



National Drought Management Authority Isiolo

Drought Early Warning Bulletin for February 2016

FEBRUARY 2016 EW PHASE

Drought Status: ALERT



Maandalizi ya mapema

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

- No Rainfall received in the county over the month. The county is experiencing short dry spell.
- Pasture condition worsened compared to previous month. The County Vegetation condition Index 3month (VCI) values reduced from **36 (January) to 31 (February)**. Both sub counties recorded decline in pasture condition. The VCI 1Month depict a serious pasture deficit of **18 (Isiolo North) and 28 (Isiolo south)**.
- Surface water sources dried up while Boreholes were opened earlier than Normal in Merti.

Emerging issues: Breakdowns of Boreholes is common due to high concentration. Currently, Urura borehole is not in use.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

- Livestock body condition is stable for all species.
- No mortalities related to drought. Livestock mortalities due to black quarter and blot occurred in Sericho ward and Cherab ward.
- Milk production declined compared to last month.
- Internal migration is common in all LZ zone (normal). The migration in Merti Sub County is unusual for this time.
- Average MUAC measurement is 15%. MUAC measurement increased by 2% compared to January. The county drought status is **ALERT WORSENING**.

Early Warning Phase Classification

LIVELIHOOD ZONE	EW PHASE	TRENDS
Pastoral-All species	ALERT	Worsening
Agro Pastoral	ALERT	Worsening
Casual waged labour	ALERT	No change
Firewood/charcoal pastoral	ALERT	Worsening
County	ALERT	Worsening

Biophysical Indicators	Value	Normal ranges
% of average rainfall (January 2015)	N/A	80-120
VCI – 1 month	22	35-50
VCI-3month	31	35-50
State of Water Sources	3	5

Production indicators	Value	Normal ranges
Livestock Migration Pattern	Normal	Normal
Livestock Body Conditions	4	4-5
Milk Production	36	13.33-36.01
Livestock deaths (for drought)	No deaths	No death
Crops area planted (%)	70%	% of LTA

Access Indicators	Value	Normal ranges
Terms of Trade (ToT)	0.45	0.26-0.76
Milk Consumption	4	9.0 -21.80
Water for Households	3	5

Utilization indicators	Value	Normal ranges
MUAC	15	21.60 - 15.64
Coping Strategy Index (CSI)		
Food Consumption Score		

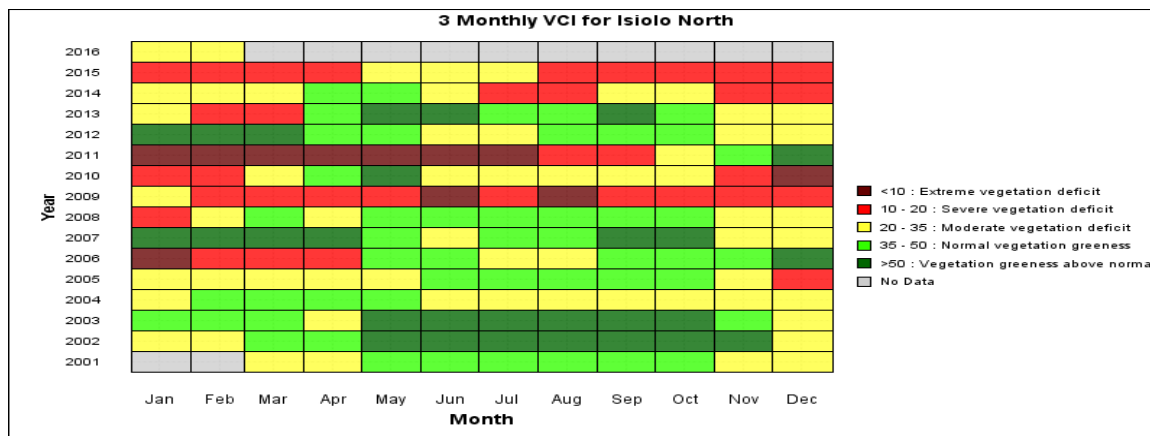
Current Drought Risk

Low

✓ Medium

High

The county has **Medium** drought risk. The surface water sources has dried up including Rivers and VCI values shows pasture deficit in both sub counties.



