

National Drought Management Authority

GARISSA COUNTY

DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR JANUARY 2017



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



JANUARY EW PHASE



Early Warning Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral	Alarm	Deteriorating
Pastoral cattle/sheep	Alarm	Deteriorating
Pastoral-all species	Alarm	Deteriorating
County	Alarm	Deteriorating
Biophysical Indicators	value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)		80 -120
SPI-3Month (TAMSAT)		
VCI-3Month	16.83	>35
Forage condition		
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Crop Condition(specify crop)		
Livestock Body Condition	4-5	Moderate
Milk Production	10.8	36litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	No migration	Normal
Livestock deaths (from drought)	Small stock death	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	27	>66
Milk Consumption	4.2	36 litres
Return distance to water sources	10.7	<5 Km
Cost of water at source (20 litres)	5	<5Kshs
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	21.7%	<13.4
Coping Strategy Index (CSI)		
Food Consumption Score		

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

- The average vegetation condition index for the county increased from 11.65 to 16.83 but remains within the severe vegetation deficit category
- The current average is below the normal range of >35
- The Sub counties of Balambala, Ijara, Dadaab, and Lagdera are in severe vegetation deficit category of 18.9, 10.88, 15.69, and 13.58 respectively.
- The sub counties of Fafi and township are in moderate vegetation deficit category.
- Water sources currently in use are boreholes, River Tana and spring, and water trucking.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

- 66.7% of the livestock population remain in poor body condition, 33.3% progressed to fair body condition.
- Milk production recorded was at 11.4 litres and shows slight increase but remains below the normal of 36 litres.
- There was no livestock migration reported but large numbers of cattle returned to the county.
- The terms of trade recorded improved from 27.5 kg to 42.3 per sale of goat, thus relief for the pastoralist.
- The return distance to water sources reduced from 14.5km to 10.7km.
- The at risk to malnutrition for children under five reduced from 21.0% to 14.2%. The mid at risk levels reduced from 19.3% to 12.95%, the moderately malnourished decreased from 1.3% to 0.9% and the severely malnourished category reduced to 0.3%

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short rains harvests ▪ Short dry spell ▪ Reduced milk yields ▪ Increased HH Food Stocks ▪ migrations ▪ Land preparation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planting/Weeding ▪ Long rains ▪ High Calving Rate ▪ Milk Yields Increase ▪ Breeding period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Long rains harvests ▪ A long dry spell ▪ Land preparation ▪ Increased HH Food Stocks ▪ Kidding (Sept) ▪ Migrations ▪ Herd separations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short rains ▪ Planting/weeding ▪ High birth rates ▪ Wedding 								
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

1. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

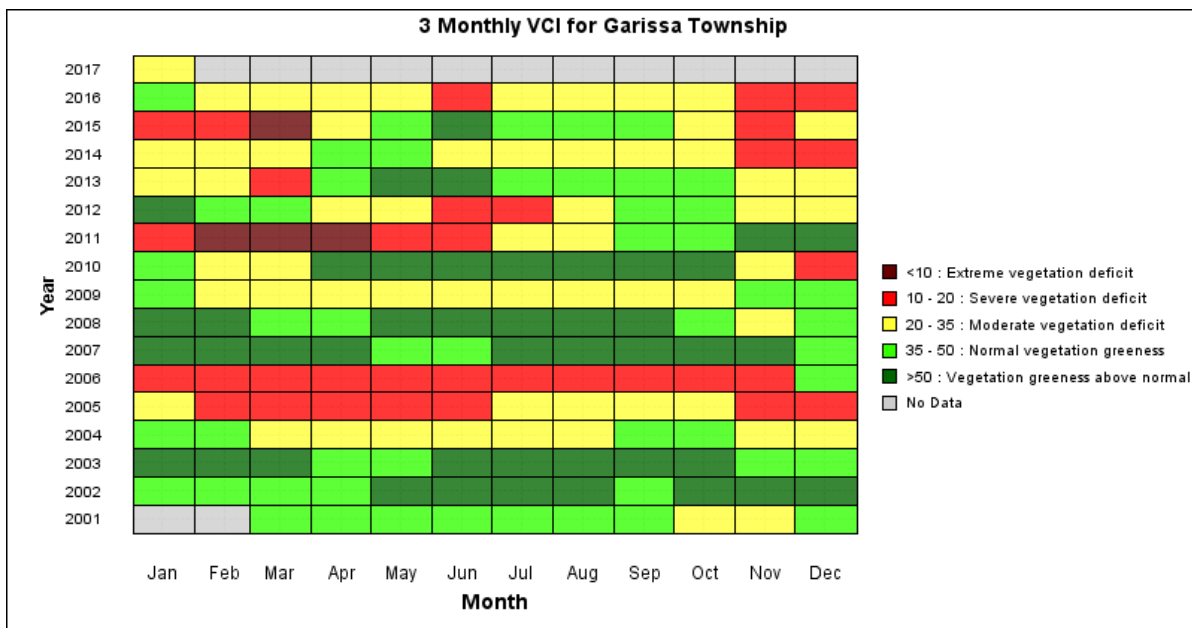
- No rainfall was reported during the month, it is the start of the short dry spell

2. IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

- The average vegetation condition index for the county increased from 11.65 to 16.83 but remains within the severe vegetation deficit category
- The current average is below the normal range of >35
- The Sub counties of Balambala, Ijara, Dadaab, and Lagdera are in severe vegetation deficit category of 18.9, 10.88, 15.69, and 13.58 respectively.
- The sub counties of Fafi and Township are in moderate vegetation deficit category.
- The matrixes below indicates the vegetation condition index for the worst affected Sub County with the lowest VCI and the best Sub County with highest VCI average



