

1. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

- The long rains season onset was two dekad earlier than normal in the southern parts of the county and normal on the 3rd dekad of the month in the northern of the county.
- The spatial and temporal distribution was poor
- The temperatures remained relatively high during the month

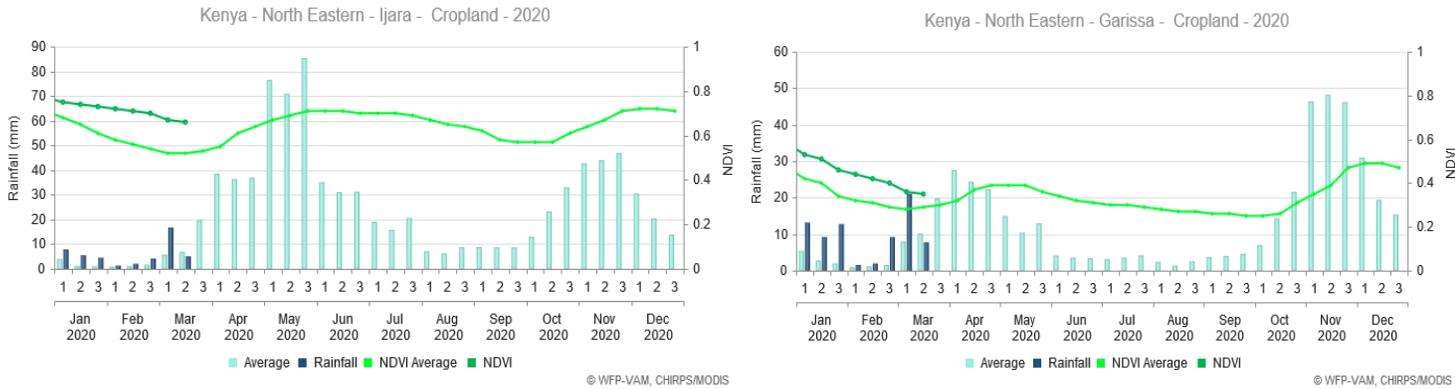


Figure.1a&b. Garissa rainfall and rainfall anomaly

2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

- The average 3-month VCI for the county slightly reduced from 77.88 to 77.84 but is within the above normal vegetation greenness condition.
- All the sub counties are in above normal vegetation greenness, the southern sub counties of Ijara and Fafi recorded increasing trend.
- The VCI is expected to improve further with the onset of the long rains season.

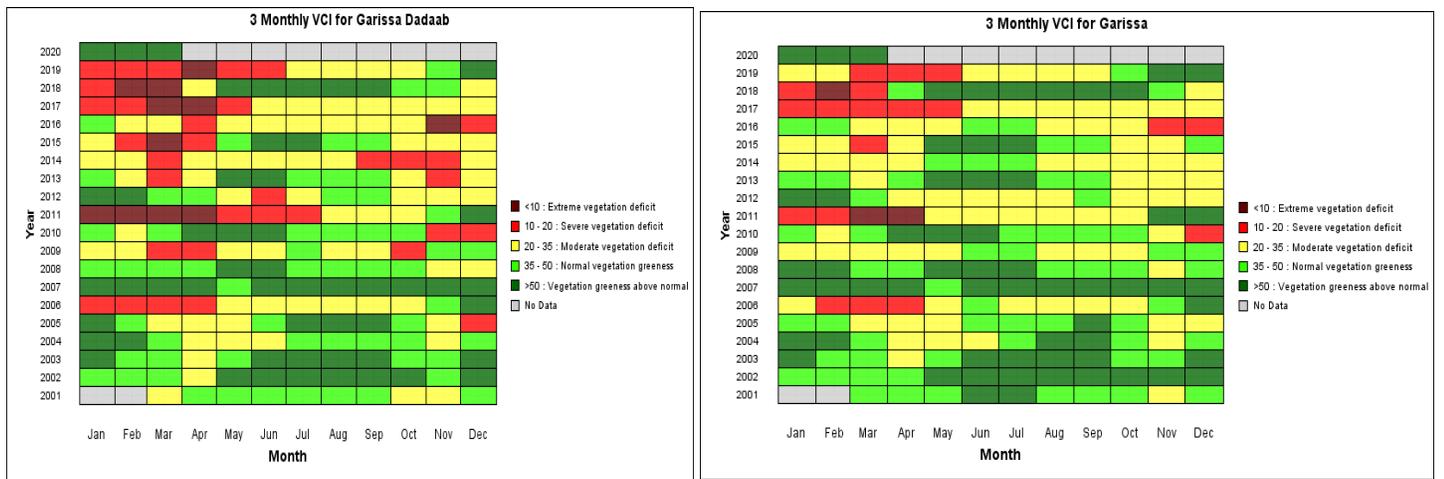


Figure 2 and 3: Garissa 3-month VCI matrix and Dadaab sub county 3-month VCI

- The average vegetation condition index for March is shown in the table below:

