



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



**National Drought Management Authority
KILIFI COUNTY
DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR MAY 2025**

MAY EW PHASE		Early Warning Phase Classification		
		LIVELIHOOD ZONE	EW PHASE	TRENDS
		Marginal Mixed Farming	Normal	Stable
		Livestock (excluding pastoralism)	Normal	Stable
		Cash Cropping	Normal	Stable
		Mixed Food Cropping	Normal	Stable
		Mixed Farming	Normal	Stable
		County	Normal	Stable

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification				
Biophysical Indicators Rainfall report. The month under review received significant amount of rains were distribute across the livelihood zones. Vegetation Condition: On average, the county recorded good vegetation condition across the livelihood zones. Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators) Production indicators: On average the livestock body condition for all species recorded improvement compared to the previous month. Average milk production recorded an increase compared to the previous month with no livestock disease outbreak reported. Access indicators; Average distance to water sources by households and livestock recorded a decrease due to the recharge of water sources following ongoing long rains. Utilization indicators; Percentage of children at risk of malnutrition and reduced Coping Strategy Index remained stable compared to the previous month's scores.				
		Biophysical Indicators	Value	Normal value/ranges /condition
		Rainfall mm (Average)	116.1mm	91.0mm
		Average Forage Condition	Good	Good
		Production indicators	Value	Normal value/Condition
		Maize Crop Condition	Tasseling	Grain-filling
		Livestock Body Condition	Good	Good
		Milk Production (litres)	2.2	3.0
		Livestock Migration Pattern	No migration	No migration
		Livestock Deaths (from Drought)	No deaths	No deaths
		Access Indicators	Value	Normal value
		Terms of Trade (ToT)	105.9	82
		Milk Consumption (in litres)	1.3	1.38
		Return Distance to Water Sources (in km)	1.7	2.6
		Return Distance to Water Sources from grazing (km)	2.5	3.2
		Cost of water at source (20ltrs)	KShs.5	KShs.5
		Utilization indicators	Value	Normal values
		MUAC (% at risk)	3.93	1.50
		Reduced Coping strategy Index (rCSI)	3.47	3.12
		Food Consumption Score (FCS)	42.53	43.76

- Short rains harvests - Short dry spell - Reduced milk yields - Increased HH Food Stocks - Land preparation			- Long rains - Planting/Weeding - High calving Rate - Milk yields Increase			- Long rains harvests - A long dry spell - Land preparation - Increased HH Food Stocks - Kidding (Sept)			- Short rains - Planting/weeding/pest control/		
Dry Season			Long Rains			Dry Cool Season			Short Rains Season		
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

Rainfall performance: The month under review remained generally wet recording significant amount of rainfall across the livelihood zones as shown in the figure one below;

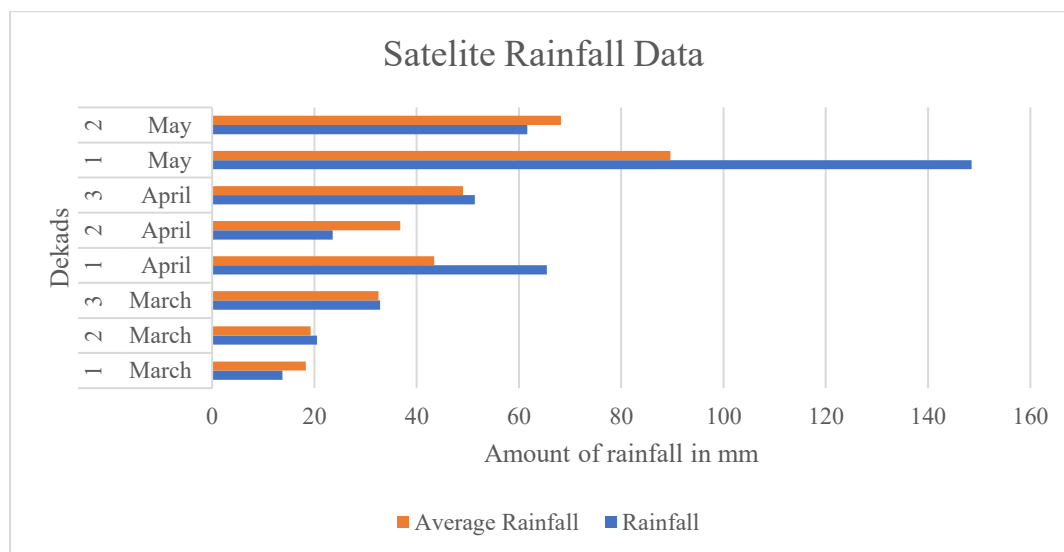


Fig 1: Rainfall from satellite data

1.1 AMOUNT OF RAINFALL AND SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION

- The month under review recorded heavy rainfall across all the livelihood zones with characterized with cold episodes.
- On average, the month of May recorded 116.1mm as compared to 76.6mm recorded in the previous month.
- The average amount recorded in the month under review was 27.5 percent above the long-term average and below the upper limit.

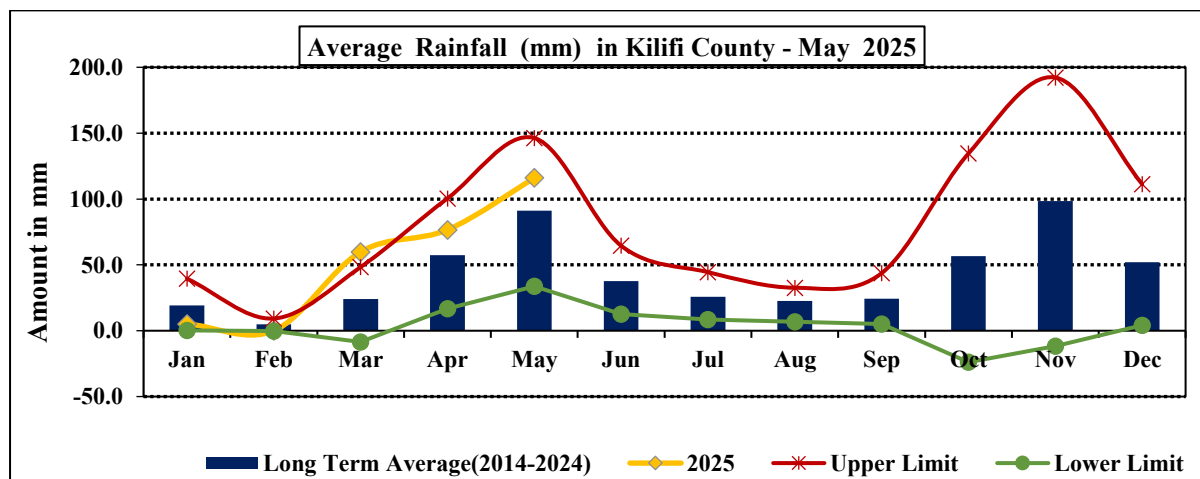


Fig.2: Rainfall from ground data

2.0 IMPACT ON VEGETATION

2.1 Vegetation Condition

On average, the vegetation condition was good across the livelihood zones.