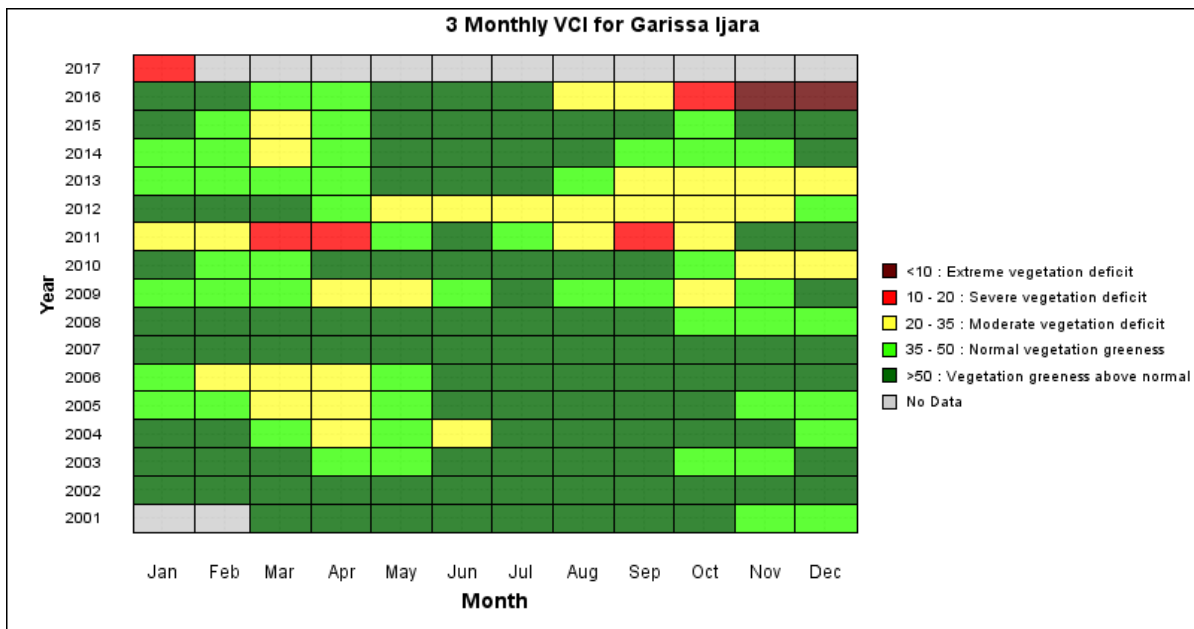
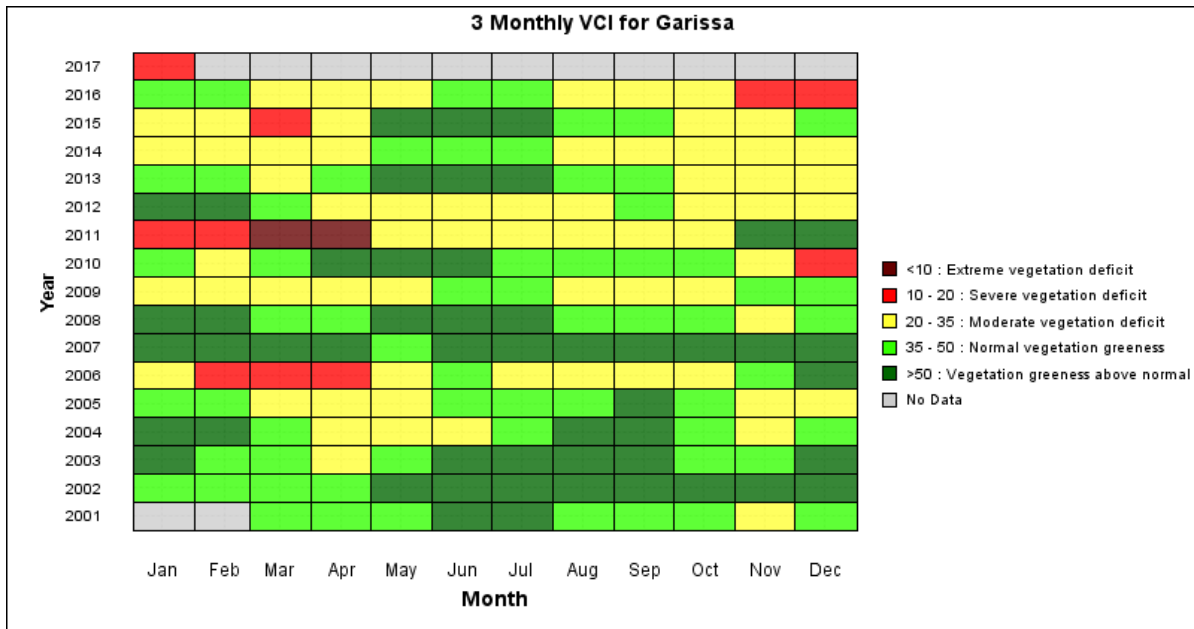
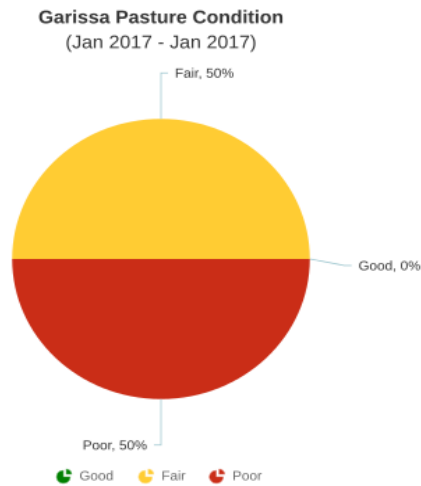


Figure 1: VCI Matrix for Garissa County, 2001 – 2017

2.1.2 Pasture

- 50% of sampled communities reported that pasture condition was fair, 50% reported poor pasture condition.
- The condition is anticipated to worsen and pasture gets depleted.



2.1.3 Browse

- The browse conditions deteriorated when compared with the previous month. All livelihood zones recorded fair to poor browse condition.
- The browse condition is expected to last for 2-3 month in all livelihoods.

2.2 WATER RESOURCE

2.2.1 Sources

The current water sources are boreholes, River, spring and water trucking.

2.2.2 Household access and Utilization-

- The average return distances from household to water sources increased, the average distance recorded for the month was 11.5km.
- The distance is within the long term average of 11.7km.
- The pastoral all species livelihood zone recorded the highest trekking distance for household’s water access at 13km while formal employment livelihood zone had recorded the lowest distance at 7km.

