



National Drought Management Authority
KWALE COUNTY
DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN JUNE 2021

JUNE 2021 EW FLAG

Drought Status: NORMAL



Shughull za kawaida

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

- The first two dekads of the month received below normal rainfall.
- The vegetation condition index (VCI) for June was normal for the month although Lunga Lunga Sub-county was classified in the moderate drought category.
- The state of water sources was normal for June.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

Production indicators

- Weeding was on-going for the long rains season crop.
- Crop condition was fair currently when normally it would be good.
- Milk production was below average for the month.
- No cases of migration or drought-related livestock deaths were recorded during the month.

Access indicators

- Terms of trade (casual labour to maize) were within seasonal ranges implying normal household purchasing power.
- Household milk consumption was normal for the month of June.
- Distances to water sources for domestic consumption were above normal.

Utilization Indicators

- The proportion of children at risk of malnutrition was approximated at 1.1 percent for children aged 0-5 years.

Early Warning (EW) Phase Classification

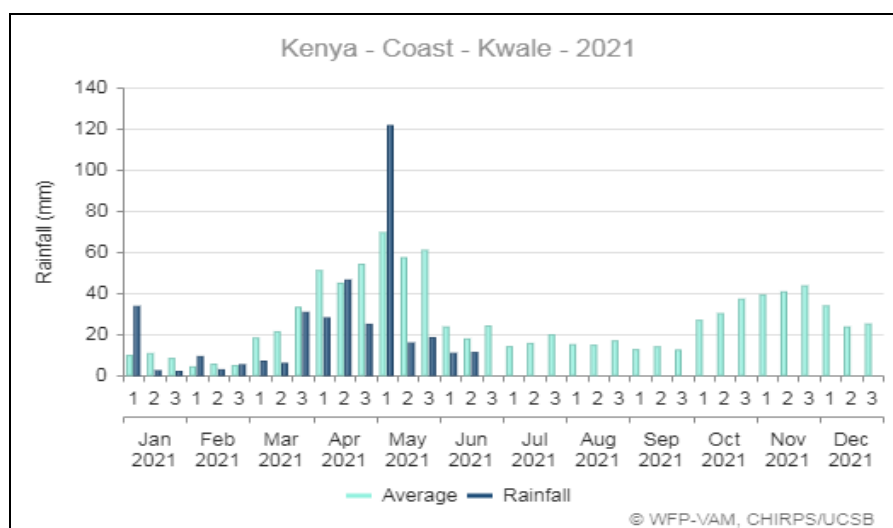
Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Mixed Farming	Normal	Deteriorating
Livestock Farming	Normal	Deteriorating
County	Normal	Deteriorating
Biophysical Indicators	Value	Normal Range/Value
VCI	38.57	>35
State of Water Sources	5	5
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Crop condition (maize and legumes)	Fair	Good
Milk Production (Litres)	2.6	3.5
Livestock Migration Pattern	No migration	No migration
Livestock deaths (from drought)	Zero deaths	Zero deaths
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of trade	70.1	73
Milk Consumption (litres)	1.8	1.4
Return distance to water sources for households (km)	3.2	1.8
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	1.1	-

Seasonal Calendar

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short rains harvests ▪ Short dry spell ▪ Reduced milk yields ▪ Increased household food stocks ▪ Land preparation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planting/weeding ▪ Long rains ▪ High calving rate ▪ Milk yields increase 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Long rains harvests ▪ A long dry spell ▪ Land preparation ▪ Increased household food stocks ▪ Kidding (Sept) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short rains ▪ Planting/weeding 								
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

- Both the first and second dekads of the month received below normal rainfall as shown in the graph below.
- The first dekad received 10.576mm compared with 23.416mm recorded in the long-term average (LTA).
- The second dekad received 10.937mm compared with 17.621mm in the LTA.
- The rainfall amounts recorded were unevenly distributed in space but fairly distributed temporally.



2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

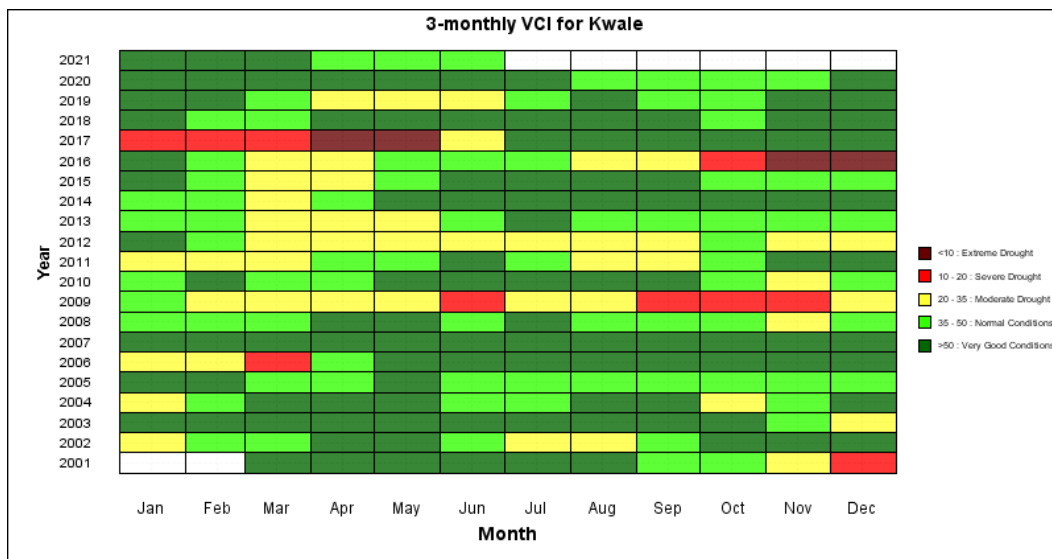
2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION

2.1.1 3-monthly Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

- The vegetation greenness in the county deteriorated slightly by a 9.4 percent margin from 42.55 in May to 38.57 in June as shown in the graph below.
- However, despite the deterioration, the situation was normal for this time of the year.
- The deterioration in vegetation condition was mirrored at sub-county level where the index had decreased in all sub-counties as shown in the table below.
- In addition, the situation was normal in all sub-counties except in Kinango Sub-county which was classified in the moderate drought category.