The above graph shows the 3 monthly Vegetation condition Index (VCI) for isiolo North. The sub county did not record significant improvement following the onset of last short rains(OND) last year, it has remained in Alert Drought status for the last Two months with worsening trends.

2.2 Field observation (Pasture and browse conditions)

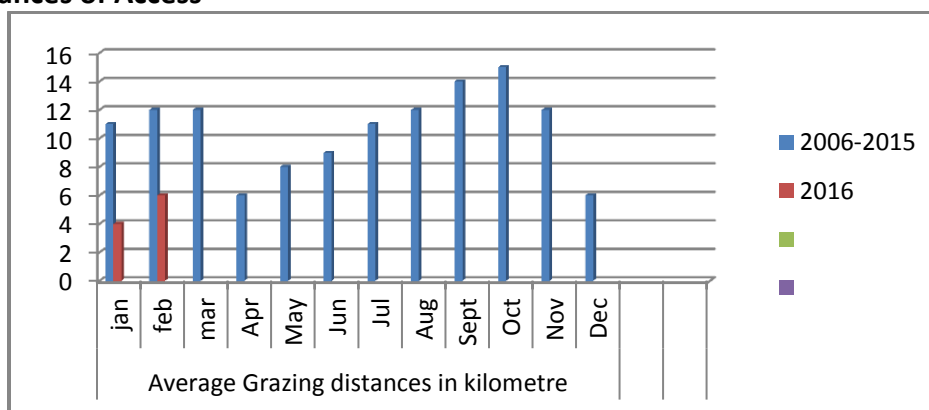
Quality

- The quality of pasture and browse is poor in all livelihood zones (February 2016).
- The quality is good in areas along the river that received flood water in previous month.

Quantity

- The quantity of pasture is declined in both livelihood zone compared to January.
- The quantity is poor in Merti Sub County due to less rains received in the previous season.

Distances of Access



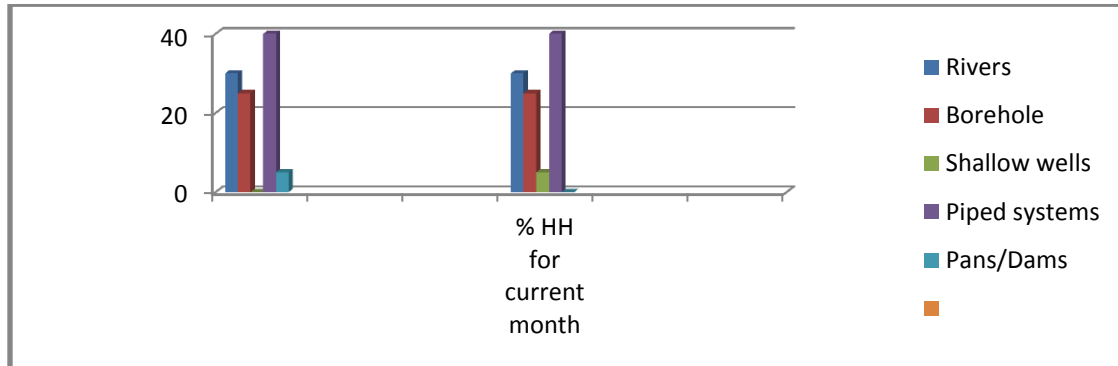
- The average grazing distance increased to 6 km compared to last month (January 2016).
- The distances increased in all livelihood zones but high increase was in pastoral areas.
- The Distances are high in Oldonyiro and Merti.

3.0 HYDROLOGICAL DROUGHT

3.1 Water sources and Availability

- Water sources and Availability changed compared to January 2016
- The main rivers dried up. Shallow well was additional sources in pastoral livelihood zones.

- All Pans and Natural ponds in use last month dried up
 - Piped system remained the main sources for settled centres and Towns.
- The graph below indicates water sources and percentage of household using them during the month (February 2016) compared to normal.



3.2. Emerging Issues

- Pans and Natural ponds dried.
- Distances to water sources increased.
- Shallow well was additional sources in pastoral areas.

3.3. Insecurity/Conflict/Displacement

- Conflict/insecurity incidents reduced in Kinna but increased in Isiolo around Kipsing, Leparua and Ngaramara areas.
- Households in Modogashe, Merti and Central affected by floods in previous month remained displaced.