Sub-county	3Month
Garissa township	59.29
Garissa Balambala	70.78
Garissa Dadaab	61.14
Garissa Fafi	83.23
Garissa Ijara	93.71
Garissa Lagdera	70.24
Garissa county average	77.84

2.1.2 Pasture condition

- 91.7 0% of households sampled reported good pasture condition while 8.3% reported fair pasture condition
- Pasture quality and quantity slightly reduced as compared to February.
- The deteriorating trend was attributed to continued grazing and high temperatures realised during the month.
- The trend was observed across all the livelihoods zones
- The fig. 4 illustrates the pasture condition in the county:

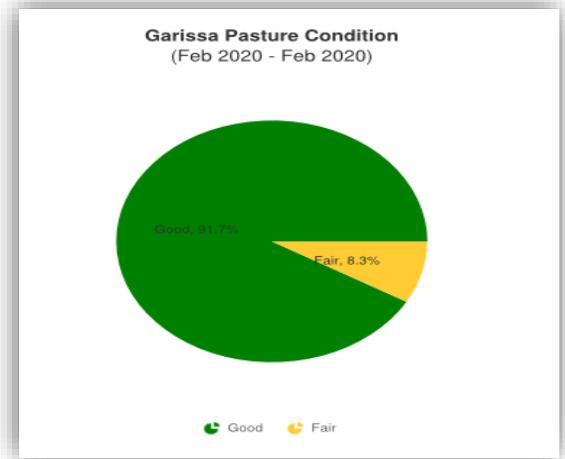


Figure 4. Pasture condition

2.1.3 Browse

- 96.3% of sampled households reported good browse condition across all livelihood zones
- The quality and quantity of browse slightly reduced across all livelihood zones.
- The browse condition is expected to improve with the onset of long rains season.
- The browse is expected to last for two months if the long rains season performance will be below normal.
- The pie-chart below summarises the current browse condition in the county:

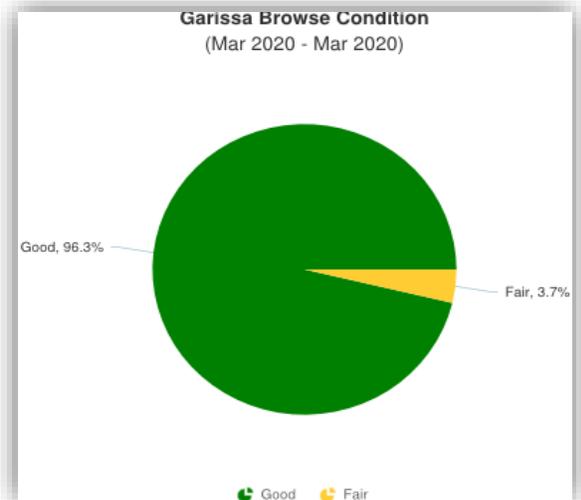


Figure 5. Browse condition

2.2 WATER RESOURCE

2.2.1 Sources

- The current main water sources in the county are pans/dams, boreholes, river, shallow wells and natural ponds
- boreholes, water pans are the highest in use currently.
- There was improved water sources due to the onset of long rains season
- The graph below provides an illustration of the various water sources:

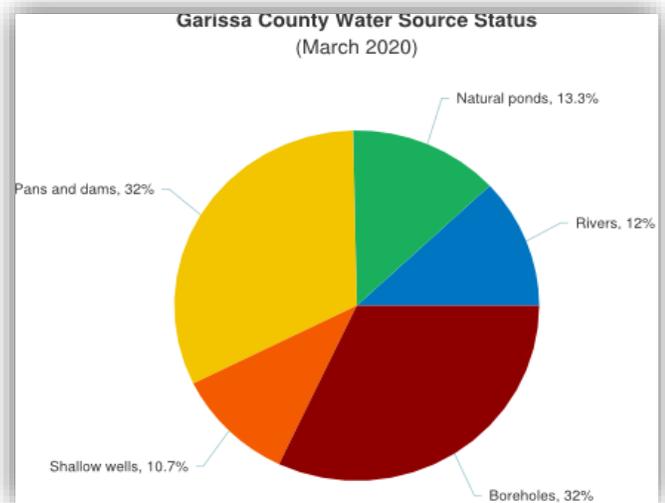


Figure 6. water sources

2.2.2 Household access and Utilization

- The average households’ return distances to water sources was 3.9km.
- When compared to the previous month the distance increased by 2.6%
- the current household trekking distance was below the same period of a good year and the long term average for month by 60 and 59 percent respectively.
- The positive trend was attributed to the good performance of the short rains, the off season rain received and timely onset of the long rains season which improved recharge of pans/dams and natural ponds mainly on the southern parts of the county.