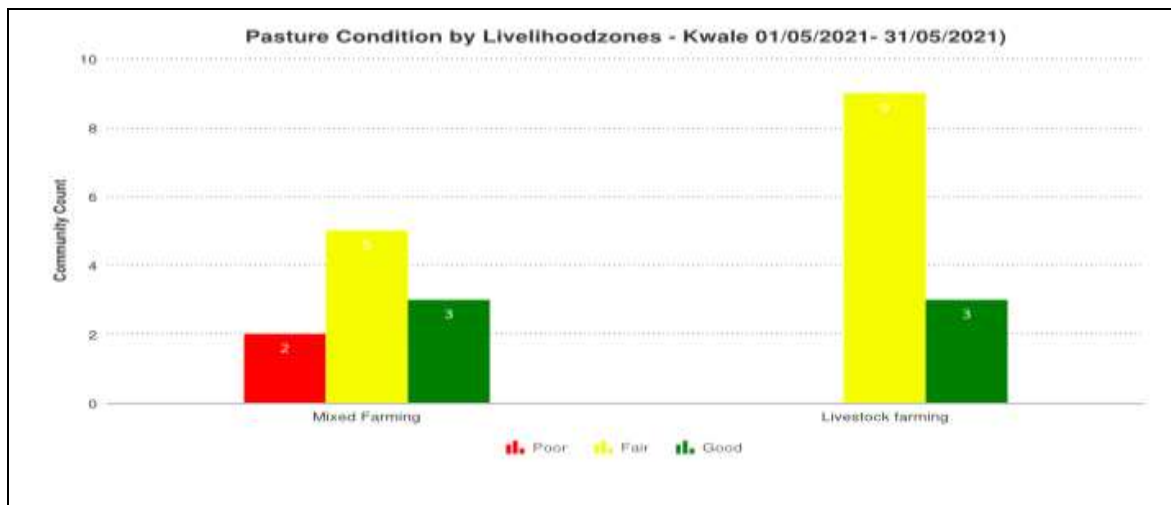
Area	October 2020	Nov 2020	Dec 2020	Jan 2021	Feb 2021	Mar 2021	April 2021	May 2021	June 2021
Kinango Sub-county	38.51	33.84	55.02	61.91	55.81	45.9	36.67	37.17	34.22
Lunga Lunga Sub-County	28.4	30.71	60.06	68.29	61.71	54.78	36.67	53.4	48.88
Matuga Sub-county	48.91	50.75	61.46	67.06	67.2	64.76	53.92	43.63	36.06
Msambweni Sub-county	47.75	47.7	57.19	67.06	66.07	64.34	55.43	51.81	47.42
Kwale County	37.88	35.92	57.14	64.28	59.16	51.29	43.08	42.55	38.57

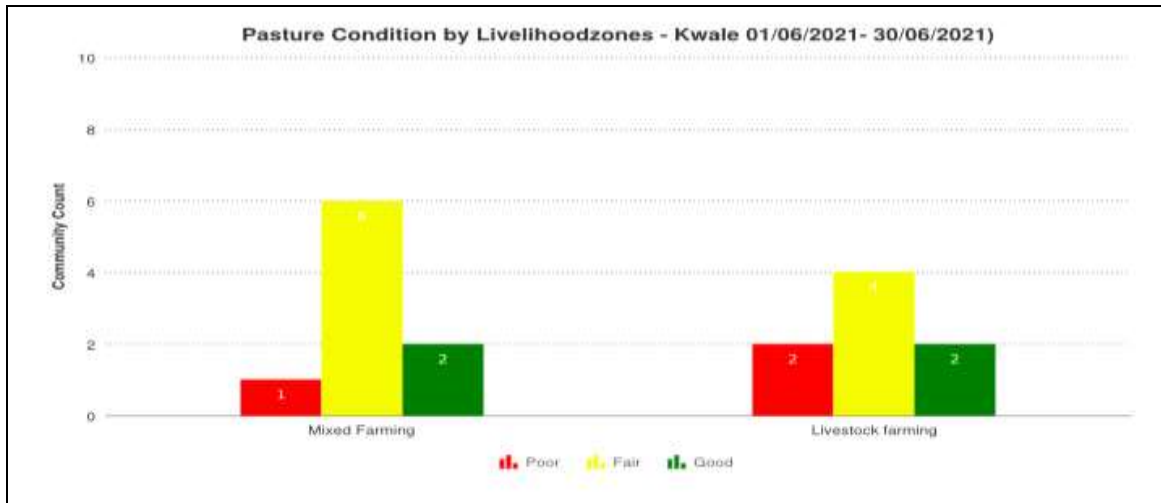
- The matrix below further illustrates the trend in vegetation condition in the county since 2001. The current situation though normal, is slightly worse than a similar time last year.



