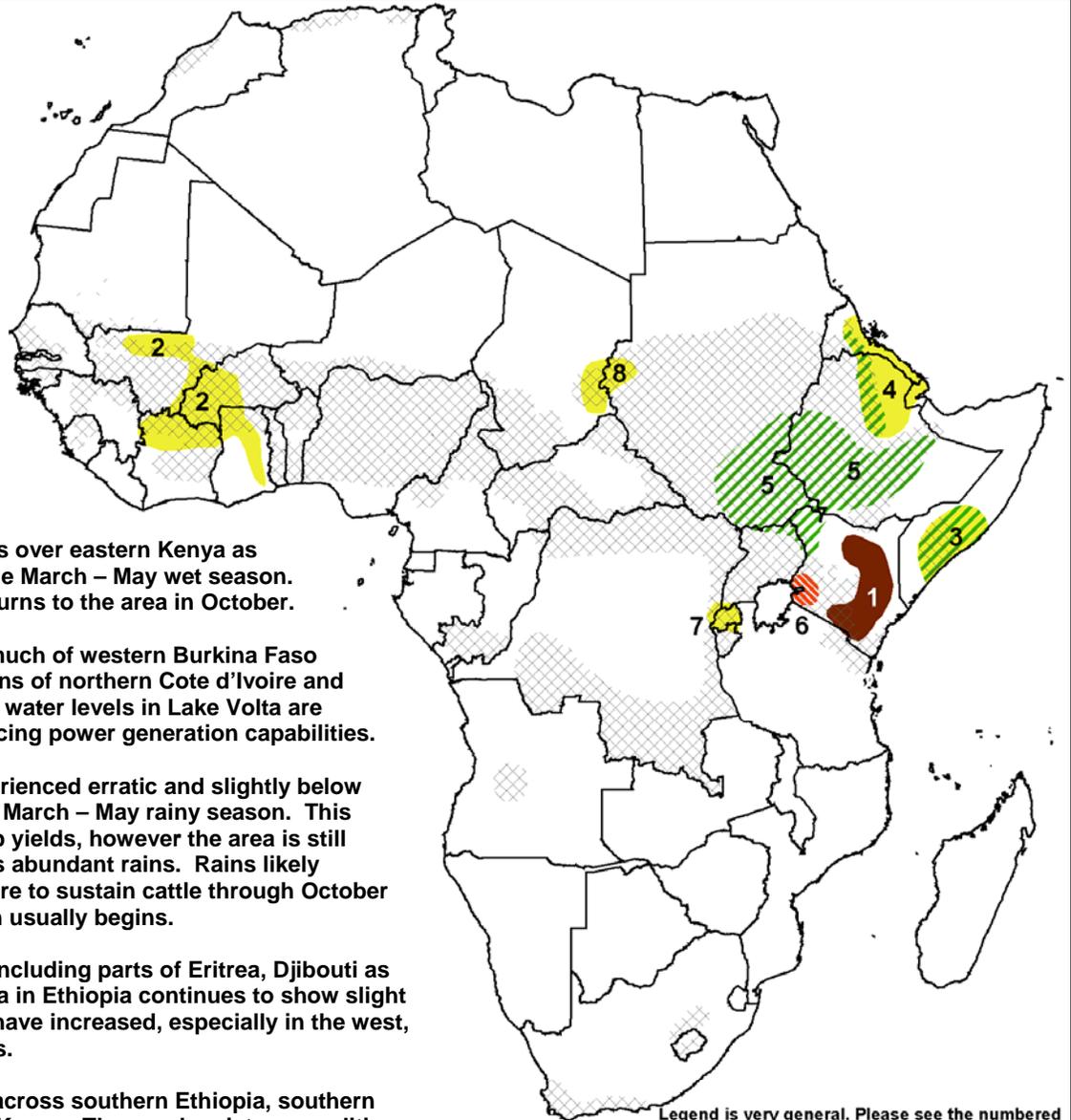


- Dryness throughout much of western Burkina Faso is leading to poor agricultural conditions and low water levels in Lake Volta.
- Much of southern Ethiopia is experiencing above normal moisture conditions due to abundant seasonal rainfall.