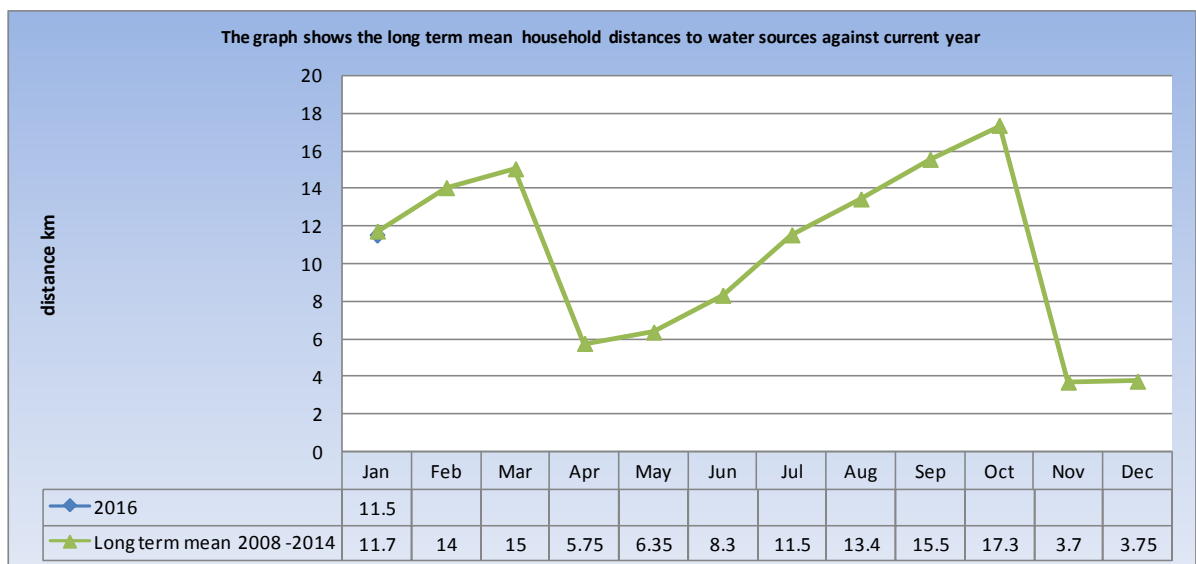


Figure 2: Trends of household distance to water sources for Garissa County, 2008 - 2017

2.2.3 Livestock access

- The average livestock return distances from grazing field to water sources increased, the average recorded was 22km
- The current distance of 22km is above the long term average for the month of 14.6km.
- Pastoral all species livelihood zone recorded the highest trekking distances for livestock at 28km

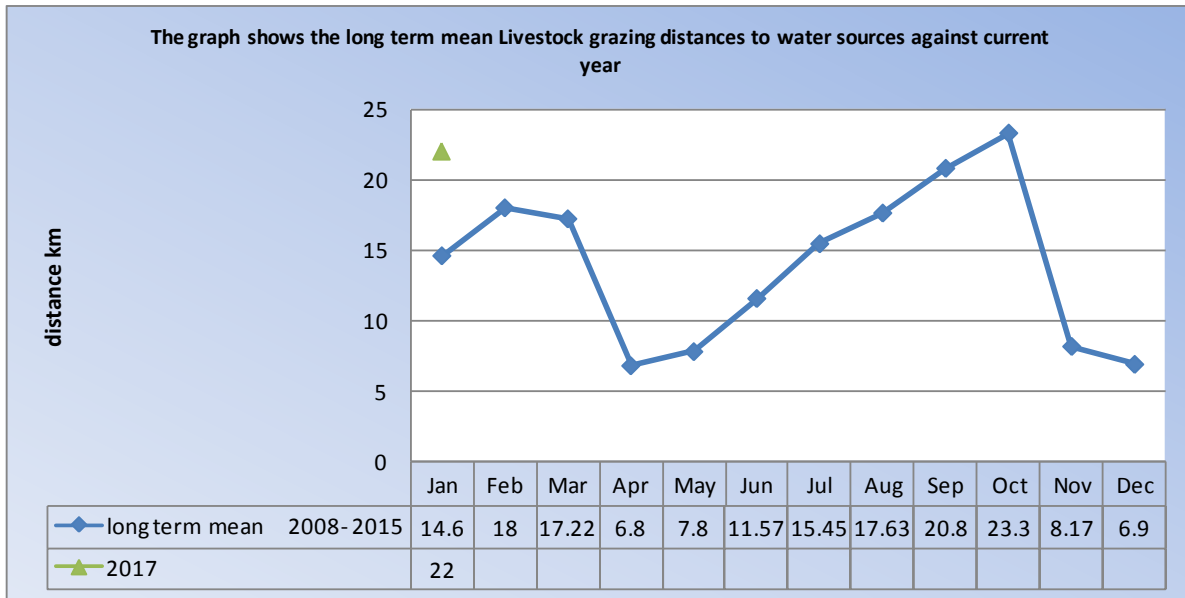
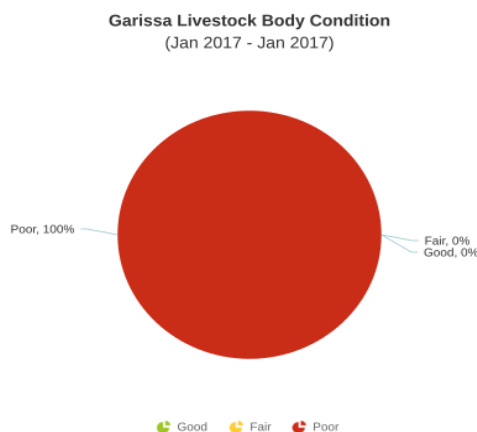


Figure 3: Trends of Livestock grazing distance to water sources for Garissa County, 2008 - 2017

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition



- 100% of the livestock population are in poor body condition, No livestock mortalities was reported across all the livelihood zones for all the species.
- The body condition is anticipated to continue improving but for a short period since the short rains season is over and its performance was poor.