2.1.2 Pasture

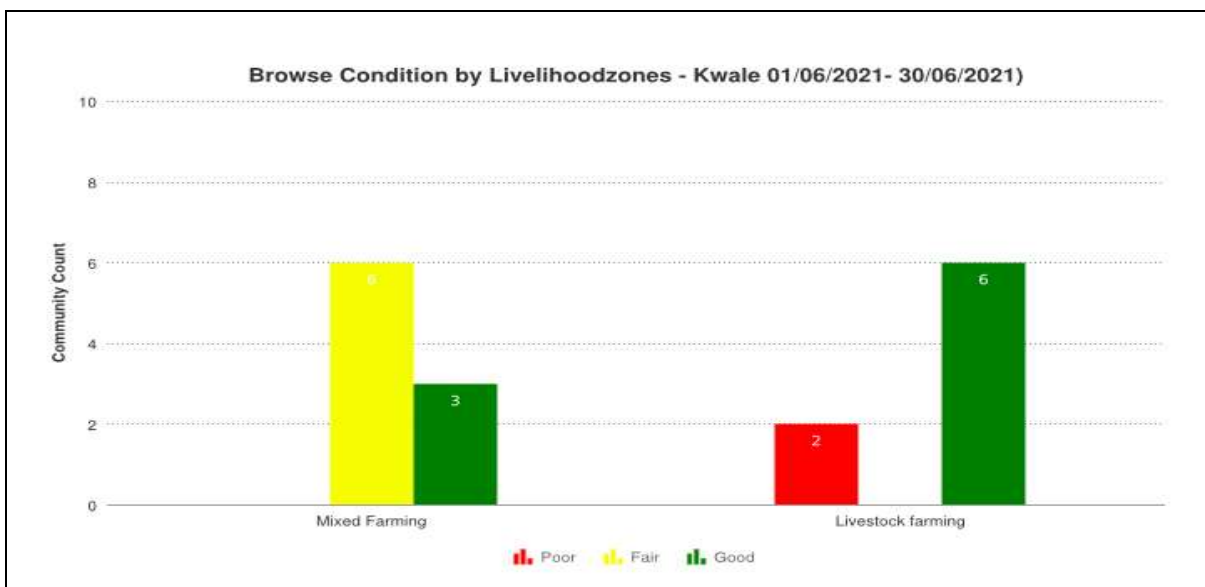
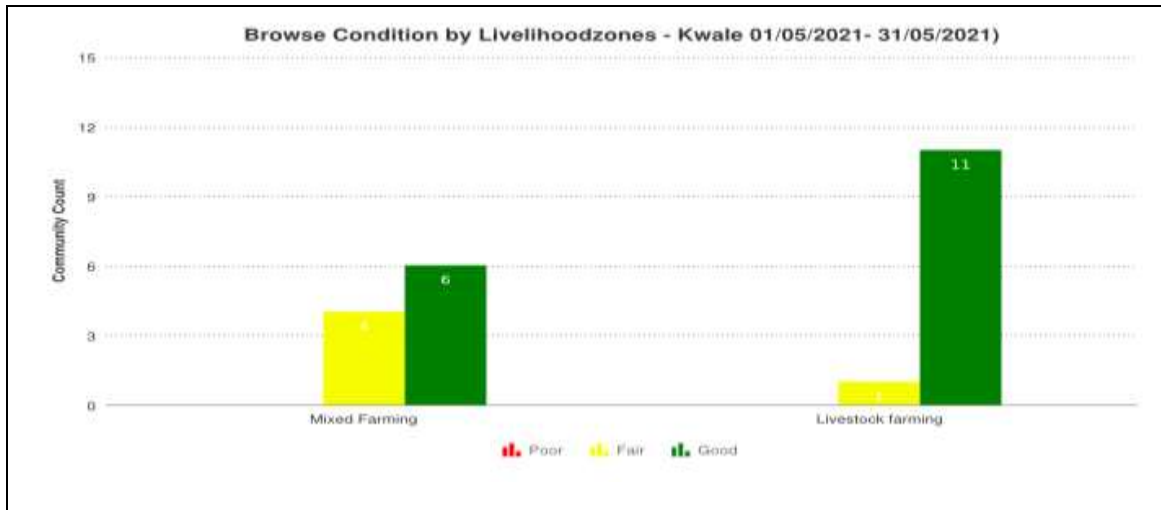
- Pasture condition remained relatively the same as last month as the proportion of households who reported good condition was 23.5 percent in June compared with 27.3 percent in May.
- Minimal variations were also recorded at livelihood zone level as shown in the graphs below.