2.1.2 Pasture

- During the month under review, 14.3 percent recording fair an improvement compared to the previous month.
- Pasture condition is expected to improve due to the ongoing long rains and low temperatures. The current pasture condition was better compared to May 2024 following fair rains being due to the ongoing long rains 2025.
- The available pasture will last for less than one month which is below normal at this time of the year.

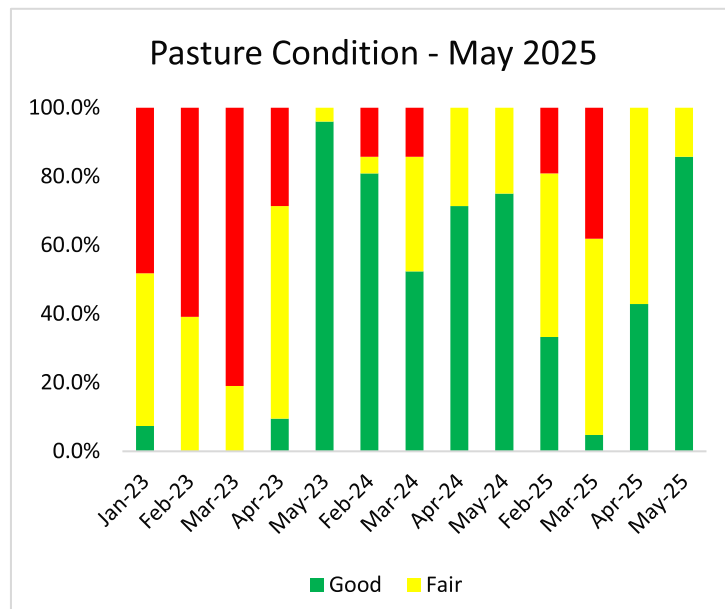


Fig.3: Pasture condition.

2.1.3 Browse

- On average, the month under review recorded 9.5 percent fair browse condition due to ongoing rains which contributed to significant improvement compared to the previous month.
- The good browse condition can be attributed fair rains being recorded across the livelihood zones.
- Current browse condition is expected to improve due to ongoing rains and the prevailing low temperatures. The available browse was normal at this time of the year as compared to May 2023 and May 2024.

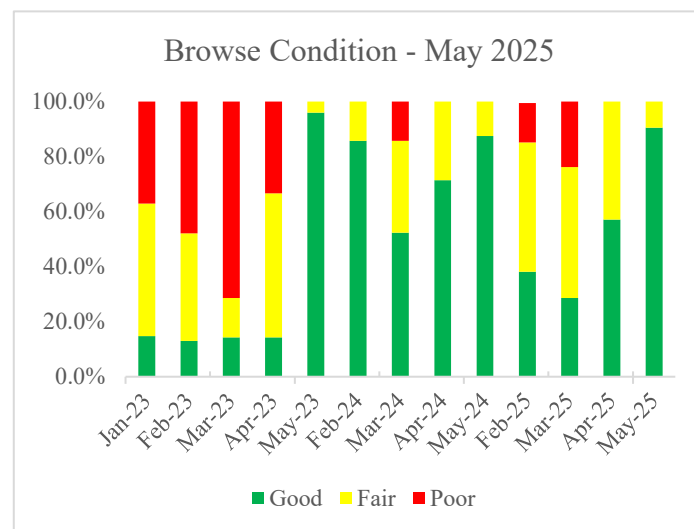


Fig. 4: Browse condition

2.2 Water Resources

2.2.1 Water Sources

- The main water sources for both human and livestock use during the month under review were water pans and dams, rivers and traditional river wells across the livelihood zones.
- Most open water sources recorded recharge significant recharge during the month under review. The overall condition of water sources recorded significant improvement due to fair rains recorded in May.

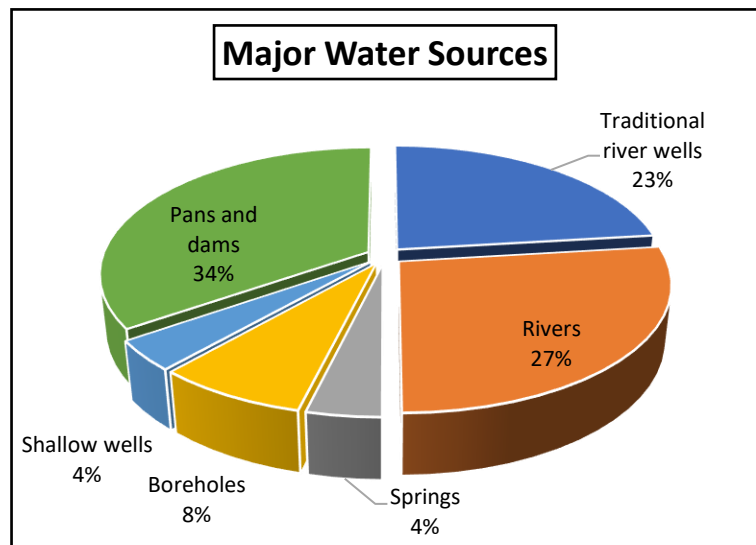


Fig.5: Water sources

2.2.2 Household water access and utilization

- The average household return distance to water sources recorded a decrease of 22.7 percent compared to the previous month from 2.2kms to 1.7kms in May.
- The decrease in average distance can be attributed to the increased water availability especially in water pans and dams which continued to recharge from ongoing seasonal rains. The cash cropping zone recorded the highest average return distance of 3.0kms while the food cropping zone recorded the lowest average of 0.2kms. The average distance covered by households in accessing water during the month under review was below the Short-Term Average by 34.6 percent at this time of the year.