3.4. Migration

- Migration was common in all livelihood zones
- Livestock migrated from wet season to dry season grazing areas except Merti Sub County where livestock migrated to Drought reserve areas.
- Frequent migration in Ngaramara, Kipsing and Leparua of Isiolo central was due to conflict.

3.5. Implication on Food Security

- Livestock body weight is recovering; this will have impact on livestock prices and milk production.
- Reduced milk production will affect the nutritional status of children and aged people.
- Households in Merti Sub County will not access livestock products due to migration.

4.0. RURAL INDICATORS (FOOD AVAILABILITY)

4.1. Livestock production

4.2. Livestock body Condition

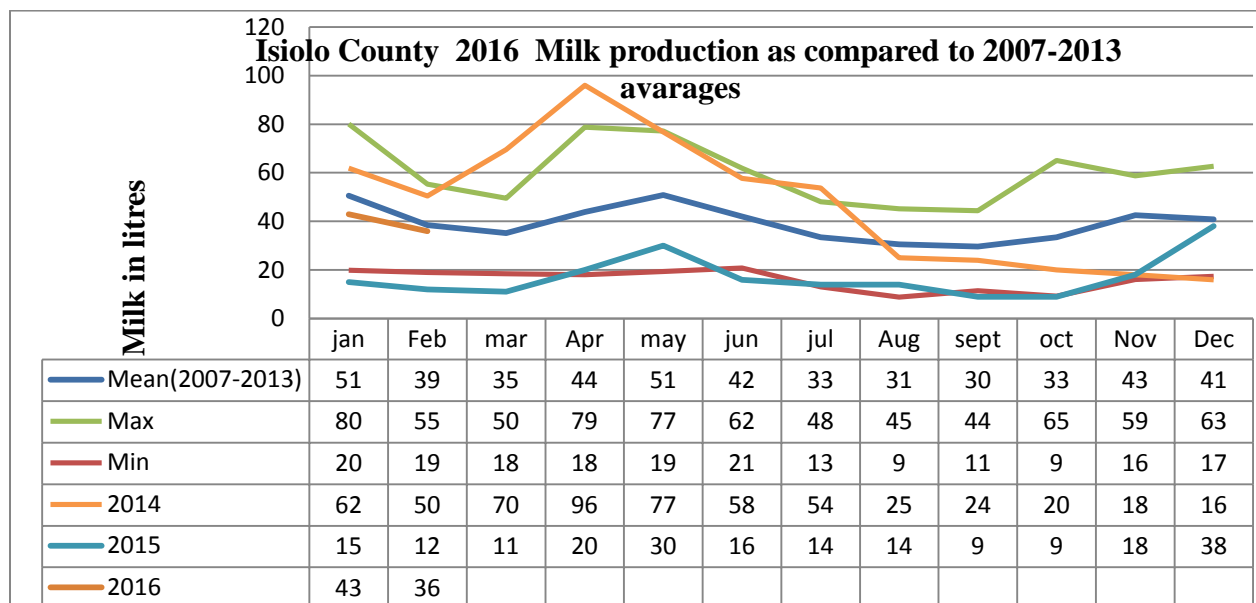
Livestock body condition is fair to good for all species. Livestock in Sericho, Iresaboru, Modogashe and Bassa have reduced body weight due to outbreak of Black quarter diseases.

4.3 Livestock disease

Livestock diseases persisted over the month; includes the black quarter and CCPP in sericho and Bassa areas. Livestock Vaccination through the support of county government and partners has been carried out in localized areas.

4.4 Milk production

The graph below shows average milk production for the current month (February 2016) compared to LTA. The average milk production for (February 2016) was 36 litres. The current production increased by 7 litres compared to January 2016 production. The graph shows average current production compared to Long term mean.



5.0. Crop Productions:

5.1 Timeliness and status of crop.

- Crops that were planted in short rain seasons have been harvested.

5.2 Pest and Diseases:/others

- No pests and diseases reported.

5.3 Harvest

- The crops planted in agro pastoral areas have been harvested. The rain fed harvest for Maize, Beans and Cowpeas are slightly high than the long term Average recorded in the previous years.