2.1.3 Browse

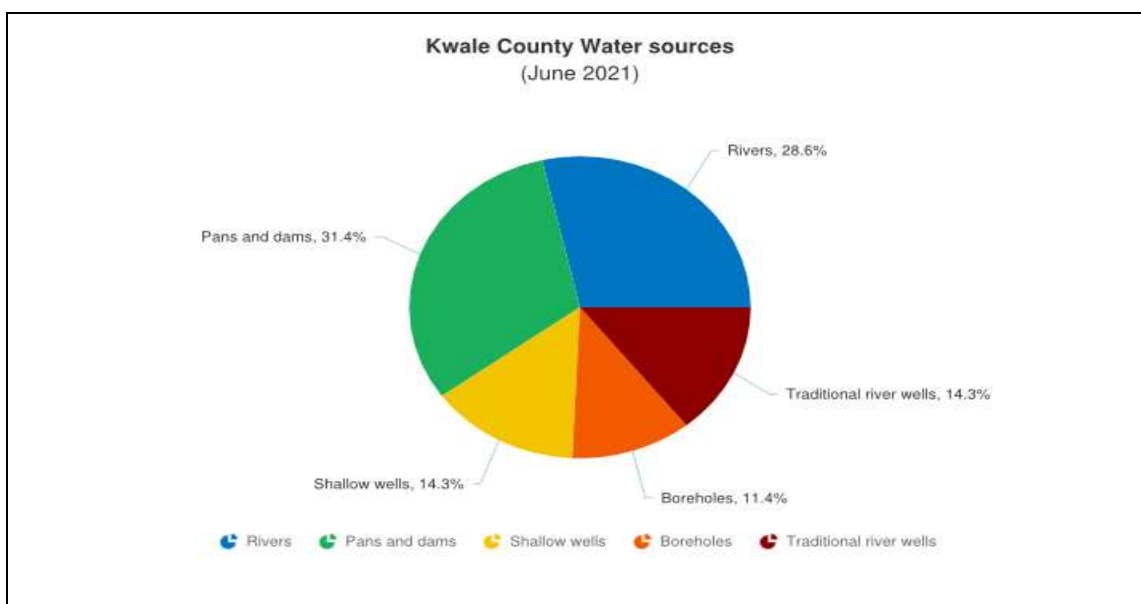
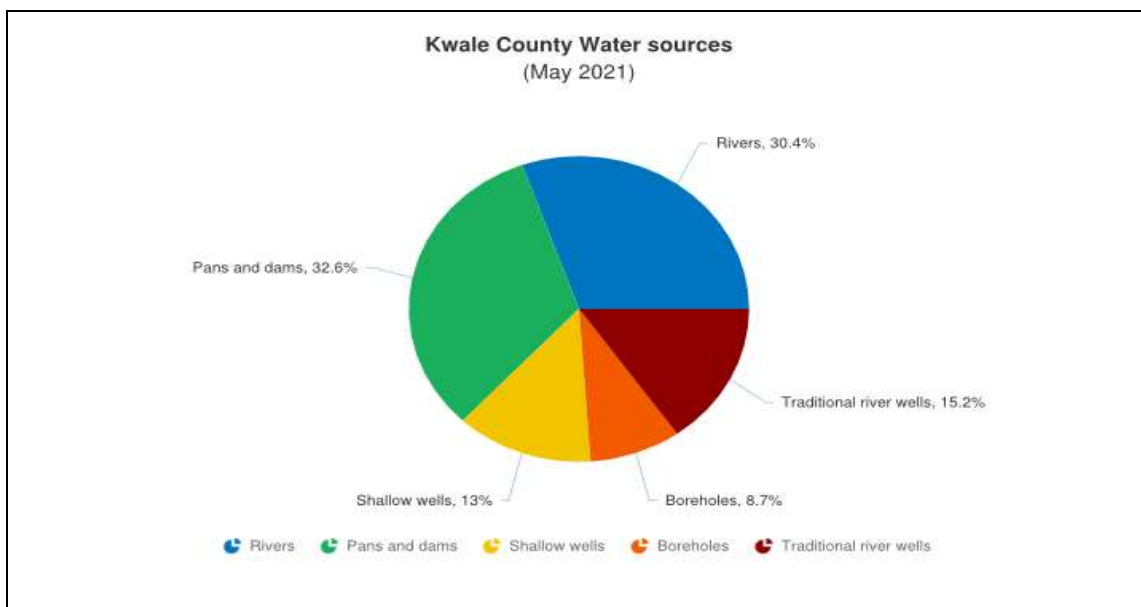
- Browse condition deteriorated compared with last month as illustrated by the decrease in the proportion of households who reported good condition from 77.3 percent in May to 52.9 percent in June.
- The deterioration was also evident at livelihood zone level as shown in the graphs below.



2.2 WATER RESOURCES

2.2.1 Sources

- Pans, dams and rivers were the major sources of water for household use in June as shown in the pie chart below.
- The sources were the normal ones for the month of June.



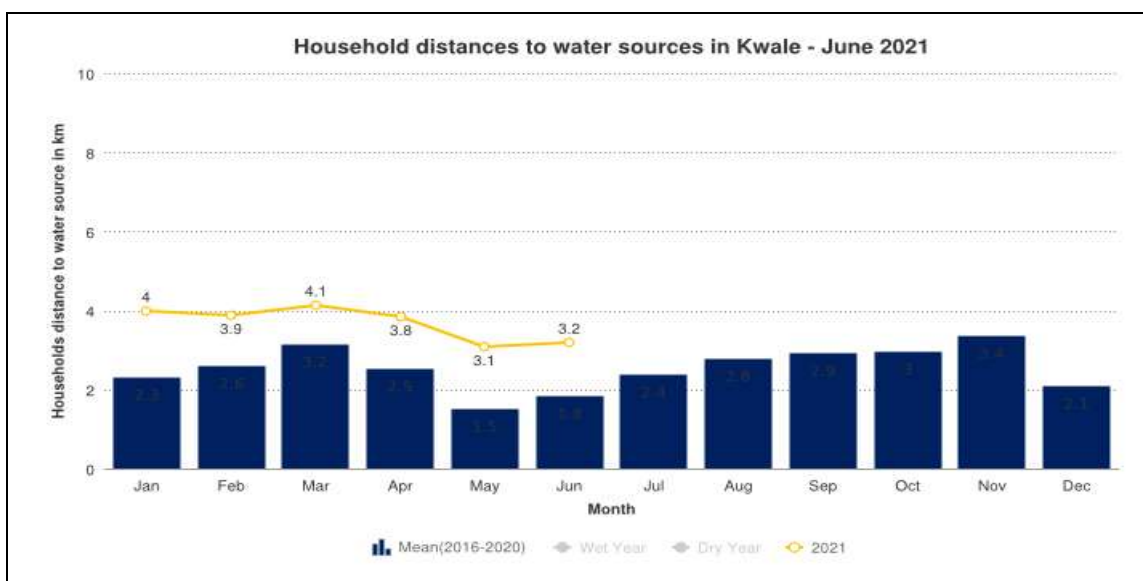
- The status of water sources was normal at index '5', a description of which is provided in the table below and is similar to May.