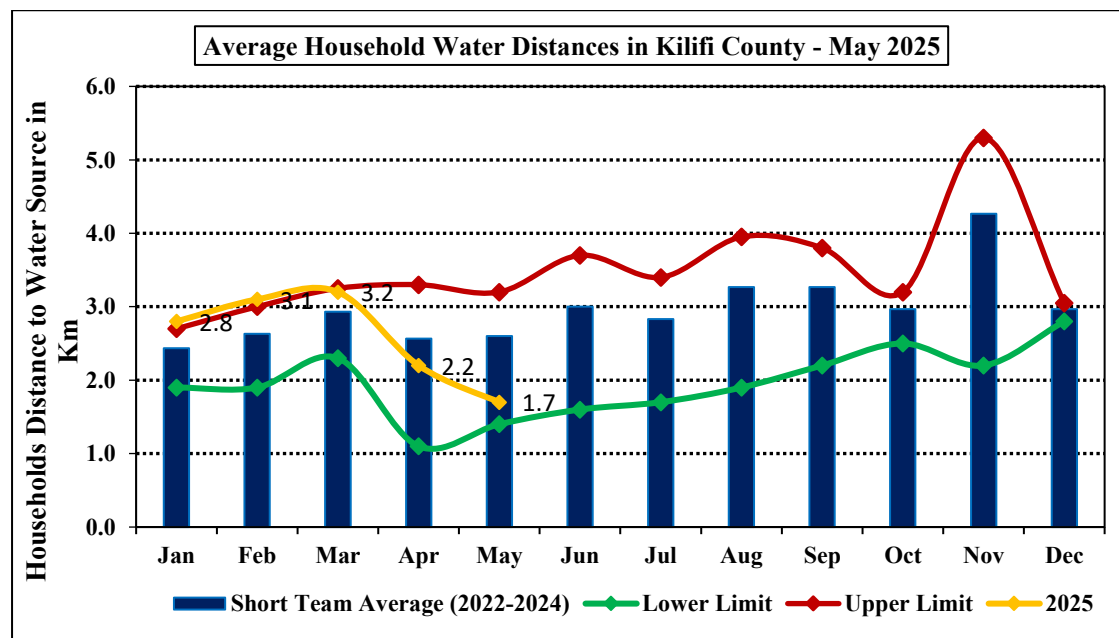


Fig.6: Average household distances

2.2.3 Livestock access to water

- The average return trekking distance during the month under review recorded a 16.7 percent decrease from 3.0kms to 2.5kms as compared to the previous month. The decrease can be attributed to good recharge of water sources near households and good rejuvenation of pastures and browse.
- Average distance is expected to remain stable as the 2025 long rains season rains continued.
- The average trekking distance was 21.9 percent below the short-term average at this of the year and below the upper limit at this time of the year.

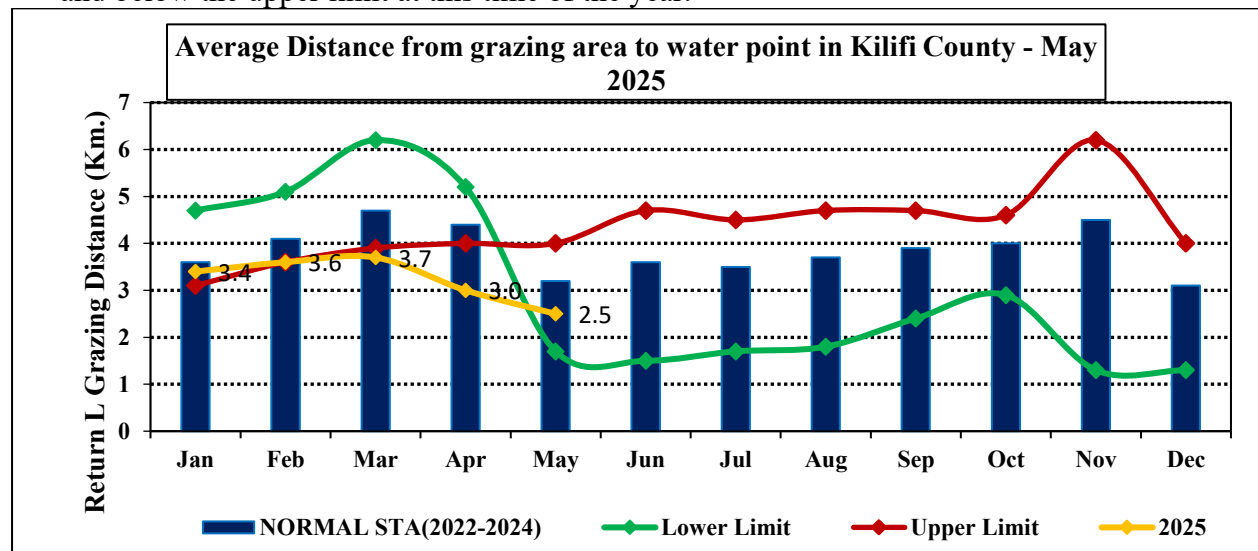


Fig.7: Average grazing distances

3.0 PRODUCTION

3.1 Livestock Production

3.1.1 Livestock body condition

- On average, livestock body condition continued to record an improvement compared to the previous month with only 4.8 percent recording moderate neither fat nor thin condition.
- On average, the body condition of livestock is expected to improve as access to water, pasture and browse continued to record an improvement following the ongoing season rains. The pasture and browse condition expected to improve further following the ongoing rains.

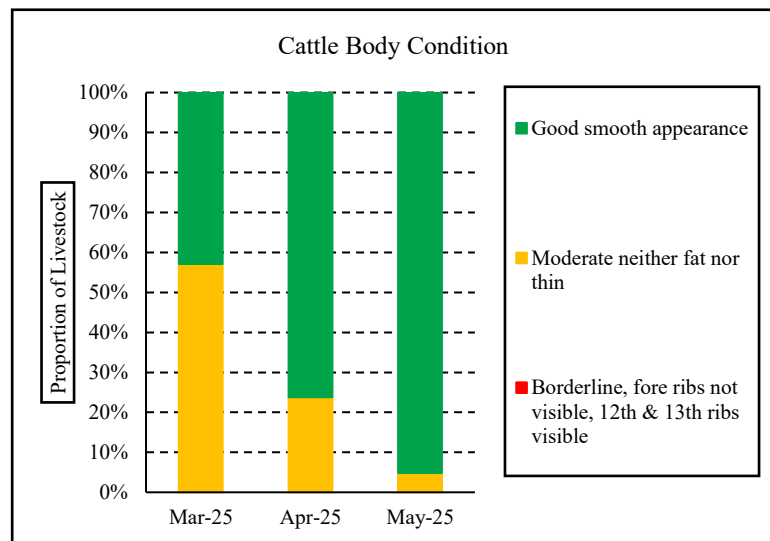


Fig.8: Cattle body condition

3.1.2 Livestock disease

- No disease outbreaks were reported across the livelihood zones during the month under review.

