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FOOD SECURITY SNAPSHOT

- Late and erratic “bahri” rains affect pastoral households in Eastern coastal regions

Unfavourable “bahri” rains negatively affects pastoralists in North Red Sea region

The “bahri” rainy season, normally extending from November to February, is particularly important for pastoral livelihood systems in coastal areas. This year, the “bahri” rains have been generally unsatisfactory in North Red Sea region, with a late start at the beginning of December 2010, below average amounts, and an early cessation at the end of January 2011. Most affected areas are located in the sub-zobas of Ghindae and Foro and the situation needs to be closely monitored as rains are not expected to resume before July. By contrast, the vegetation index (NDVI) of March 2011 indicates that vegetation conditions in Gash-Barka and Maekel regions are better than long term average.