3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

- No major outbreak of livestock diseases was reported though prevalent diseases like contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, helmithiasis and Trypanosomiasis was reported in all the livelihood zones.
- Vaccination against contagious bovine pleuropneumonia was ongoing

3.1.3 Milk Production

- Milk production recorded was at 10.80litres and shows decrease in trend
- The current production is below the long term average of 32.13 litres.
- The pastoral livelihood zone recorded the lowest average milk production of 3.9 litres per household while Agro-Pastoral livelihood had recorded the highest milk production at 11.4 litres
- The market price of 750ml bottles increased to Kshs100.

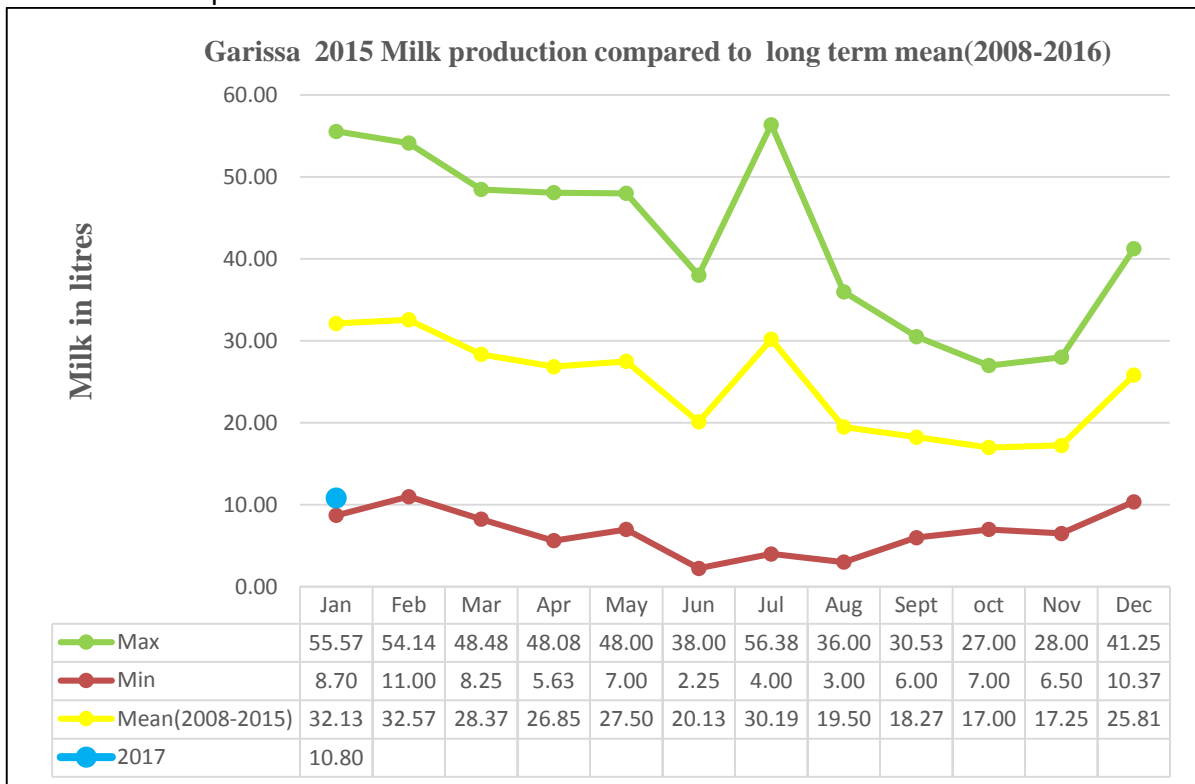


Figure 4: Trends of average milk production per households for Garissa County, 2008-2017

3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

3.2.1 Stage and Condition of food Crops

There were no crops planted in the month under review

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

4.1.1 Cattle Prices

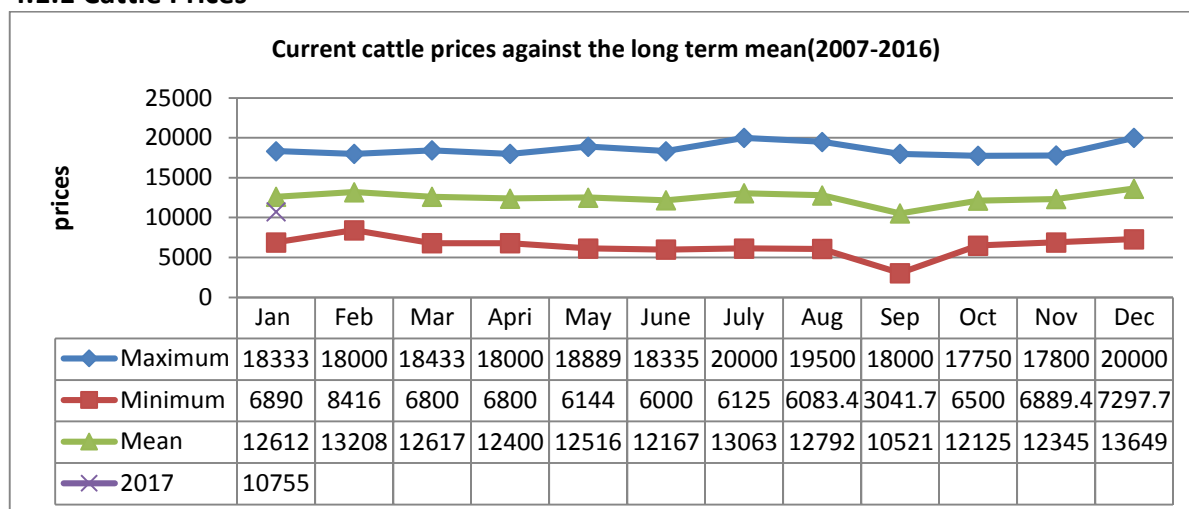


Figure 5: Trends of cattle prices for Garissa County, 2007-2017

- The average cattle price decreased from kshs13,750 to kshs10,755 in the month under review.
- The negative trend relates to the poor body condition and reduced market demand.
- The highest price was recorded in Agro-pastoral livelihood zone at ksh13,500 while pastoral all species has fetched the lowest price at ksh8700
- The current price is highly below the long term mean for the month of kshs12,612.