3.1.3 Livestock Migration.

- No cases of livestock migration were reported during the month under review.

3.1.4 Milk production

- Average milk production during the month under review recorded a 29.4 percent increase from 1.7 litres/hh/day to 2.2 litres/hh/day as compared to the previous month. The increase can be attributed to favorable condition across the livelihood zones.
- The current production is expected to increase due to availability of pasture and shorter distances to water points.
- The current average production of milk was 26.7 percent below the long-term average at this time of the year.

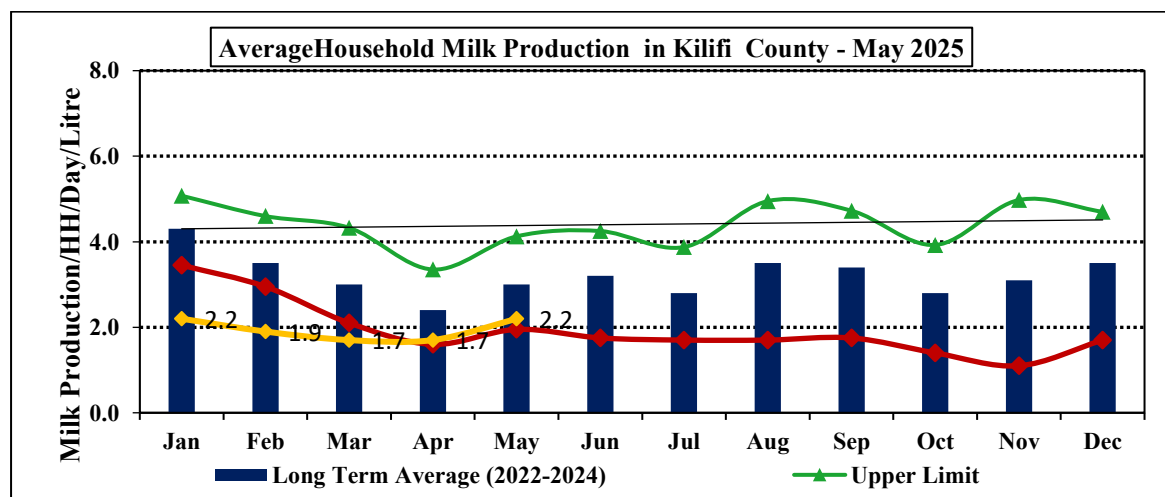


Fig.9: Milk production

3.2 Rain Fed Crop Production

3.2.1 Stage and condition of food crop.

- The 2025 long rains crop (Maize, green grams and cowpeas) were at different stages of development with early planted maize at tasseling stage while pulses at podding stage. Most farmers' maize crop was at knee-high and weeding and topdressing ongoing.

3.2.2 Crop Harvest.

- Harvest of green leavy vegetables was recorded across the livelihood zones. Minimal water melons, pineapples and mangoes were recorded in some pockets of the county. Coconut harvest was also recorded mainly along the coastal strip.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1. LIVESTOCK MARKET

4.1.1 Cattle prices.

- Average price for a 4-year-old bull during the month under review remained stable compared to the previous month at Kshs.31,178 from Kshs.30,235 recorded in the previous month. The stability can be attributed to good body condition and stable supply in the market.
- The average prices for cattle are expected to remain stable when compared to the short average trend.
- However, current average price was 27.0 percent above the short-term average at this time of the year.

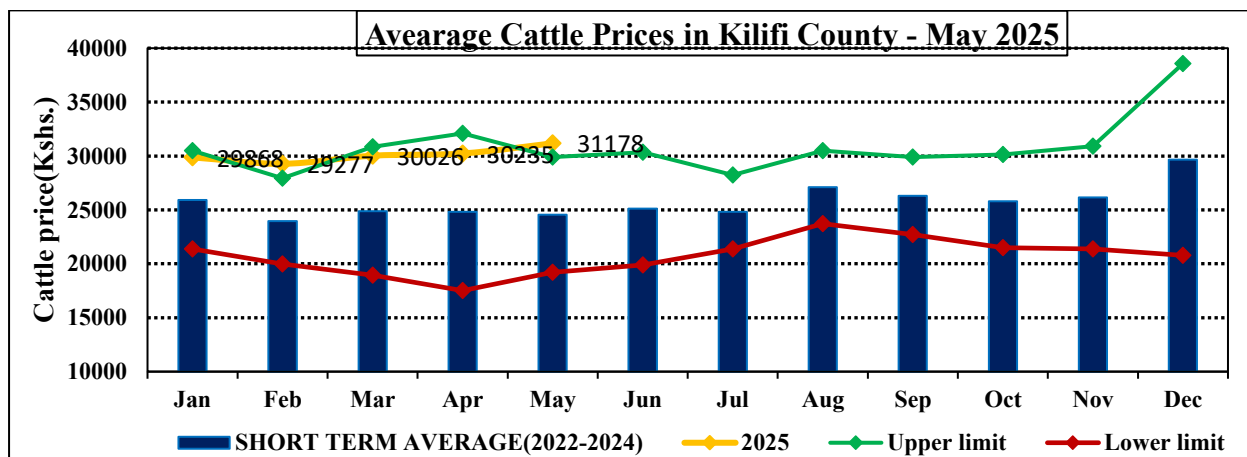


Fig.10: Cattle prices

4.1.2 Goat prices

- Average price of a 3-year-old medium sized buck during the month under review remained stable compared to the previous month at Kshs.6,460 from Kshs.6,312 recorded in the previous month. The stability can be attributed to stability in supply and good body condition. The availability of browse and water continued to contribute to body condition improvement.
- The month's average price was 49.0 percent above the short-term average at this time of the year and significantly above the upper limit at this time of the year.