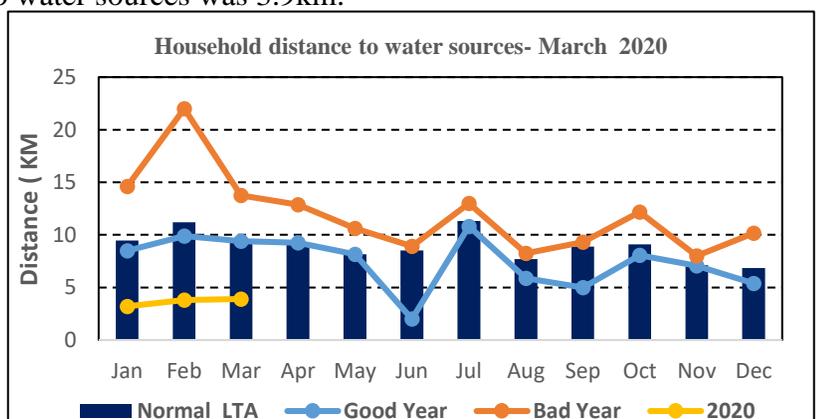


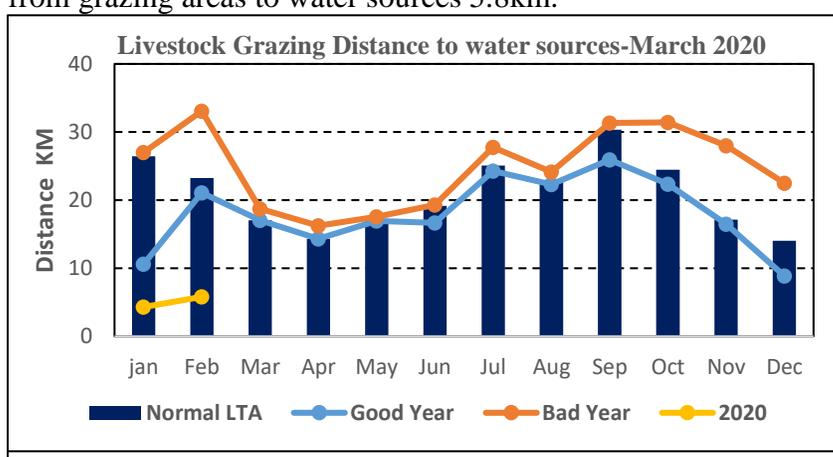
Figure 7 Households’ return distance to water sources

- The trekking distance is expected to reduce further with the ongoing long rains season.
- Shown in fig.7 is the trend in return distance for households to water sources

2.2.3 Livestock access

- The average return trekking distance from grazing areas to water sources 5.8km.

- When compared with the previous month the distance remained stable
- The current distance was below the long-term average for month and the same period of a good year by 65.9 and 66 percent respectively.
- The positive trend was attributed to increased recharge of water pans and natural ponds in the rangelands
- The watering interval for all species was on daily basis and increased frequency on need based
- The livestock return distance is expected to improve further with ongoing long rains assessment.
- The trend in the county grazing distances is shown fig.8.



3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- 66.7% of sampled communities reported fair livestock body condition with a score of 2 while 33.3% reported good body condition with a score of 1
- When compared with the preceding month livestock body condition slightly reduced due to pasture and browse condition.
- The body condition is expected to improve with the expected improve in pasture and browse resulting from the ongoing long rains season.
- The Fig.9 shows the month livestock body condition