1) Severe drought remains over eastern Kenya as a result of the failure of the March – May wet season. Precipitation normally returns to the area in October.

2) Dryness continues in much of western Burkina Faso as well as adjacent portions of northern Cote d'Ivoire and western Mali. Associated water levels in Lake Volta are severely depressed, reducing power generation capabilities.

3) Southern Somalia experienced erratic and slightly below normal rainfall during the March – May rainy season. This significantly reduced crop yields, however the area is still benefiting from last year's abundant rains. Rains likely produced sufficient pasture to sustain cattle through October when the next wet season usually begins.

4) The greater Afar area, including parts of Eritrea, Djibouti as well as Tigray and Amhara in Ethiopia continues to show slight moisture deficits. Rains have increased, especially in the west, during the past two weeks.

5) Rains continue to fall across southern Ethiopia, southern Sudan and northwestern Kenya. The good moisture conditions have benefited crops, pasture, and drinking water supplies across the region. However, flooding was reported in areas of southeastern Sudan during the past week.

6) Crop pests have been reported in Kenya near Lake Victoria. This is due, in part, to the excessive rainfall during the past season.

7) Late planting farmers lost crops in Rwanda when the wet season came to a close on time, though before the crops reached maturity.

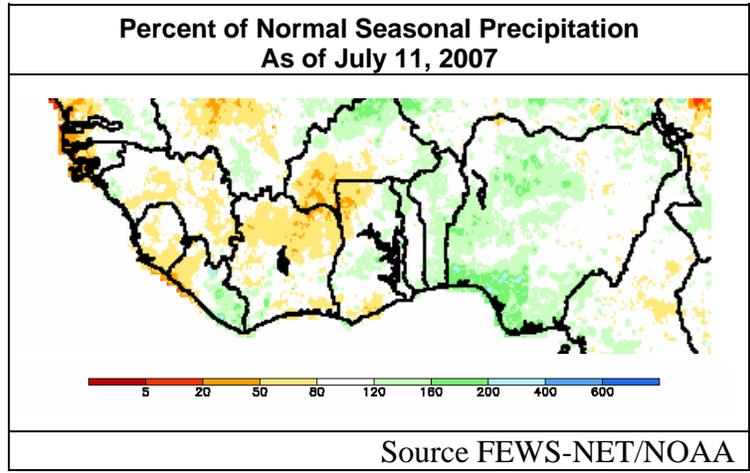
8) Northwest Darfur and nearby areas of Chad have experienced slightly below normal rainfall, though moisture continues to increase throughout the region.

Legend is very general. Please see the numbered descriptions for each area depicted on the map.



Dryness continues in areas of western Burkina Faso, northern Ivory Coast, and western Mali.

While much of the Sahel has experienced near normal seasonal precipitation, some western locations have seen a lack of moisture during the past two months. In particular, the area in and around southwestern Burkina Faso has been abnormally dry for nearly six out of the past seven dekads. This is negatively affecting agriculture and pasture conditions throughout the region. With similar importance, the lack of rainfall has led to a deterioration of water supplies incoming to Lake Volta in Ghana. Due to the fact that the 2006 first season rains were lighter than normal in this region, lake levels were much lower than average even before the current seasonal dryness.



Rainfall increases in northern zones of Ethiopia

Though precipitation began a few weeks late in north central areas of Ethiopia, rainfall during the past ten days has greatly increased throughout the region. In and around Afar, accumulated rainfall beginning May 1 has reached near normal levels in many locations, though some eastern areas continue to see a lagged start to the 2007 rains. Examining the past seven days of precipitation in the area, it is observed that rains have increased substantially in western Afar into the adjacent Ethiopian Highlands, with weekly totals exceeding 75 mm in some locations. Conditions remain slightly dry to the east, though rains should continue to spread in coverage during the next weeks.