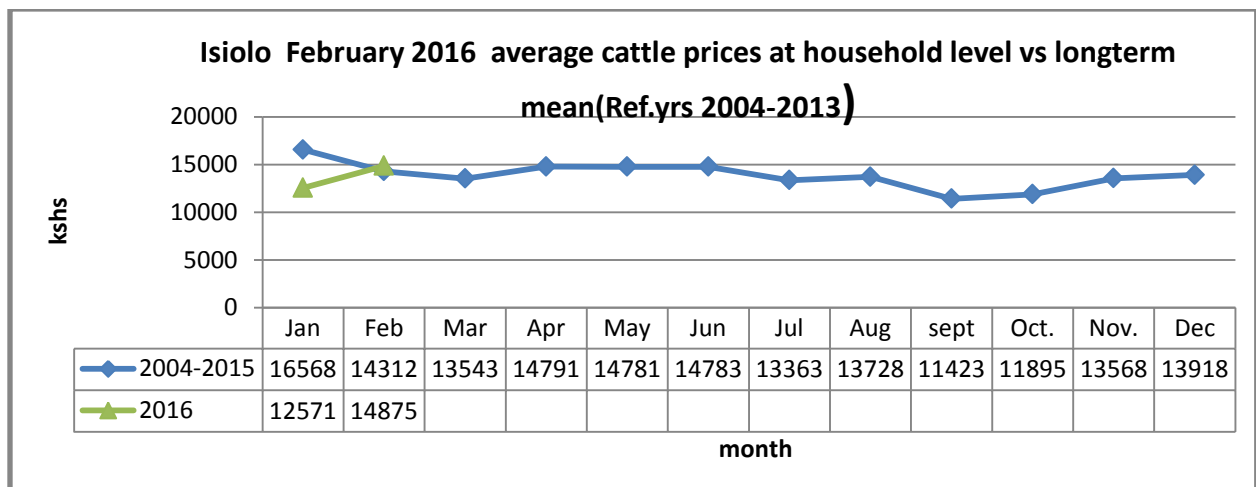
Implication on Food Security

The food security situation is improving.

6. ACCESS TO FOOD

6.1. Livestock Marketing

6.1.1. Cattle prices



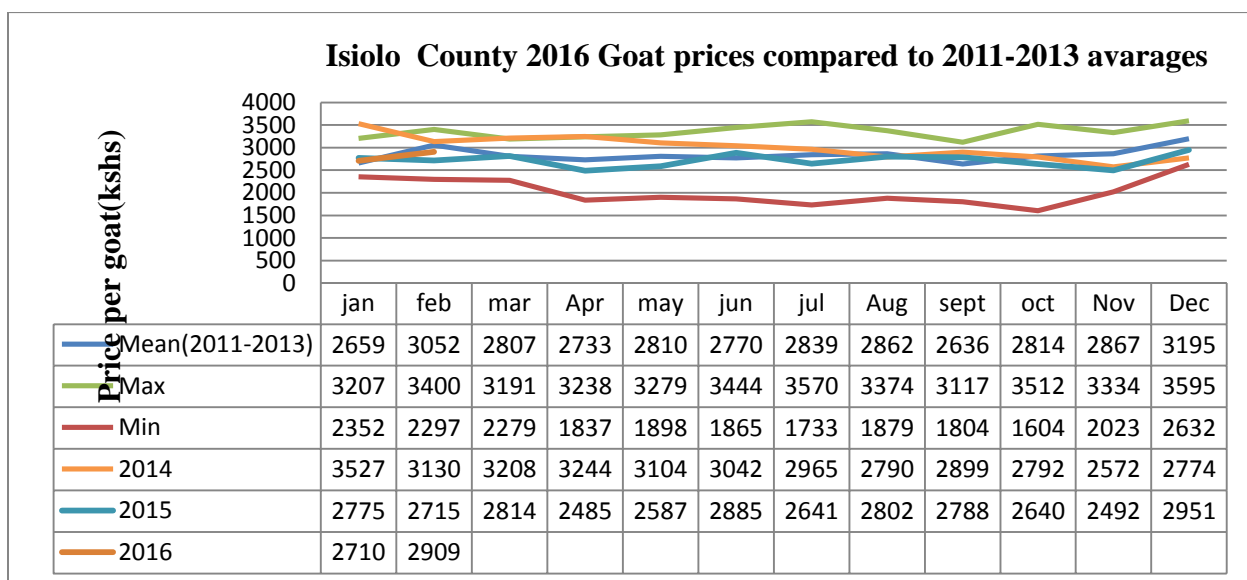
N=15 x 30

- The County average cattle price was Kshs.14, 875 (February 2016).
- The price increased by 18% compared to January 2016 price.
- The current price is also high by 3% compared to long Term mean the same period.
- The prices were lower in Oldonyiro.
- The price increase is due to increasing body weight of cattle.