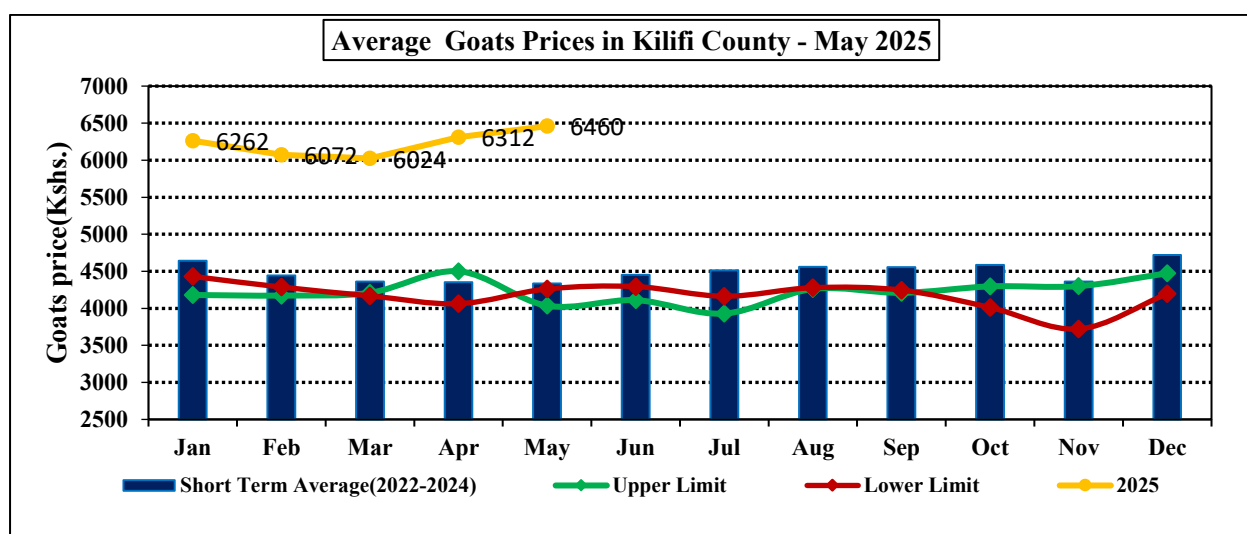


Fig.11: Goats prices

4.2 Crop prices

4.2.1 Maize

- Average price per kilo of maize for the month under review recorded an increase of 6.8 percent to Kshs.61.0 as compared to the previous month's average of Kshs.57.10.
- The increase can be attributed to depleted household maize stocks thus high demand in the market for the commodity.
- Average maize price/kg is expected to remain high till the 2025 long rains crop harvest which will contribute to increased supply and low demand.
- The average price was 7.6 percent above the short-term average and 29.8 percent above the upper limit at this time of the year.

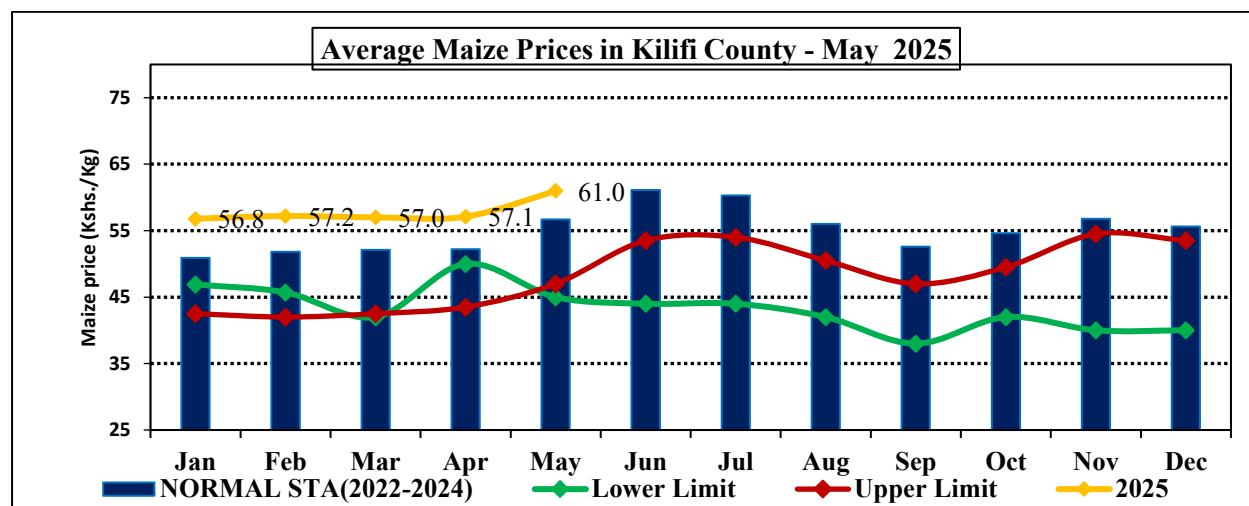


Fig.12: Maize prices

4.2.2 Beans

- Average price per kilo of beans for the month under review recorded a decrease of 9.0 percent to Kshs.123.1 as compared to the previous month's average of Kshs.135.3
- Average price decrease can be attributed to low demand for the commodity following availability of green leafy vegetables at household level and high supply in the markets.
- The month's average price/kg was 12.7 percent below the short term mean at this time of the year.