INDEX	STATUS OF WATER SOURCE	DESCRIPTION
1	EMERGENCY SITUATION	All main water sources have dried up; only few boreholes still yielding significant amounts

2	STRONGLY INADEQUATE	Surface water sources have dried up while the underground water sources are yielding very little amounts of water. Breakages of boreholes contribute to worsen the situation. Acute water shortage in many areas within the livelihood
3	INADEQUATE	Surface water sources have dried up while the underground water sources are yielding modest amounts of water. Concentration of livestock around few water points contribute to spread communicable diseases and to degradation of rangeland
4	DECLINING	The water availability is below normal for the period
5	NORMAL	The water availability is normal for the period
6	GOOD	The water availability is above normal for the period

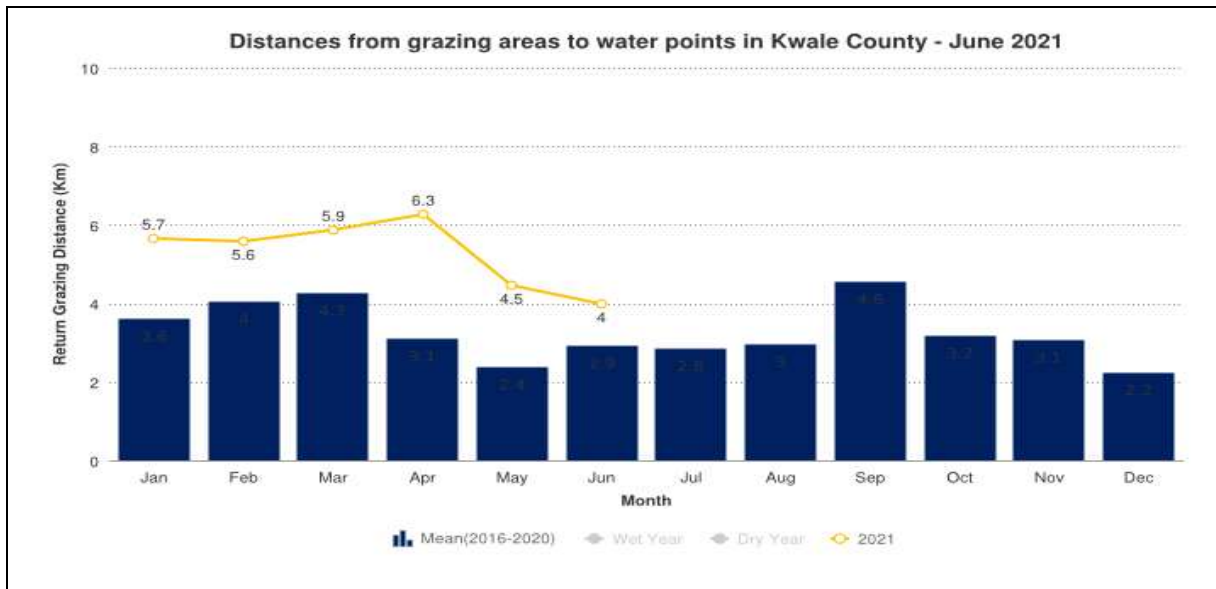
2.2.2 Household access and utilization

- Access to water for domestic use remained relatively the same as households had to walk an average 3.2 km in June compared with 3.1 km in May.
- The distance was above average compared with 1.8km recorded in the 2016-2020 LTA as shown in the graph below.
- The livestock farming and mixed farming livelihood zones recorded distances of 2.0 and 1.4km respectively.



2.2.3 Livestock access to water

- Access to water for livestock maintained a stable trend in comparison with last month as livestock had to walk an average of 4.0 km in June in comparison with 4.5 km in May.
- The distance walked was slightly above normal compared with 2.9 km recorded in the 2016-2020 LTA as shown in the graph below.
- The mixed farming livelihood zone recorded the longest distance at 2.8 km while the livestock farming livelihood zone posted the shortest distance at 1.1 km.