4.1.2 Small Ruminants Prices (Goats)

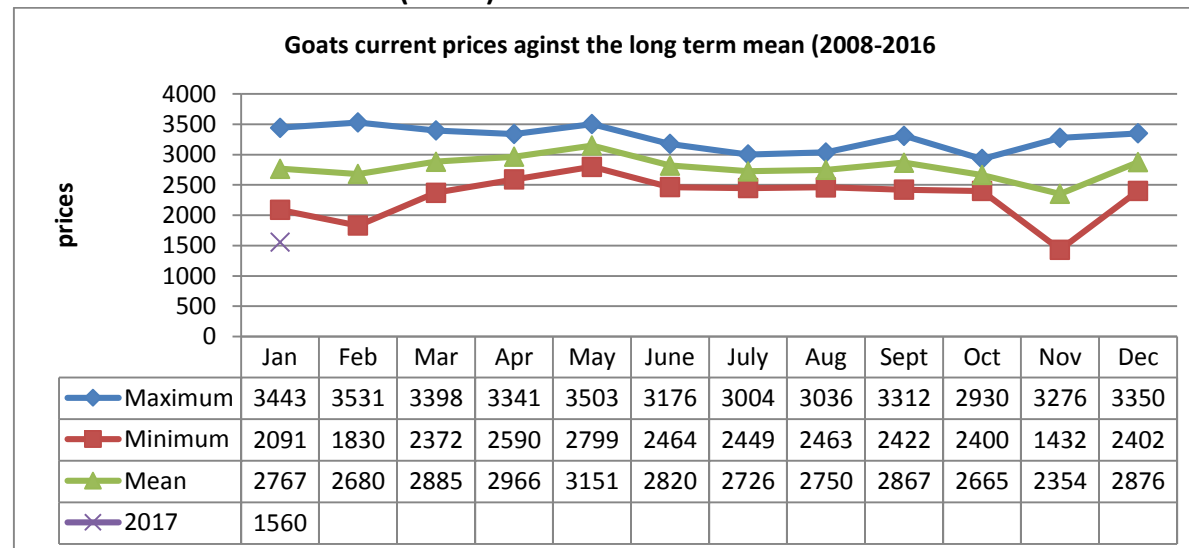


Figure 6: Trends of Goats prices for Garissa County, 2008-2016

- The average price of goats continues to decrease when compared with the previous month. The recorded price for the month was kshs1560
- The condition is attributed to poor body condition attained after the start of the drought season.
- The current average price is below the long term average recorded of kshs2767
- Agro-pastoral livelihood zone recorded the highest goat prices at Ksh2200 while pastoral all species livelihood recorded the lowest average price of Ksh1350

4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize

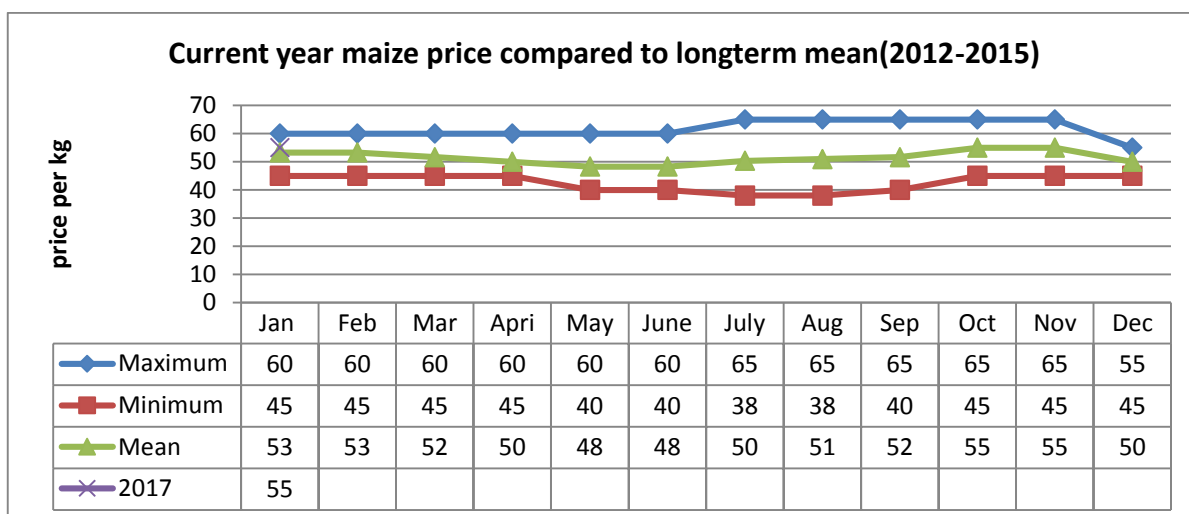


Figure 7: Trends of Maize prices for Garissa County, 2007-2017

- The average maize price for the month continued to remain stable; a kg was traded at kshs 55 per kg.
- The demand for cereals is high ,but other substitutes are available in the market at lower prices