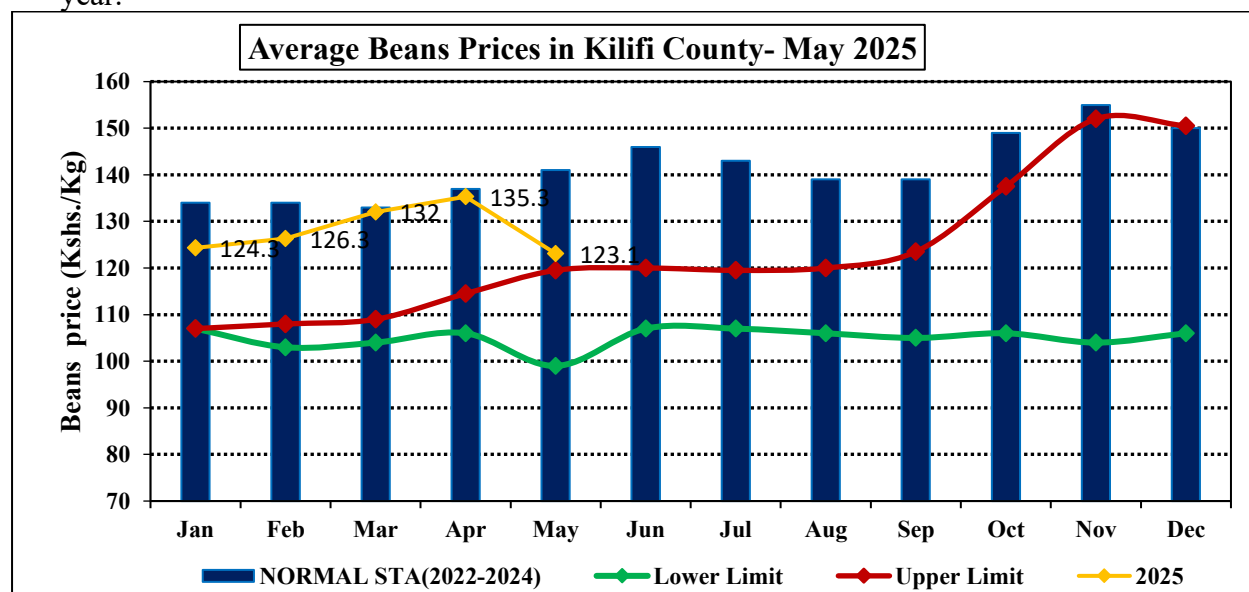


Fig.13: Beans prices

4.3 Terms of Trade (ToT)

- The ToT for the month under review recorded a decrease of 4.2 percent to 105.90 as compared to the previous month's average of 110.60 and this can be attributed to increase in maize prices and goats' average price remained stable.
- The mixed farming livelihood zone recorded the highest average ToT of 114.6 while the Food Cropping livelihood zone recorded the lowest average ToT at 89.7
- The average ToT for the month of May was 29.1 percent above the short-term average at this time of the year and above the upper limit.

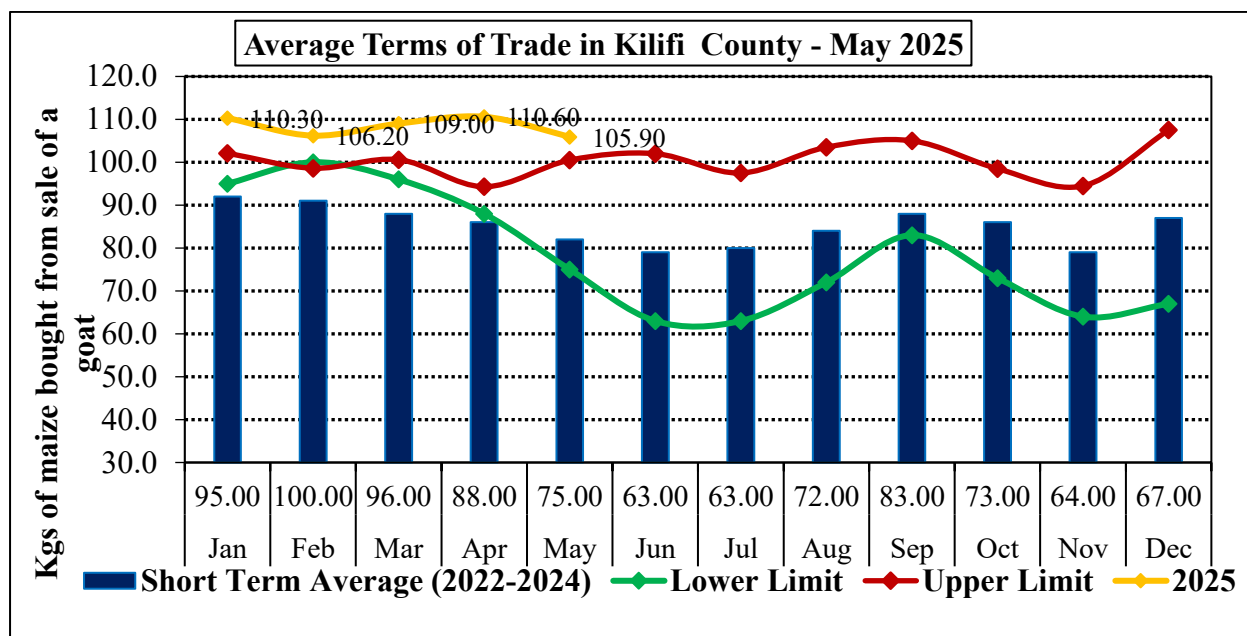


Fig.14: Terms of Trade

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 Milk Consumption

- Average milk consumption per household per day during the month under review recorded a 30.0 percent increase to 1.3litres/hh/day compared to 1.0litres/hh/day recorded in the previous month and this can be attributed to increased production.
- The average milk consumption per hh/day was 5.8 percent below the long-term average and lower limit at this time of the year.