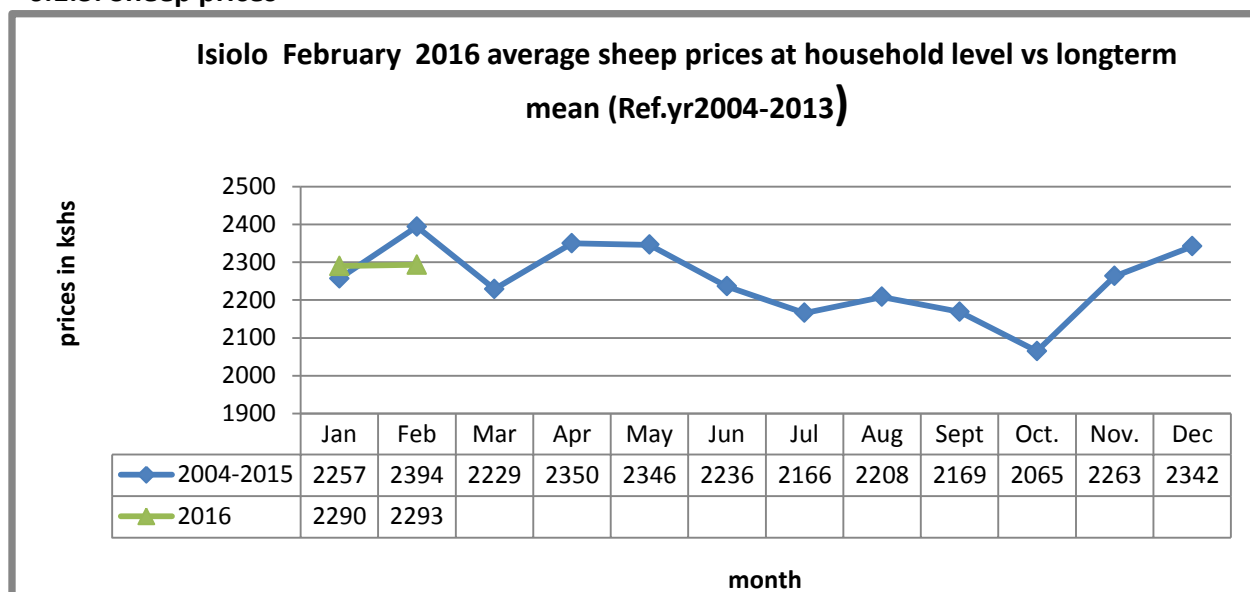
6.1.2. Goat production and marketing

The graph below shows the current county prices of Goat compared to LTA 2011-2014.

- The average Goat price was kshs.2909 (February 2016).
- The price increased by 7.3% compared to January 2016 price
- The price increases was due to increasing body weight of Goats.