4.2.2 Sifted Maize Meal

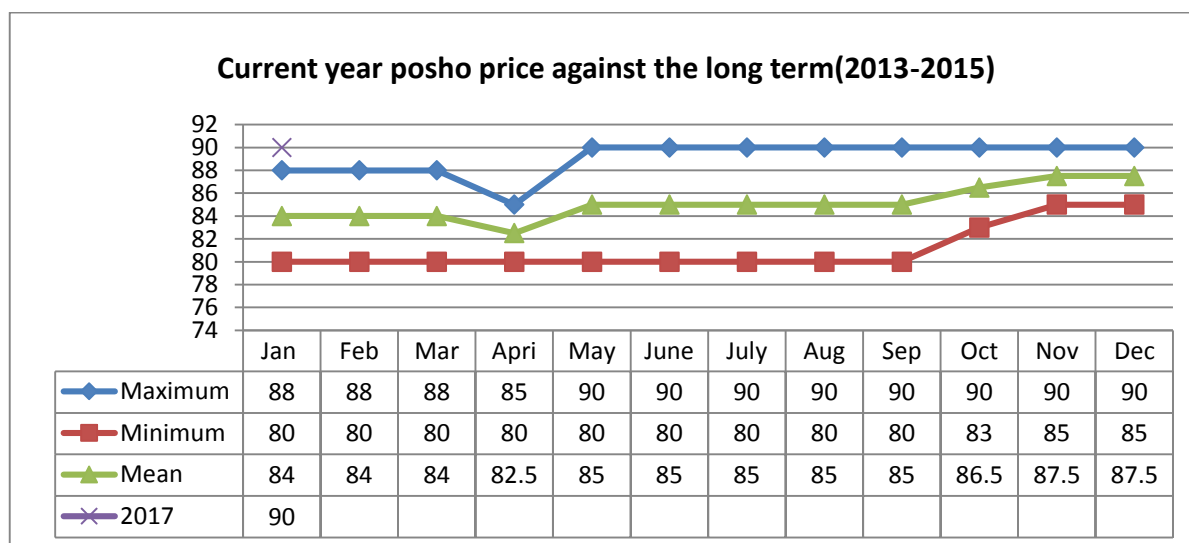


Figure 8: Trends of Sifted Maize Meal prices for Garissa County, 2013 -2017

- The current average price for sifted maize meal remained stable at ksh 90when compared with the previous month. The price is considered high and affects the pastoralist purchasing powers negatively.
- The average price recorded of ksh 90 was the same across the livelihoods zones.
- The current average price is slightly above the long term average recorded atksh84

4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade

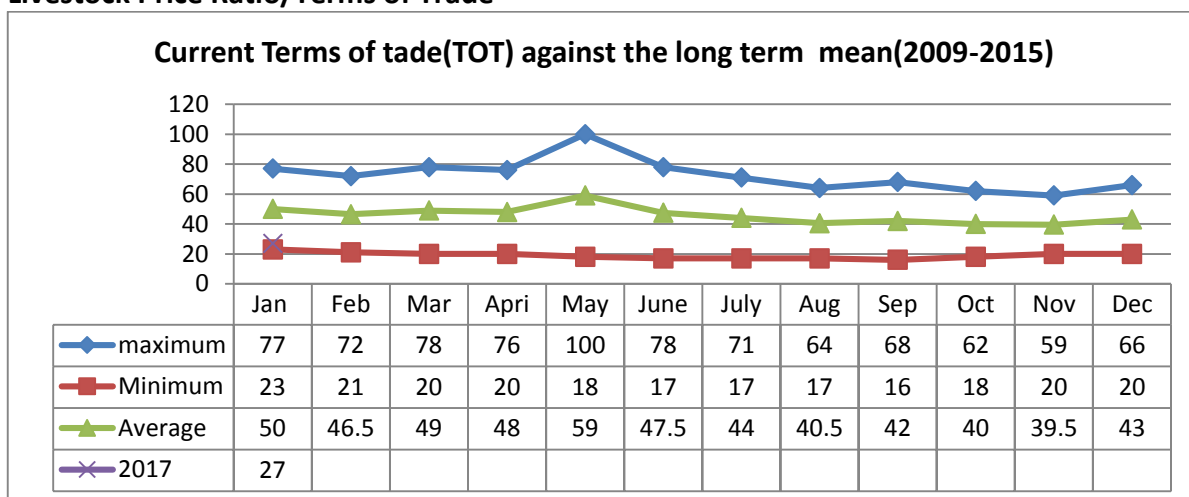


Figure 9: Trends of terms of trade for Garissa County, 2009-2017

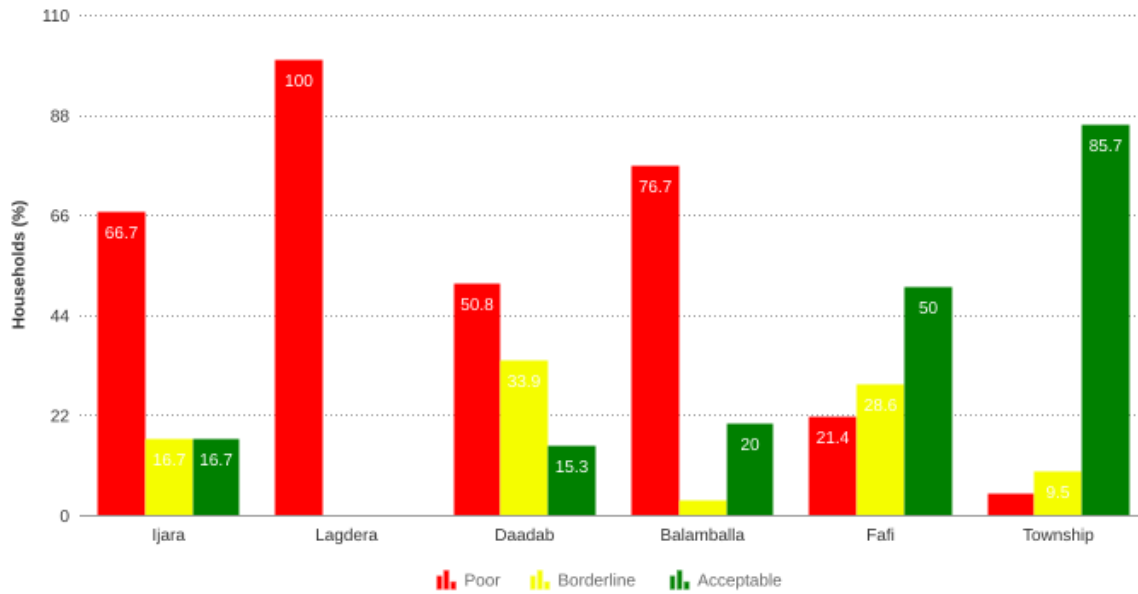
- The terms of trade recorded for the month was 27kg per sale of goat. The term of trade decreased as the goat’s price went down.
- The current terms of trade is below the long term average recorded at 50gs