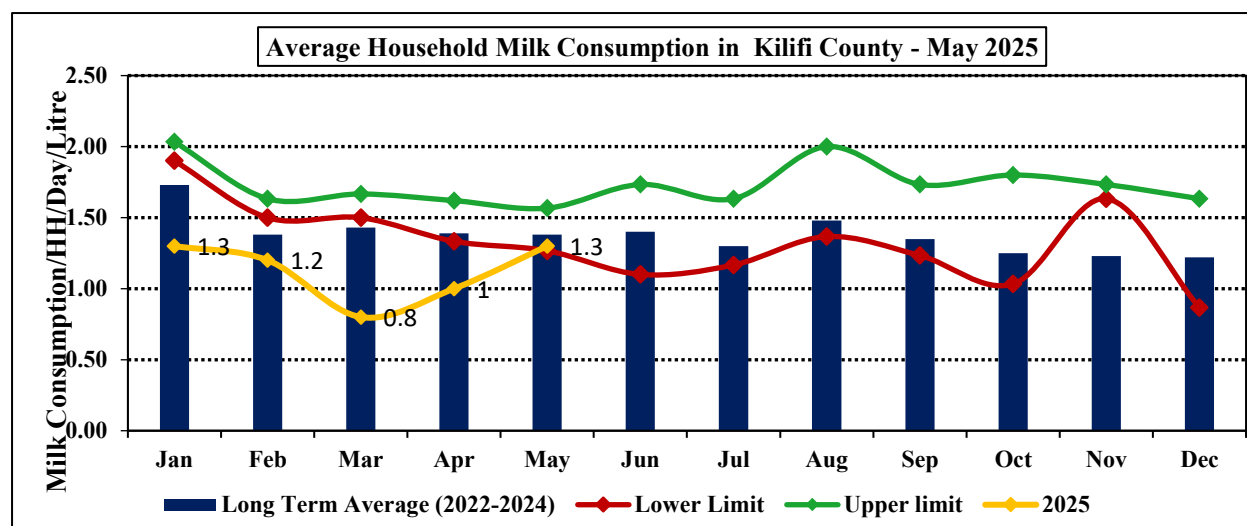


Fig.15: Milk consumption

5.2 Food Consumption Score

- During the month under review, one percent of sampled households recorded poor consumption with 24.6 percent recording borderline consumption, most households consuming an average of two meals/day. The consumption expected to improve as the long rains season performed fairly across the livelihood zones.

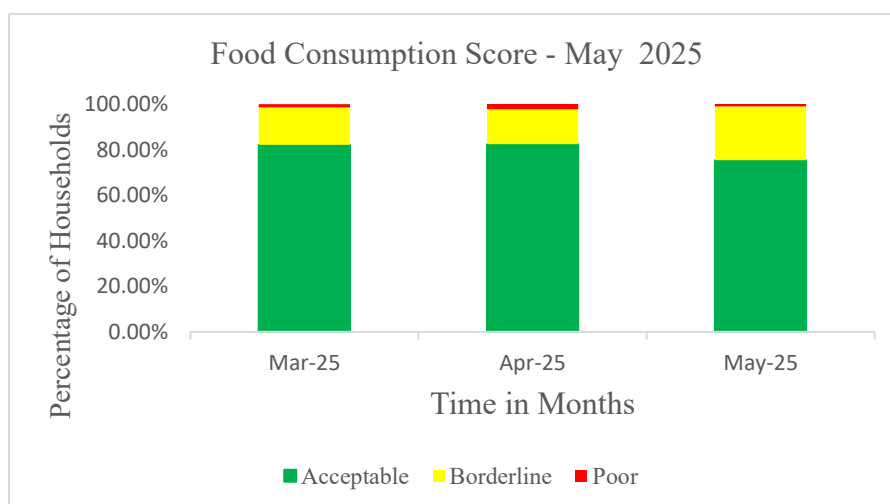


Fig. 16: Food Consumption Score

5.3 Health and Nutrition Status

- The month under review recorded more female (51.87percent) than male (48.13 percent) children under-five whose Mid Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) was measured from sampled households.

5.3.1 Nutritional status

- The percentage of children at risk of malnutrition remained stable compared to the previous month and this can be attributed stability in household food security. The number of children at risk of malnutrition expected to decrease following the various crops in the farm are yet to reach maturity period.
- However, the current proportion of children at risk of malnutrition was significantly higher than the long-term average at time of the year.

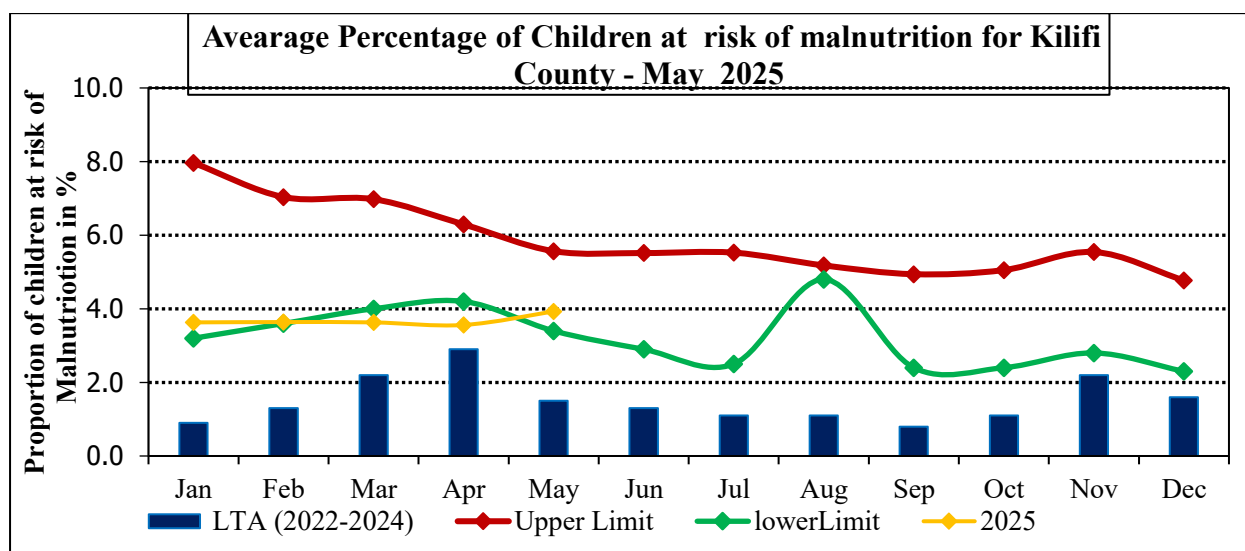


Fig.17: Percentage of children at risk

5.3.2 Health

- Common illnesses like fever and coughs were recorded during the month under review and may be attribute to weather changes which was characterized with cold conditions across the livelihood zones.

5.4 COPING STRATEGIES.

- The mean reduced Coping Strategy Index (rCSI) for the month under review recorded stability at 3.47 as compared to last month as most households employed consumption strategies thus the score remained reasonably low no much change compared to the previous month.
- During the month under review, the mixed farming and cash cropping livelihood zones recorded a low score; an indication that households' food shortages was low.