6.1.3. Sheep prices

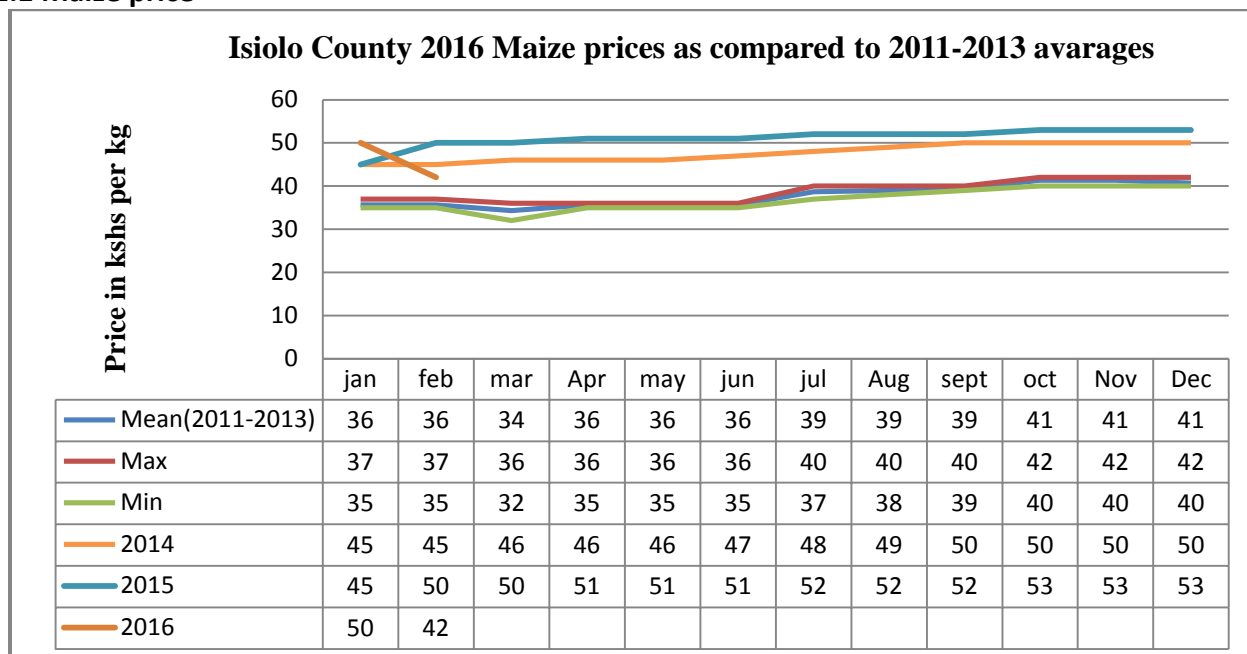


N=15 x30

- The Average county price of sheep was kshs.2293 (February 2016).
- The price slightly increased by 0.1% compared to January 2016 price.
- The price increase is due to improving body weight of sheep.
- The prices high in Garbatulla (kshs.2500) and lower in Kinna (kshs.2166).

7.0 Grain Marketing

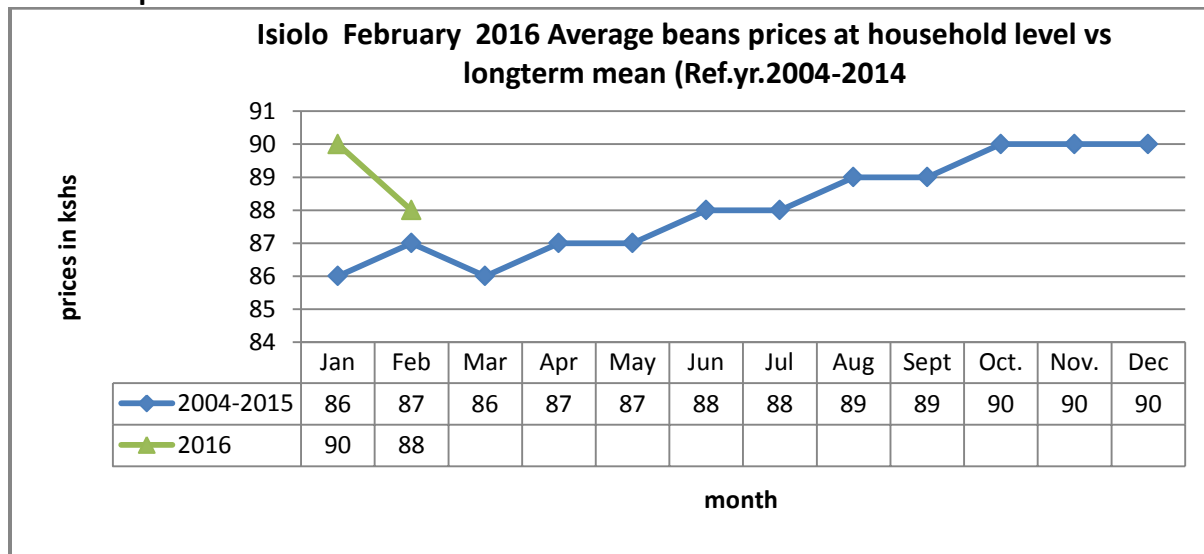
7.1.1 Maize price



N= 15 X 30

- The county average maize price was kshs.42 per kilogram.
- The price reduced by 16% compared to January 2016 price.
- The price was high by 16% compared to LTA price the same period.