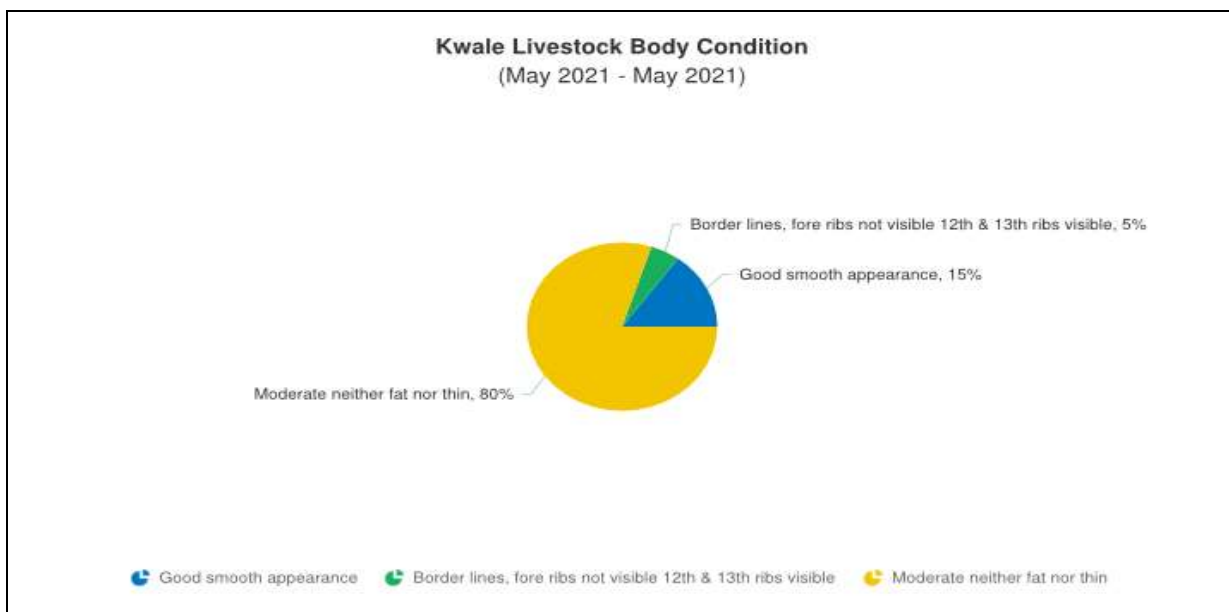


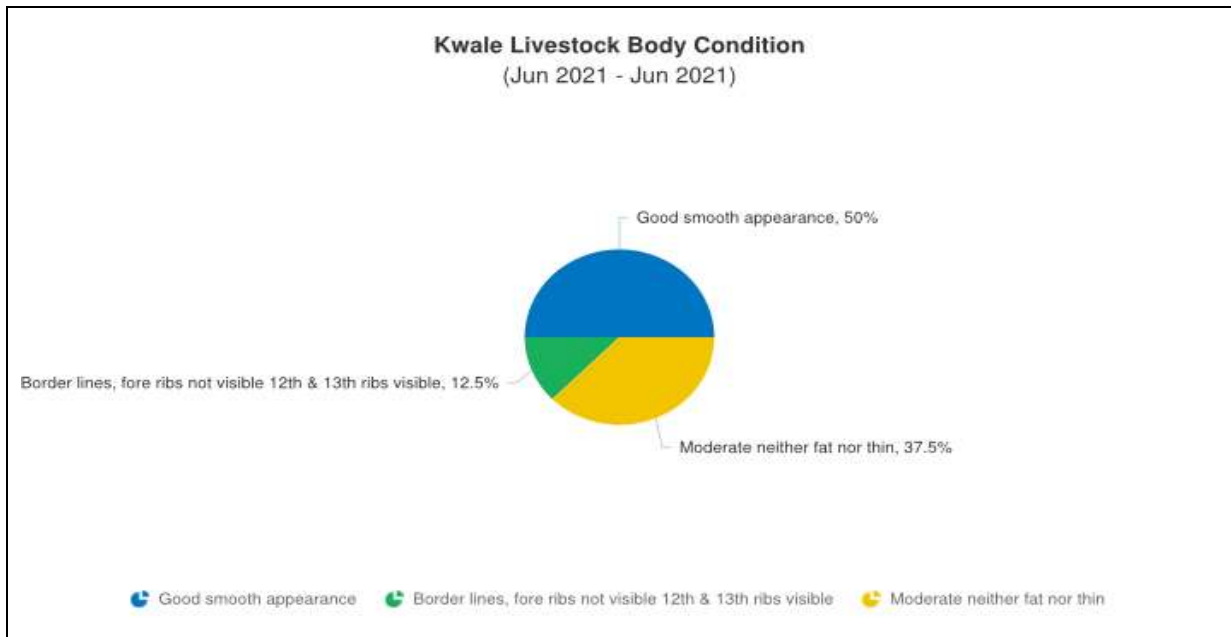
3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- Livestock body condition improved this month as the proportion of households who reported good smooth appearance increased from 15 percent in May to 50 percent in June.
- The improvement was likely owed to the continued availability of pastoral resources such as browse, water and pasture due to the rains received during the long rains season.
- The pie-charts below illustrate the proportions of livestock in various categories for both May and June while the table describes the various categories.

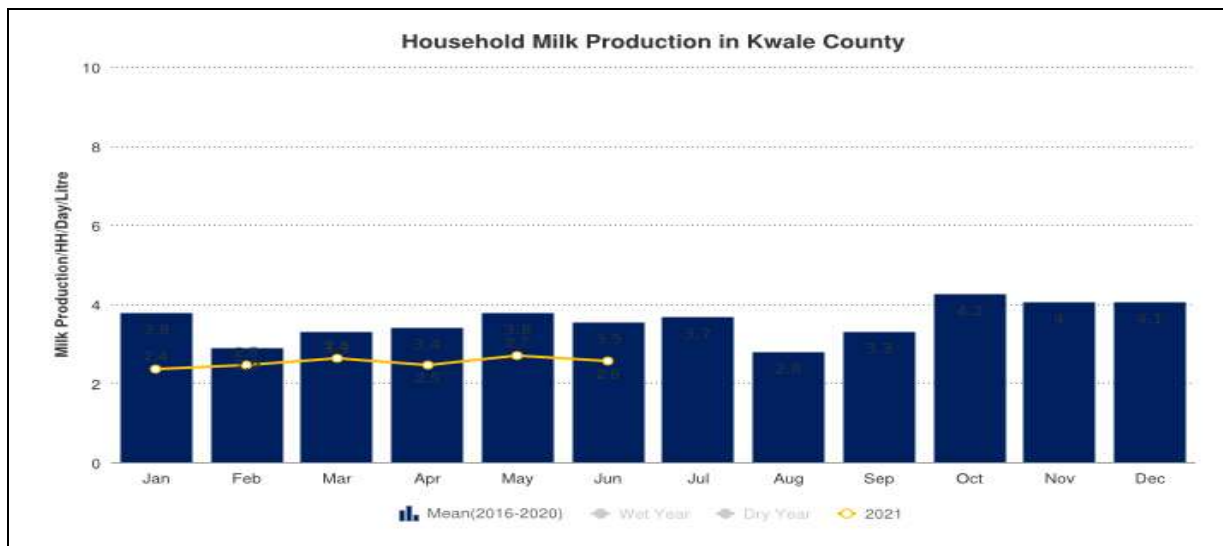




Level	Classification	Characteristics (this describes majority of the herd and not individual isolated stock)
1	Normal	Very Fat Tail buried and in fat
		Fat, Blocky. Bone over back not visible
		Very Good Smooth with fat over back and tail head
		Good smooth appearance
2	Moderate	Moderate. neither fat 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 Milk Production

- The average household production was 2.6 litres in June having maintained a stable trend in relation to 2.7 litres recorded in May.
- The production was below average in comparison with 3.5 litres recorded in the 2016-2020 LTA as illustrated in the graph below.