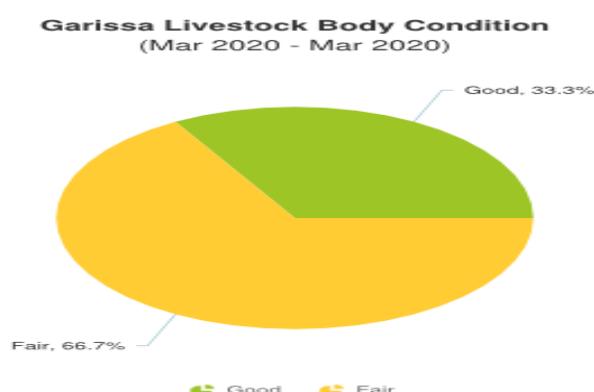


Figure9.Livestock body condition

The table below shows the classification of body condition for livestock

Level	Classification	Characteristics (this describes majority of the herd and not individual isolated Stock)
1	Normal	Very Fat Tail buried and in fat
		Fat, Blocky. Bone over back not visible
		Very Good Smooth with fat over back and tail head
		Good smooth appearance
2	Moderate	Moderate. neither fat nor thin
3	Stressed	Borderline fore-ribs not visible. 12th & 13th ribs visible
4	Critical	Thin fore ribs visible
5	Emaciated	Very thin no fat, bones visible
		Emaciated, little muscle left

3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

- Outbreak of lumpy skin disease in cattle continues being reported across all the livelihoods
- Fatal cases of contagious caprine pleuropneumonia were reported across all livelihood zones.
- Other disease reported were PPR, sheep and goat pox and helminthiasis.

3.1.3 Milk Production

- The average household milk production was 31litres
- When compared to February the milk production decreased by 6.1%
- However, the milk production level was 48.9% above the long-term average and same period of a bad year and good year by 21.9 and 51.7 percent.
- A litre of milk was sold ksh 60 at the market
- The agro pastoral livelihood zone recorded the highest production
- Figure 10. Indicate the trend in milk production.

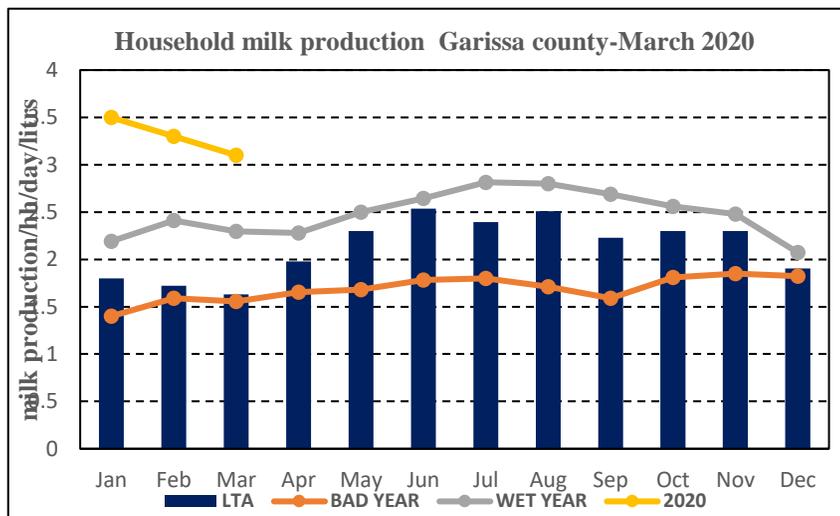


Fig.10: trend in milk production

3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

3.2.1 Stage and Condition of food Crops

- Maize planted on flood reseeding areas are currently in tasselling stage

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

4.1.1 Cattle Prices

- The average price of a four-year old bull was ksh.16,592
- When compared with the previous month cattle price reduced by 27.2%
- The current price was above the short term mean and the same period of a wet year by 24.8 and 17.3 percent respectively.
- The trend was attributed to reducing cattle body condition and diseases affecting which had negative impact on markets.
- The pastoral livelihood zone recorded the highest price of ksh. 21,000 while pastoral all species and sheep recorded the lowest price
- The price is expected to improve with the expected improved body condition
- Figure 11 shows the trend in cattle prices