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

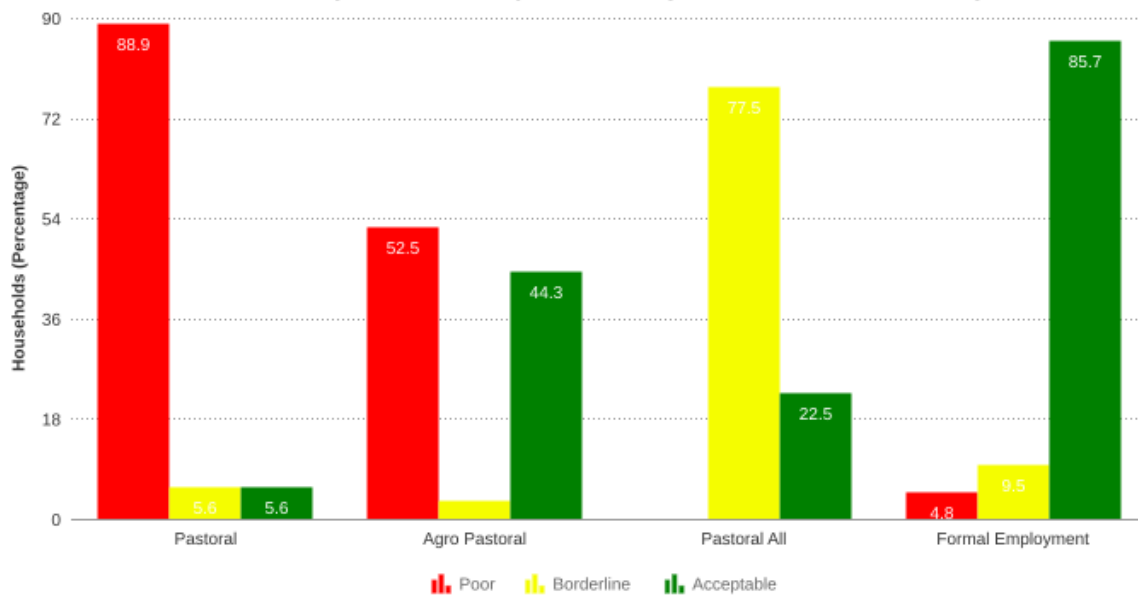
5.1 FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE

- The food consumption score for the month shows 53% of households are in poor food consumption category while 18.9% are in borderline while 28% of households are in acceptable level. Some household’s moved from borderline to poor levels when compared with the previous month.
- Lagdera Sub County has the highest household with poor food consumption score at 100 % and Ijara Sub County has 66%household with poor food consumption score.
- The Lagdera sub county food consumption score is related to water scarcity as household were not able to cook meals for even a whole day.
- The pastoral livelihood zones have highest number of household with poor food consumption score at 88.5 %. The formal employment livelihood zone have 4.8% of households in the poor category.
- The charts below shows the comparison of the food consumption score based on livelihood zones and by sub counties

Garissa County Food Consumption Score by Sub Counties - January 2017



Garissa County Food Consumption Score by Livelihoodzones - January 2017



5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

- The average milk consumption per household for the month under review slightly decreased when compared with the previous month.
- The current amount recorded was 3.4litres.
- The current milk consumption per household is highly below the long term average recorded at 27.82 litres during same period of the year.

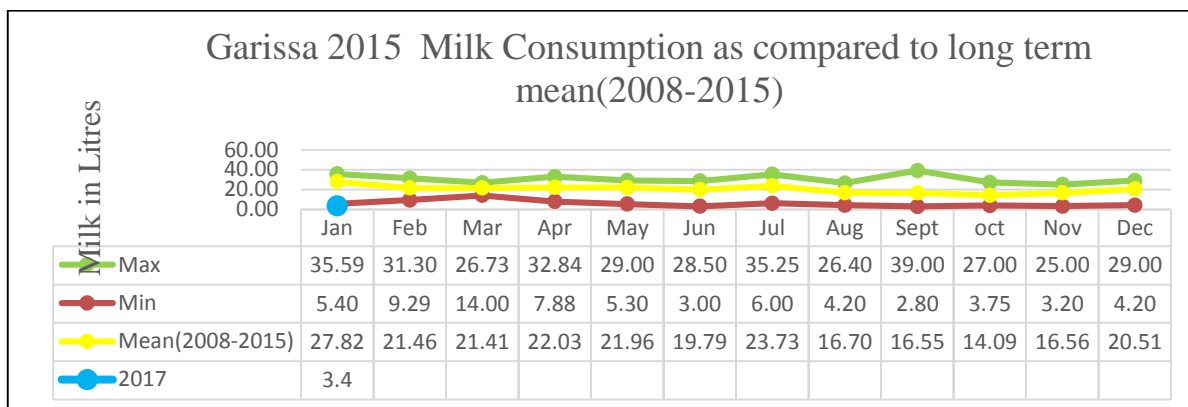


Figure 10: Trends of Milk consumption for Garissa County, 2008-2016

5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.3.1 Nutrition Status

- The at risk to malnutrition for children under five increased from 21.0% to 21.7%
- The mid at risk levels increased from 12.95% to 19.58%, the moderately malnourished increased from 0.9% to 1.52% and the severely malnourished category increased to 0.57%
- The current average malnutrition level was above the long term average recorded at 13.2% during the same period of the reference year (2007-2015).

