFP reports 6,668MT in pipeline, 788MT cargo in transit, and CARE reports 20,610MT in pipeline through Dec.
- ⁹ Calculation based on estimated population in need of assistance in Humanitarian Emergency (95,000) and in Livelihood Crisis (123,000) in northern pastoral areas under stress, FSAU Monthly Report, Feb. 2004. Assumed full ration until next Deyr rains, i.e. 12 kg/person/month for 6 months.
- ¹⁰ This estimate does not include the likely requirement for additional food aid to mitigate the predicted food access problems among pastoralists in the north and central parts of Somalia. For further explanation see text above and footnote number nine.

GU RAINFALL ANALYSIS - North & Central

In pastoral areas, especially in Sool Plateau, the onset of Gu rains was early by one dekad as compared to average RFE (Graph 9). According to RFE estimates, the Sool Plateau received above normal rainfall in mid April 2004 and below average to average rainfall through most of May. Thus, while some rains have fallen, they are not at all adequate to ameliorate the effects of the long-running drought in the area.

In central area of Galgaduud, RFE and NDIV were below normal in May 2004 (Graph 10). Field reports indicate that the rains did not replenish water catchments and reservoirs or improve pasture conditions. NDVI and rainfall were below average in Togdheer pastoral areas (Graph 11).



Source: MARS-JRC, Monitoring agricultural vegetation in Somalia using SPOT Vegetation Index, AFRICOVER and ECMWF Global Meteorological Modelling

REGIONAL HOTSPOT HIGHLIGHTS

Togdheer:

- Malnutrition levels still remain high in the Hawd of Togdheer.
- Hawd of Togdheer received below normal erratic rains.
- Pasture regeneration in Hawd is very slow.
- Pastoralist from the east of Hawd moved to the western parts, which had received normal rains.
- Livestock production is below normal.
- Purchasing power of the pastoralists is poor due to asset loss.
- Pastoralists in the Hawd are experiencing severe food and income gaps.
- Households have split to cope and many others have moved to urban centres as destitutes.
- Distressed pastoralists are selling breeding animals as a coping strategy.

Sool Plateau:

- Nutritional screening of women of reproductive age using measurement of Mid Upper Arm Circumference has shown a steady deterioration from December to April. The relationships between decreasing child malnutrition and significant increases in adult malnutrition require further study and understanding.

North Mudug and South Nugal:

- Below normal rains received in Galkayo, Goldogob and Jariban districts, especially in the coastal areas of Jariban.
- In drought affected eastern Addun and coastal Deeh food economy groups livestock deaths continue to escalate.
- Water availability is below normal, except in Northwest of both Galkayo and Jariban.
- The poor are unable to migrate to rained areas of Burtinle due to lack of resources and remain in a precarious situation.
- Fishing opportunities in the coastal areas is limited.
- Increased migration to main towns (Jariban, Burtinle and Galkayo) and permanent water villages, such as Balibusle and Semade.
- The number of destitute people in Galkayo is above normal and most originate from Jariban.

Gedo:

- Renewed clashes in May between rival militia in Belet Hawa have had significant negative impact food access.
- The only Therapeutic Feeding Centre in the region, supported by Gedo Health Consortium in Belet Hawa, closed following the recent fighting when most of the beneficiaries fled to their homes.
- Food stocks have been burnt and looted.

- Most people have no shelter as they have fled their homes.
- Their main source of survival are livestock which have migrated to far areas beyond their immediate reach.
- Farming has stalled as militia are using farms as hideouts.
- The big commercial market Ali-tima-cade has been looted and burnt to ash.

Juba

- Successive poor harvest and the persistent insecurity have led to reduced food availability at both the household and market level. Levy extortion is taking place in the many road blocks erected along the main roads.
- Income from agricultural labour and crop sales is significantly reduced due to poor crop performance.
- The nutrition situation is critical with a global acute malnutrition rate of about 19.5% (CI: 17.0-22.2). Severe Acute malnutrition rate (W/H <3 z score or oedema) was 3.7% (CI: 2.6 - 5.2).
- Little or no food stock in the households, increased prices for imported commodities and local cereals, reduced income opportunities, poor sanitation, inadequate quality water and high disease prevalence further predisposes the population to more food security and nutrition challenges.
- Coping strategies include: bush product collection, consumption of less preferred foods (raw mangoes instead of cereals), family splitting and decrease in the purchase of the non-staple foods.

Shabelle

- Rained maize is suffering severe moisture stress.
- Price of maize seed and tractor hiring are high, and there is poor rehabilitation of canals and irrigation management.
- Agricultural labour opportunities are limited for the poor because of poor crop performance.
- Water and pasture availability is below normal.
- Overgrazing in localised areas which received light showers.
- Increased prices of maize and milk by 26% compared to last month in Middle Shabelle.

North Nugal and South Bari

- Livestock are still dying because of the effects of the drought.
- Abandoned dying camels have been observed in the sub-coastal areas.
- Villagers complained of berkads contaminated by dead animals.
- Lower Nugal Valley did not receive their annual flood waters that replenish underground water supplies.