3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

3.2.1 Stage and condition of food crops

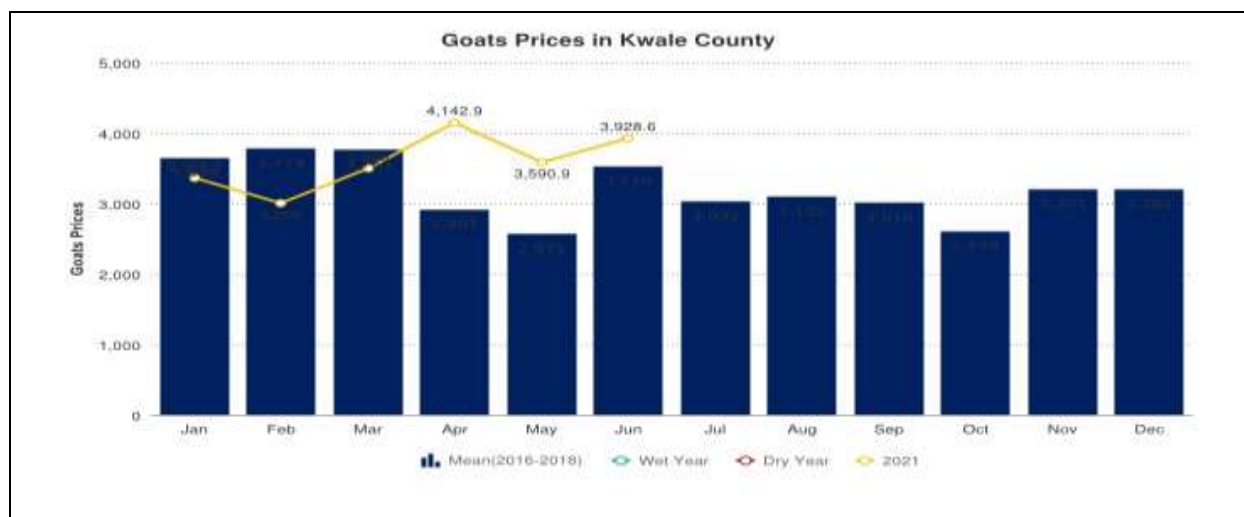
- The main crops grown this season included maize, green grams and cowpeas which are the crops normally grown at this time of the year.
- Most crops were at knee high stage and in poor to fair condition because the season has not performed well. Households with crops in the farms were engaged in weeding.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

4.1.1 Goat prices

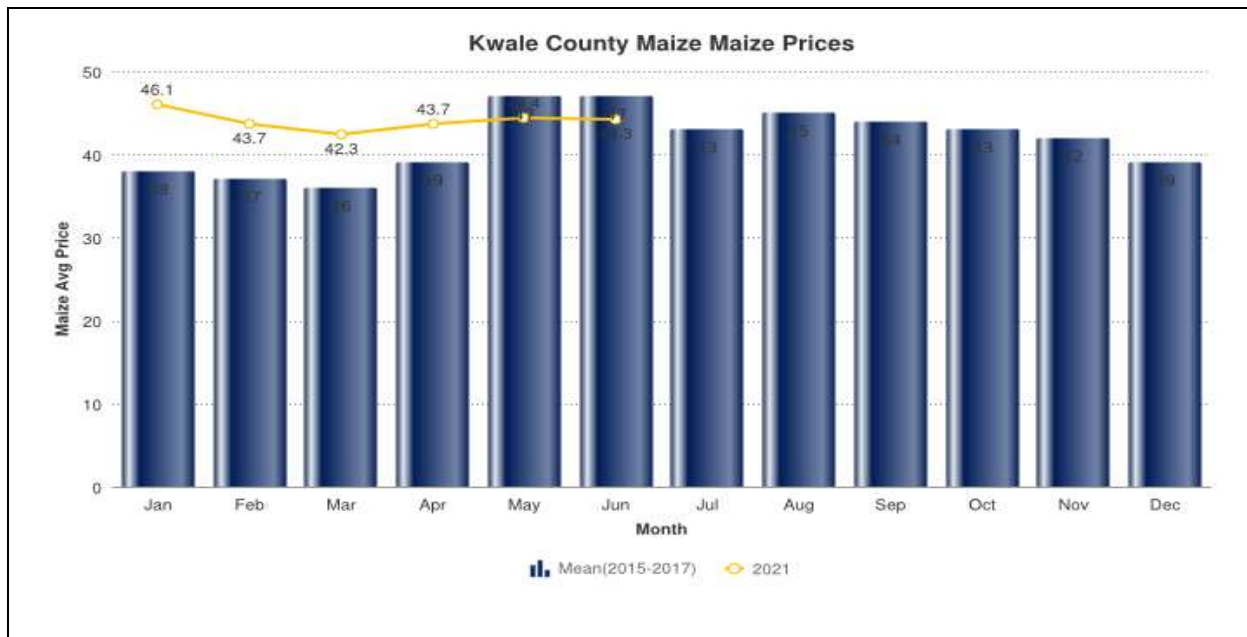
- A medium-sized three-year old buck was trading at Kshs 3,928.6 in June having increased by a slight margin of 9.4 percent from Kshs 3,590.9 in May.
- The price was 11.6 percent above Kshs 3,520 in the 2016-2018 LTA as shown in the graph below.