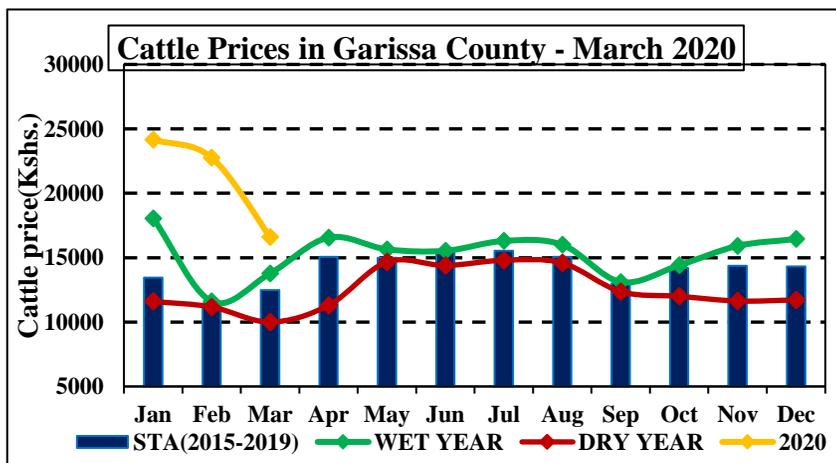


Figure11.Trend of cattle prices

4.1.2 Small Ruminants Prices (Goats)

- The average price of 2-year old medium size goat ksh.4,166 for March
- When compared to the previous month the goat prices reduced by 3.1%
- The current goat price was above the short term price for the month and the same period of a good year by 45.2 and 31 percent respectively.
- The goats price trend was attributed to increased supply to the market and relatively reduced demand.
- The price is expected to increase with ongoing long rains season which is expected to improve goats body condition.
- Figure 12. Summarizes the trend in goats' prices

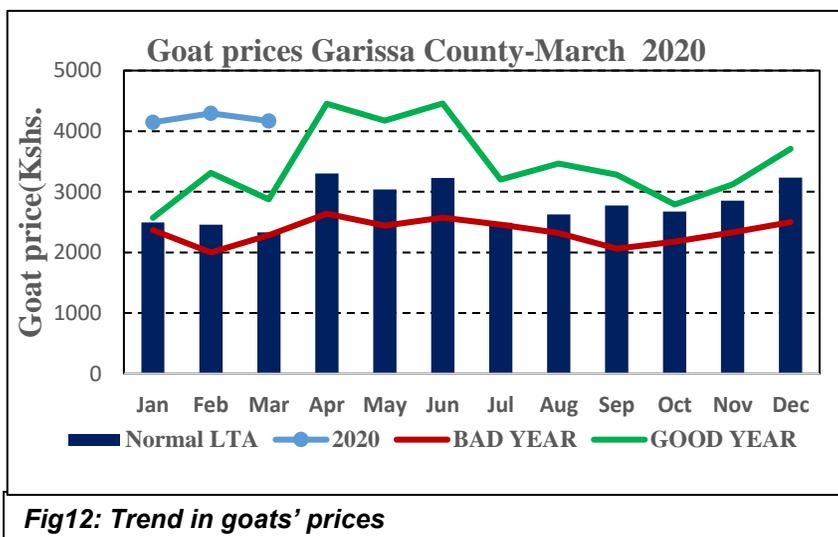


Fig12: Trend in goats' prices

4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize

- The average market price of a kilogram of maize was ksh.68 per kg.
- The price when compared with the same period of a good and bad years was above by 30% and 24% respectively.
- The current average maize price is above the short term by 24%
- The trend was due to shortage of the commodity in the local markets.
- The trend in maize prices in the county is displayed in the figure13.

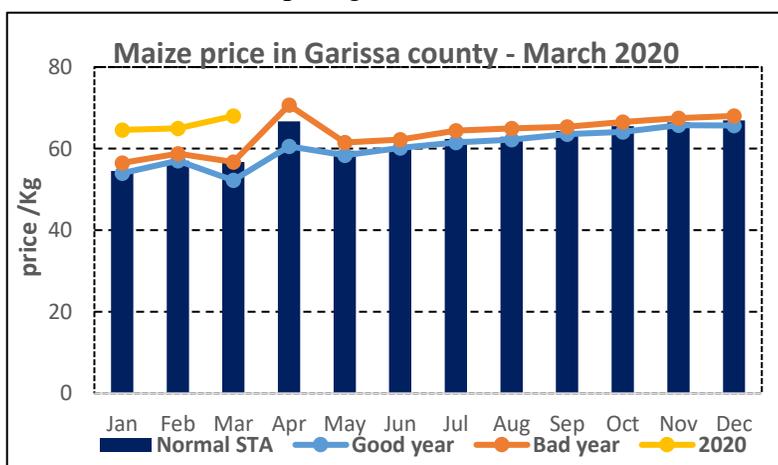


Fig 13: Trends of Maize grain prices

4.2.2 Sifted Maize Meal

- The average price of sifted maize flour was Kshs100 per kg.
- When compared with the same period of 2019 and 2018 the price remained the same.
- The current price was higher than the short term average for the month by 19%
- The price trend was stable which was attributed availability of the commodity in local markets.
- Figure 14. shows trend of sifted maize meal