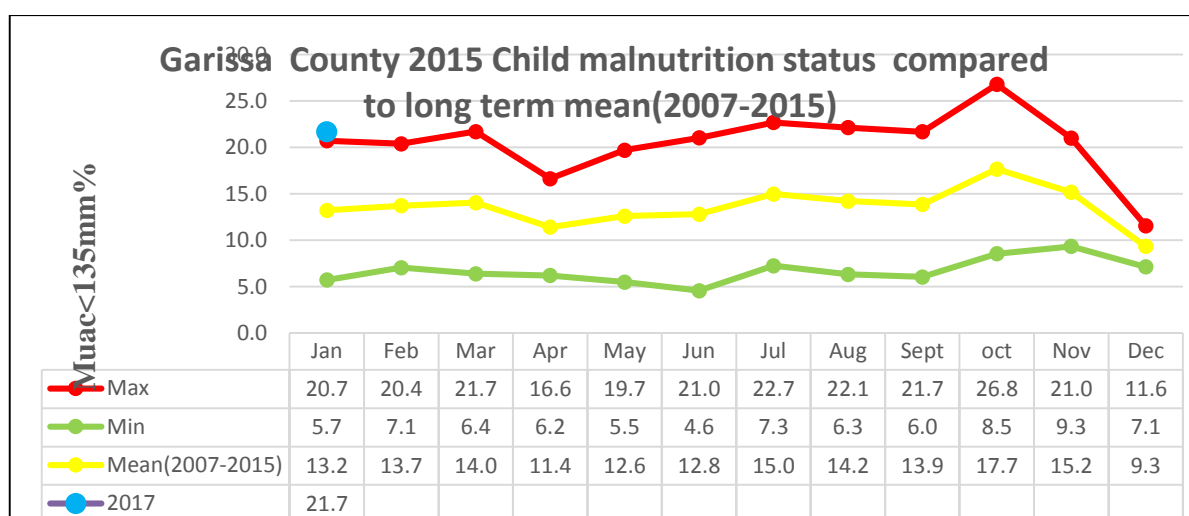


Figure 11: Trends in the proportion of U5 at risk of malnutrition in Garissa County, 2007 – 2016

5.3.2 Health

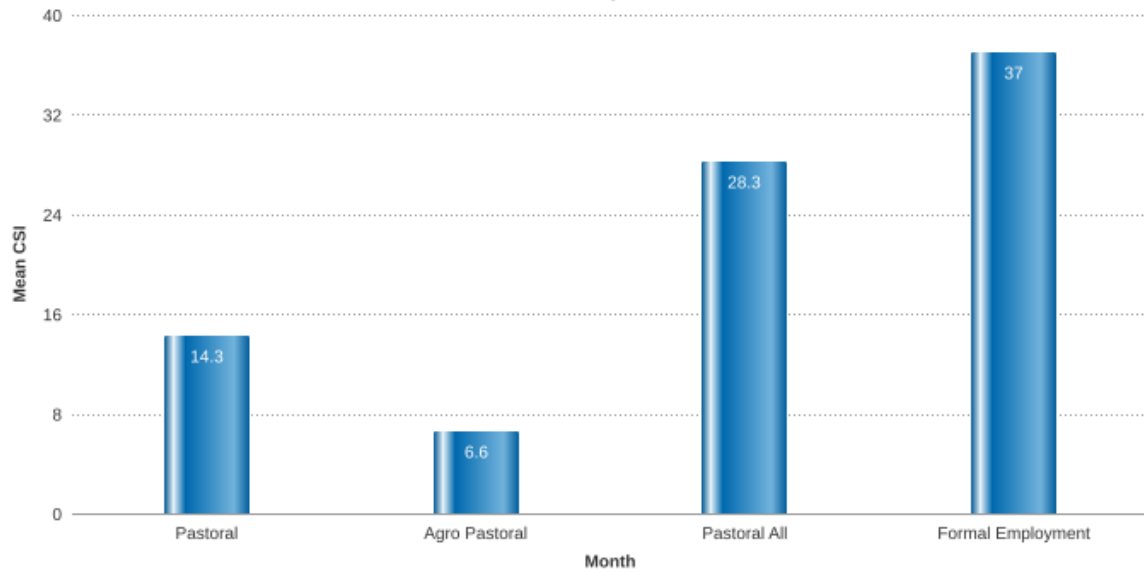
- There were no disease outbreaks reported, however there is increase in morbidity for respiratory tract infection, diarrhoea, pneumonia and disease of the skin.
- The diseases were reported across all the livelihood zones.

5.4 COPING STRATEGIES INDEX

- The average coping strategies index for the county was 19.5.
- The formal employment livelihood zone has the highest index at 37 while the agro-pastoral has the lowest at 6.6.
- The graphs below shows the mean coping strategy based on the livelihood zones.

Garissa County - Coping Strategy Index

January 2017



The coping strategies adopted by the pastoralist included;

- Internal migrations within the county
- Borrowing of credit from petty traders
- Charcoal burning and sale of wood product in the agro pastoral and formal employment livelihood zone

6. CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)

6.1 NON-FOOD INTERVENTIONS

- Provision of livestock feed supplements (livestock and NDMA).
- Livestock off take (KMC, Livestock , NDMA)
- Destocking in Ijara (Red cross)
- Desilting and construction of new water pans
- Drilling and equipping boreholes
- Water trucking
- Micronutrient supplementation
- Management of acute malnutrition (IMAM)
- Infant and youth child nutrition interventions
- Health Outreach Services
- CDF bursaries to secondary school students
- Provision of stationery kits to all ECD schools & Food for fees programme rollout in selected secondary schools
- Procurement of pump sets and assorted horticulture crop seeds for Riverine farmers
- Promotion of cow peas and sorghum for food security (promotion, provision of inputs)
- Opening of farm access roads

6.2 FOOD AID

- Food for asset food distribution to the beneficiaries through work norm verification.

- GOK food distribution by the respective deputy county commissioners.
- Supplementary feeding programme for the management of malnutrition in the health facilities

7. EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement

There were no reported cases of conflict over resource utilization and human displacement in the month under review

7.2 Migration

There was livestock out migration reported in the sub counties of Dadaab and Fafi to Somalia. And the sub counties of Lagdera and Balambala reported livestock migration to Isiolo County while Ijara livestock moved to Tana delta.

7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- The drought stage is Alarm and the trend is worsening though anticipated to be short lived as the short rains season was poor.
- Between February and March, household food consumption is expected to seasonally decline as household incomes reduce due to declining livestock prices and limited on-farm wage labor opportunities due to reduced crop production
- Further deterioration of livestock body condition in most parts of the Pastoral Zone through March resulting in reduction in milk production availability and consumption increasing risk of child malnutrition
- Increased reliance on coping strategies like petty trade and charcoal burning to supplement income and support purchases.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Up-scaling of livestock off-take, destocking and provision of livestock feeds
- Expansion of pasture and fodder production initiatives
- Livestock insurance Index
- Fodder production along the Riverine
- Repair of existing water supplies
- Provision of water treatment chemicals
- Continue with the mass treatment and outreach programme for children under five, pregnant and lactating mothers.
- Support food for fees programme by the time schools will be reopening as it will help retain student when the new term begins.