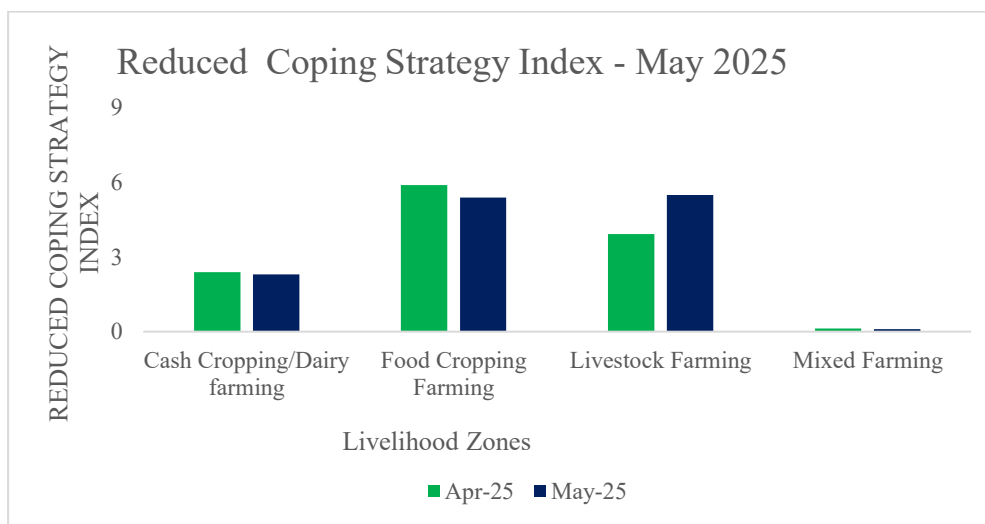


Fig.18: Reduced coping strategies Index

6.0 CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES

6.1 Food Intervention

No food aid intervention was implemented during the month under review.

6.2 Non-food aid

Detailed below are ongoing non-food interventions;

Item	Quantity	Amount	Areas of Coverage
Ministry of Interior and National Government			
Restocking of galla goats	2375	-	68 HHs per Constituency
NDMA/KCG			
Mdachi irrigation scheme rehabilitation proposal processing	Mdachi community->200 households	52M	Jaribuni ward
Kajiri Water Pan proposal processing	Expansion and desilting	37M	Bamba Ward
Mitsemerini water pan rehabilitation Proposal development	Expansion and desilting	-	Bamba ward
Karimani water pan proposal development and submission		10M	Bamba ward
Mwananyamala proposal development (Surveys, drawings and BoQ ready)		30m	Bamba ward
GIVE DIRECTLY			
Unconditional cash transfers to Mwanamwinga ward (flow payment)	3800-Ongoing each receiving 3400/month per beneficiary	At the end of the project (2021-2026) Kshs. 775,200,000	Mwanamwinga ward, Kaloleni sub county
Large transfers Jan-March, (Sokoke ward)-Kshs 110,000 per household in two tranches (324-First tranche already received)	622 households –Vitengeni division	68,420,000	Sokoke ward, Ganze sub county
KILIFI COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND DEPARTMENTAL PROJECTS			
KEMFSED: Local chicken improvement	11000 chicken -1900farmers	10M	Rabai, Kilifi North, Magarini and Malindi sub counties
KEMFSED: Purchase and distribution beehives	200 hives to 200 farmers	2M	Magarini sub county
KEMFSED Purchase and distribution 65 Heifers	170 farmers	6M	Malindi and Kilifi North sub counties
KEMFSED: Purchase and distribution of 180 Galla Goats	600 farmers	4M	Magarini sub county

ADS-Pwani			
Climate Change adaptation project (3yrs)	Farmers	743,410 EUROS.	Ganze sub county
NAV CDP			
Livelihood Support projects	Farmers		Across the county
Monitoring/Assessment	SACCOs and Famers Producer Organization		Across the sub counties
Restore Africa/WV			
Distribution of assorted tree seedlings (indigenous and fruits)	Farmers	-	Across the county
Empowering Farmers Foundation			
Distribution of assorted tree seedlings (indigenous and Cashew nuts)	Farmers	-	Kilifi South, Kaloleni, Rabai and Kilifi North

7. FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- Household food security expected to improve as the 2025 rains season recorded fair distribution in time and even spatial distribution across the livelihood zones.
- Pasture and browse quality and quantity is expected to improve further following the ongoing long rains.
- Open water sources like pans and dams expected to continue recharging to significantly high levels.
- On average, livestock body condition is expected to improve further as pasture and browse regeneration continued with low average distances to water sources.
- Average price of maize is expected to remain high till the 2025 long rains harvest commences.
- Milk production is expected to increase as access to water, pasture and browse continued improving.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

Coordination

Crop Sector

- Community sensitization is agricultural best practices to utilize the 2025 long rains season for increased yields
- Partnership and significant investment in irrigated agriculture as rainfall seasons continued to perform poorly leading to households' food insecurity. Mdachi and Sabaki irrigation utilization for better production for increased food security.
- Support for irrigation projects in the county; Chakama, Jilore, Mdachi in Jaribuni, Burangi and Madunguni for increased food security in the era of Climate variability and erratic rains.

Livestock Sector

- Community sensitization on pasture production and conservation.
- Promotion of apiculture for income diversification to reduce loss of income in case one venture performs poorly.

Water Sector

- Research on nature-based solutions in controlling floods along river Sabaki to minimize crop damages and irrigation infrastructure losses for the county's food security.
- Expansion of water pipeline from Raukani in Makongeni sub location to Bofu areas which has continued to record water stress over the years.
- Excavation of more rain-water harvesting infrastructure during alert/alarm phase as the rains remained erratic in Ganze, parts of Kaloleni and Magarini sub counties including; dam construction and rehabilitation of Kajiri, Gwasenyi, Mikamini, Milore, Karimani, Mwananyamala, Mitsiktsini and Kadzifitseni water pans/dams to reduce water stress.

Health and Nutrition Sector

- Community awareness creation on proper nutrition for reduced cases of malnutrition.
- Community sensitization on Kitchen gardening and vegetable preservation as the production remained high following the rains.
- Investing in clean water supply and sanitation infrastructure to minimize outbreak of waterborne diseases as the rains remained heavy at some parts.

Education sector

- Installation of tanks for rain-water harvesting to reduce water stress at learning institutions.
- Purchase and distribution of 10000ltrs tanks to support some school in Ganze, Kaloleni, Rabai and Magarini sub counties for rain-water harvesting during the rains and for water trucking during water stress periods.

Meteorological Services

- Provision of frequent updates on the 2025 long rains season for proper preparedness by farmers for better production.