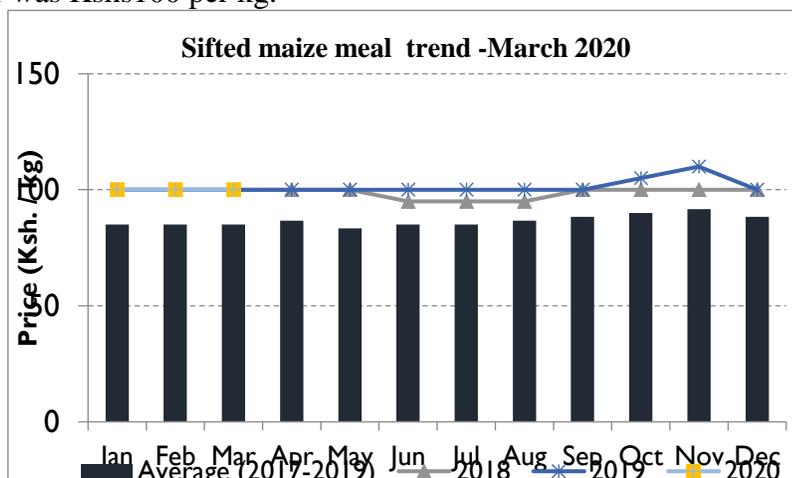


Fig 14: Trends of sifted maize meal prices

4.2.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade

- The terms of trade was 61.30 kg of maize per goat sold.

- When compared with the previous month the terms of trade reduced by 5%.
- The current term of trade when compared with the same month of a good and bad year was above by 10.3% and 57% respectively.
- The favourable terms of trade were attributed to good goats' prices and stable maize prices.
- The current terms of trade were above the long term average by 63%

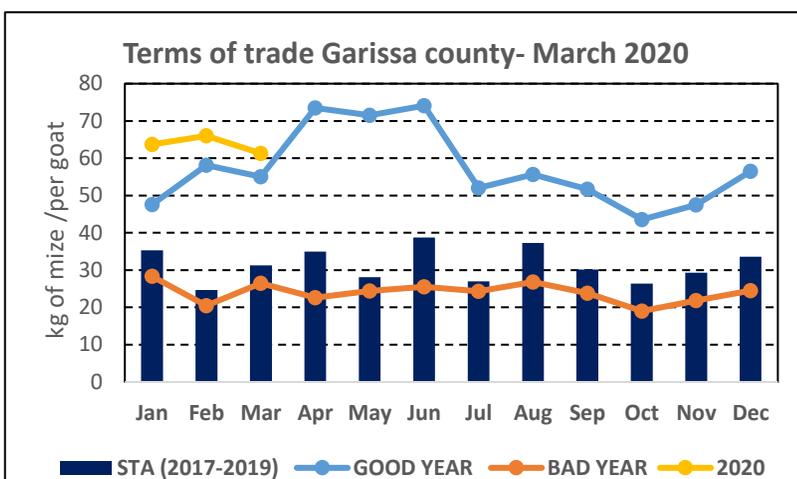


Fig 15: Trends of terms of trade

5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION SCORE

- The average household milk consumption for the month under review was 2.6litres
- Milk consumption decreased by 13.4% when compared with the previous month
- when compared with long term mean and the same of a good year current household milk consumption was above by 53.9 and 35.8 percent respectively.
- The rise in milk consumption is attributed to increased milk production as a result of increased calving and kidding.
- When compared with the same period of a good and bad year the consumption per litre was above by 50% and 63% respectively.
- Milk consumption was high in the agro pastoral livelihood zone.
- The trend in milk consumption is indicated in figure 16.

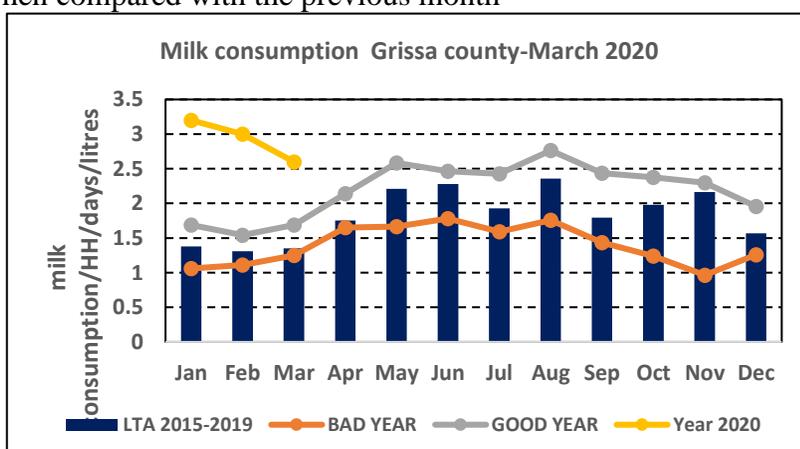


Fig 16: Trends of milk consumption 2016 -2018

5.2 FOOD CONSUMPTION SCORE

- The proportion of households with poor food consumption score was at 1.9%
- When compared with the previous month the proportion slightly increased.
- Households are using few food groups
- The proportion of households in the borderline and acceptable categories was 18.1% and 80% respectively.
- Pastoral all livelihood zones recorded households with poor and borderline food consumption category.
- The food consumption score per livelihood zone and sub-county is shown in the graphs below

