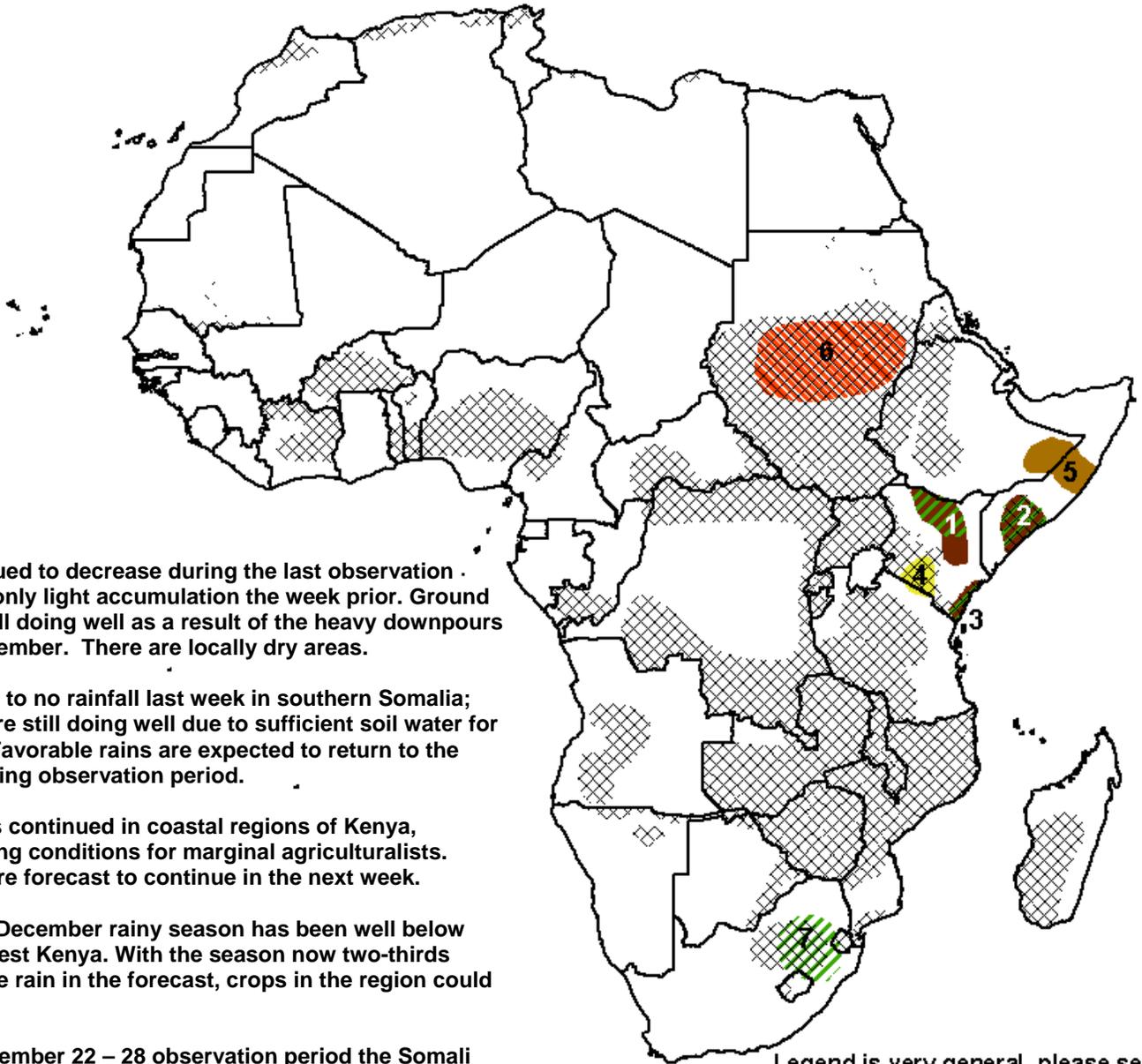


- Several swarms of desert locusts have been reported in the Mandera district of Kenya, in Bay, Bakool, Gedo, parts of northern Somalia, and also in Ethiopia's Somali region. Locusts have the potential to jeopardize agro-pastoral crops causing food security issues in Ethiopia and Somalia. The threat in Kenya is not as significant.
- The Somali region of Ethiopia and parts of central Somalia continue to experience below-normal rainfall totals during the October to December rainy season. Light rainfall is expected next week; however, it is not expected to improve pasture conditions. If this trend continues, these areas may not receive any significant relief until the March to May rainy season.



1) Rainfall continued to decrease during the last observation period following only light accumulation the week prior. Ground conditions are still doing well as a result of the heavy downpours seen in early November. There are locally dry areas.

2) There was little to no rainfall last week in southern Somalia; however, crops are still doing well due to sufficient soil water for seasonal crops. Favorable rains are expected to return to the region in the coming observation period.

3) Abundant rains continued in coastal regions of Kenya, improving cropping conditions for marginal agriculturalists. Favorable rains are forecast to continue in the next week.

4) The October – December rainy season has been well below normal in southwest Kenya. With the season now two-thirds complete and little rain in the forecast, crops in the region could be stressed.

5) During the November 22 – 28 observation period the Somali Region of Ethiopia into central Somalia received little to no rainfall. Increased rainfall is needed for pasture regeneration and water source replenishment in these areas; else a dry season could be imminent. Light rains are expected in the area for the coming observation period.

6) Due to excessive rainfall earlier this year there are reports of localized outbreaks of Rift Valley Fever in central Sudan.

7) Rains in southern Africa have benefited early season cropping activities.

Legend is very general, please see numbered descriptions for details.

	Extreme Event		Flooding
	Humanitarian Concern		Severe Drought
	Favorable		Drought
	Somewhat Favorable		Short Term Dryness or Drought Recovery
	In Season Crop Areas		