7.1.2. Beans price



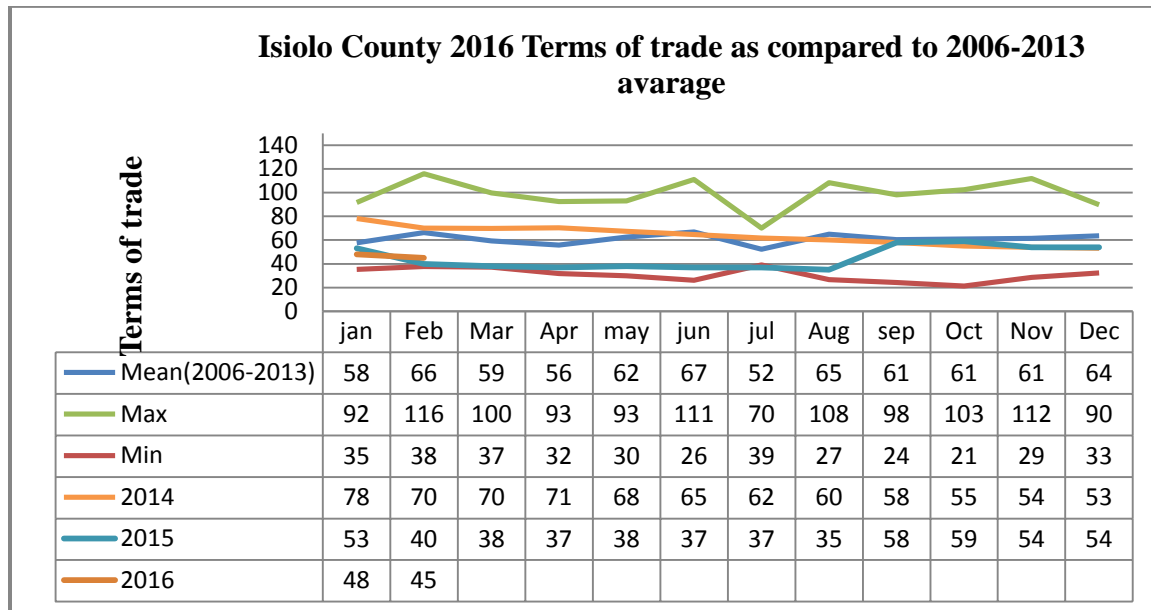
N= 15 x30

- The county average price of beans was ksh.88 per kilogram

- The prices slightly reduced by kshs.2 compared to January 2016 price.
- The prices remained high in pastoral LZ of merti and sericho where a kilogram was traded above kshs 120 .

7.1.3 Terms of Trade

The graph below shows Terms of Trade for the current month compared to LTA, maximum and minimum values.



- The current Terms of trade was 45.
- Current Terms of trade is lower than the previous month.
- Terms of trade is unfavourable for pastoralists.

8.0 INCOMES:

8.1.1. Crop Income

- The crop income earned by households the current month (February 2016) in agro pastoral areas were 5%.