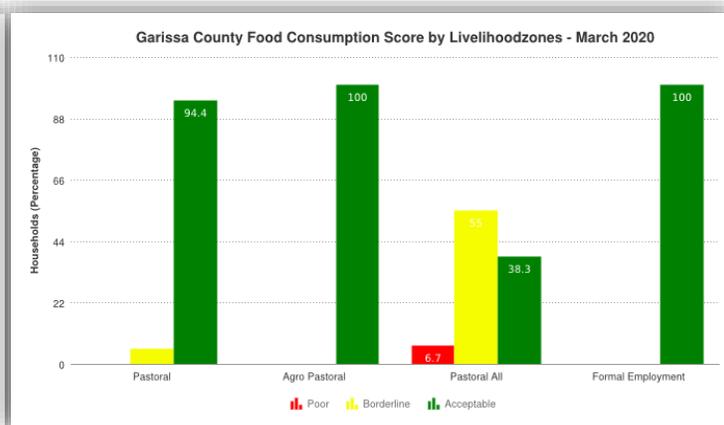
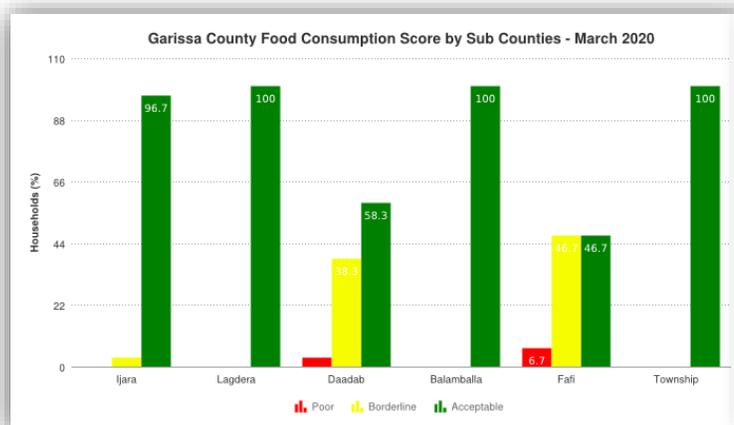


Fig 17&18: food consumption score by sub counties and livelihoods zones

5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION

5.3.1 Nutrition Status

- In the month of march, the proportion of children below five years of age at risk of malnutrition based on the MUAC measurement was 9.60%
- When compared with previous month the malnutrition of children at risk level increased by 12.1%.
- The trend was attributed to increased prevalence of child related illness
- The current at risk rates when compared with long term mean and the same month of a good and bad year was below by 33.4%,26.8% and 37.3% respectively.

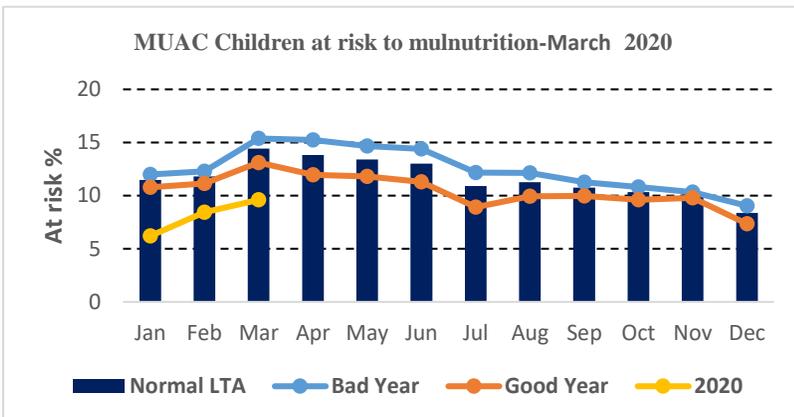


Figure.19 MUAC at risk trend

5.3.2 Health

- There was no outbreak of disease reported during the month.
- Increased cases of upper respiratory tract infection, diarrhoea and urinary tract infections was reported.

5.4 COPING STRATEGIES INDEX

- The mean coping strategy index (CSI) for the month was 7.25
- When compared with the previous month the coping strategy index reduced by 37.5%
- The pastoral livelihood zone recorded the highest of 10.3
- The coping strategies employed mostly by households in the month under review was borrowing/purchasing on credit and
- Figure.20: shows coping strategy different livelihood zones.

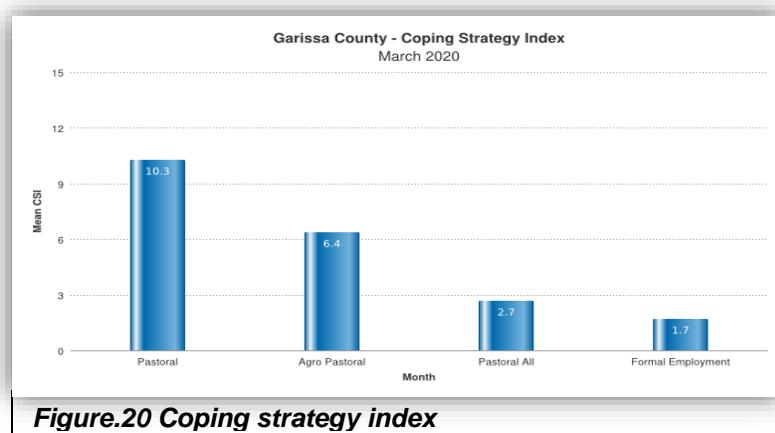


Figure.20 Coping strategy index

6. CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)

6.1 NON-FOOD INTERVENTION

Table 1 Non-food interventions

Activity	Beneficiaries	Implementers
Integrated health and nutrition outreach services	5sites .	County government, savethe children and Tdh.
Drilling of two new boreholes		County Government
Livestock vaccination ,treatments and deworming		County government
Provision certified seeds to farmers	10farms	County government Agriculture

6.2 FOOD AID

- GOK food aid distribution to vulnerable households in the county.
- Provision of supplementary feeding programme for the management of malnutrition in the health facilities targeting 1020 children.

7. EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement

No conflict related incidences was reported during the month. Insecurity along cross border areas exist.

7.2 Migration

No migration was reported during the month

7.3 locust invasion

The county experienced locust invasion menace. In earlier period, currently the hoppers are currently destroying crops and rangelands, most affected are Baraki, Kamuthe, Nanigi, Sankuri and saka locations. Control measures is on going

7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- The ongoing long rains season is expected to improve the water situation in the county for both livestock and crop production. Major water pans/dams and season laggas are expected to recharged with good volumes of water.
- The forage condition is expected to improve and last for 3month with the availability of moisture for regrowth this in turn expected to improve livestock body condition.
- No migration is expected during the next month but in the likelihood of performance of long rains season, migration is expected to occur.
- The food security situation is expected to either improve or remained with expected performance of the long rains season

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

Table 2. Recommended interventions

Sector	Sub County	Recommended Intervention
Livestock	Lagdera /Balambala/Dadaab /Fafi	Undertake livestock vaccinations and treatments
	Lagdera/Balambala/Dadaab/Fafi/Ijara	Support pest and disease control
	Lagdera/Balambala/Dadaab/Fafi/Ijara	Support traders with market subsidies
	Lagdera/Balambala/Dadaab/Fafi/Ijara	Support locust control
Agriculture	Township/Balambala /Fafi /Ijara	Open up access roads to farms along river tana
	Balambala /Fafi/Dadaab/Lagdera	Provide farms equipment's and support solarization of pump sets
	Lagdera/Balambala/Dadaab/Fafi/Ijara	Support rain fed farmers with seeds and equipment's
Health	Ijara//Lagdera/Hulugho/Township	Provide water treatment chemicals
	Dadaab/Lagdera/Balambala/Ijara /Hulugho	Upscale Integrated disease surveillance and outreach services
	Township/Balambala/Fafi/Ijara Dadaab/Lagdera	Increase preparedness and sensitization for the COVID-19 pandemic
Water	Lagdera /Balambala/Dadaab /Fafi	Support rainwater harvesting in public facilities and individual homes
	Ijara//Lagdera/Hulugho/Township/Da daab	Train water users association on water resource management
Security	Dadaab/Ijara/Township/Hulugho/Fafi	Conduct counter extremism/violence sensitization
Education	Balambala/Lagdera/Dadaab/Fafi/Ijara	Provide bursaries for orphans and vulnerable students.
Coordination	All sub-counties	Increase frequency of sub county steering group and county technical working groups meetings.
	Ijara /township/Balambala/Lagdera	Prepare for flood assessment and reporting