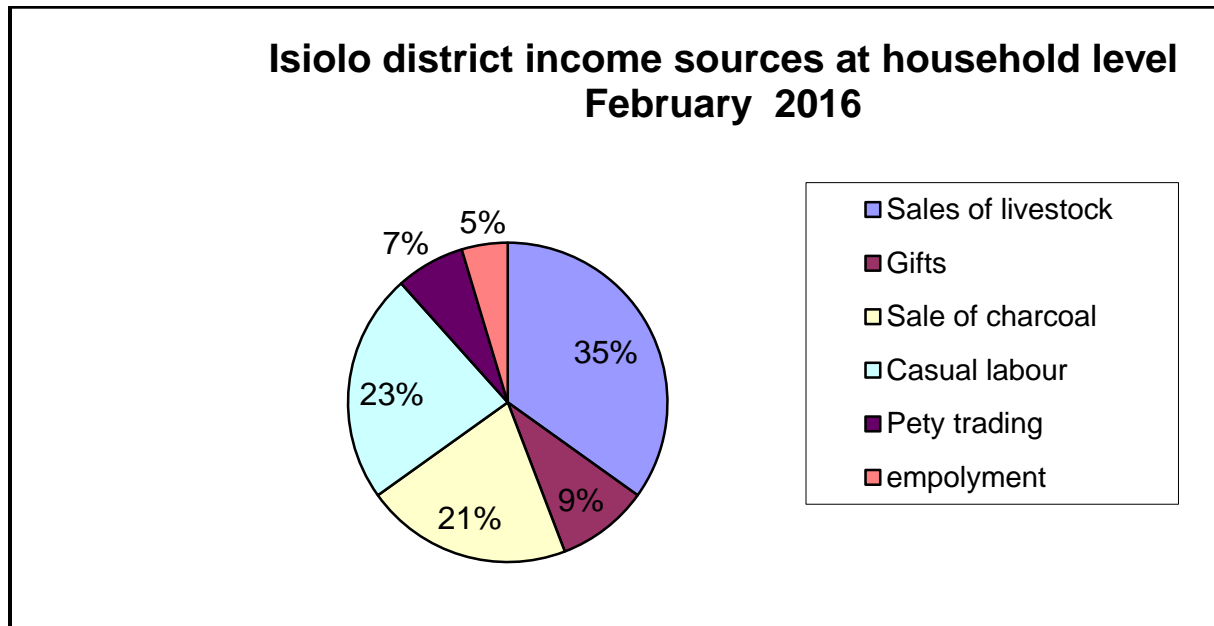
8.1.2. Livestock Income

- The livestock income to household this month (February 2016) represented 35% of the total incomes. The income from this source reduced by 3% compared to 38% earned by households over January (2015).
- Other incomes to households this month (February 2016) was from charcoal 9%, casual Labour 10%, petty trade 3% and gift items 4%.

Implications

Compared to January 2015, livestock income, Petty trade and Gift items reduced by 3%, 2%, 1% each respectively. Charcoal reduced by 1% while casual labour remained constant.

The pie-chart below represents Isiolo income sources at household level for February 2016



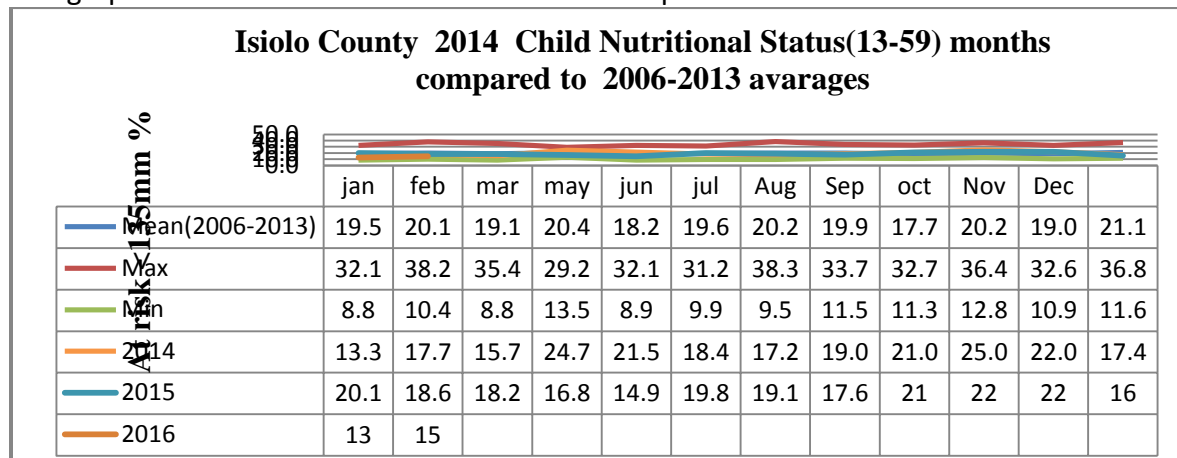
8.1.3 Implication on Food Security

- Reduced food items at market, increased food prices
- .Improving body weight of livestock will translate to increased income to households

9.0 Utilization of food (Welfare indicators)

9.1 Nutritional status

The graph below shows MUAC measurement compared to LTA



N = 15X30X5

- The County average percentage of children who are at risk of malnutrition as measured through MUAC was 15% of the total children sampled across 15 sites.