4.2 CROP PRICES

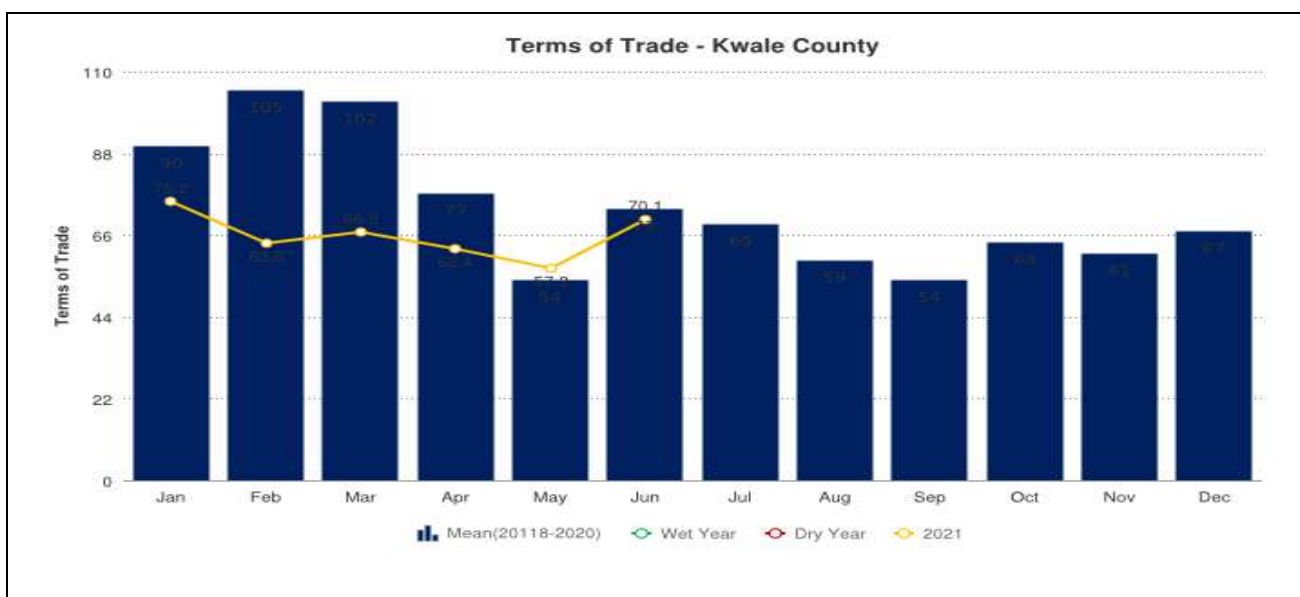
4.2.1 Maize

- A kilogram of maize was trading at Kshs 44.3 in June having remained similar to Kshs 44.4 recorded in May.
- The price was within seasonal norms for the month compared with Kshs 47 in the 2015-2017 LTA as shown in the graph below.



4.3 TERMS OF TRADE (ToT) - CASUAL LABOUR VERSUS MAIZE PRICES

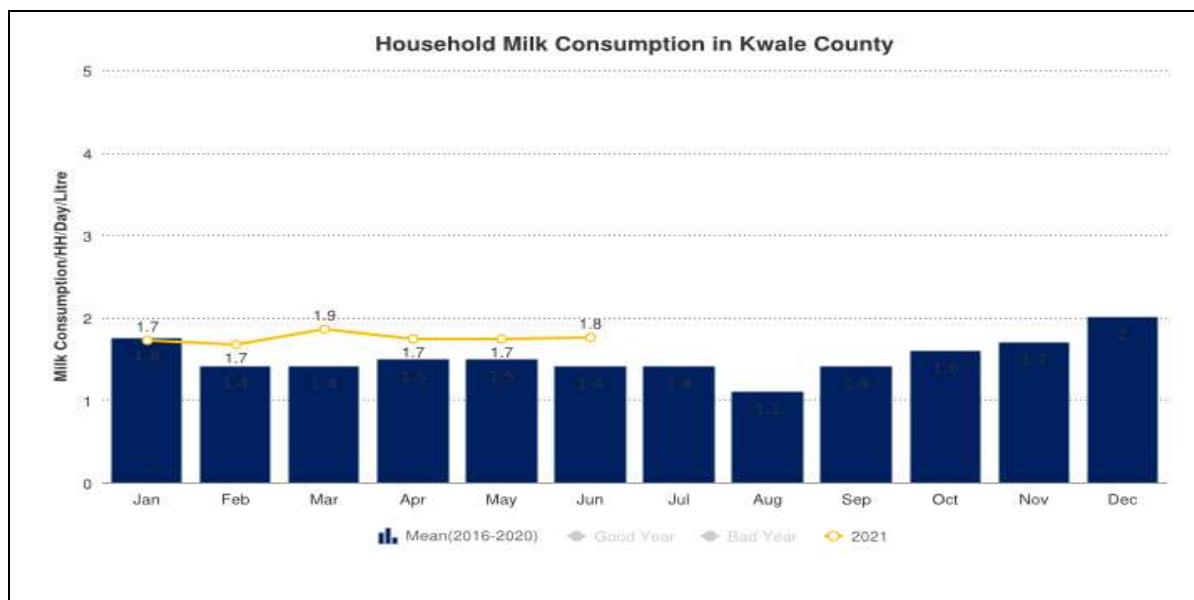
- The average ToT was estimated at 70.1 in June having increased by a 22.6 percent margin from 57.2 in May to 70.1 in June.
- The current ToT was within seasonal ranges compared with 73 recorded in the 2018-2020 LTA as indicated in the graph below.
- Therefore households were able to purchase a higher amount of maize in June from the proceeds of casual labour in comparison with May which was also normal for the month of June.
- The household purchasing power had therefore increased compared with last month but was within seasonal ranges.



5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION

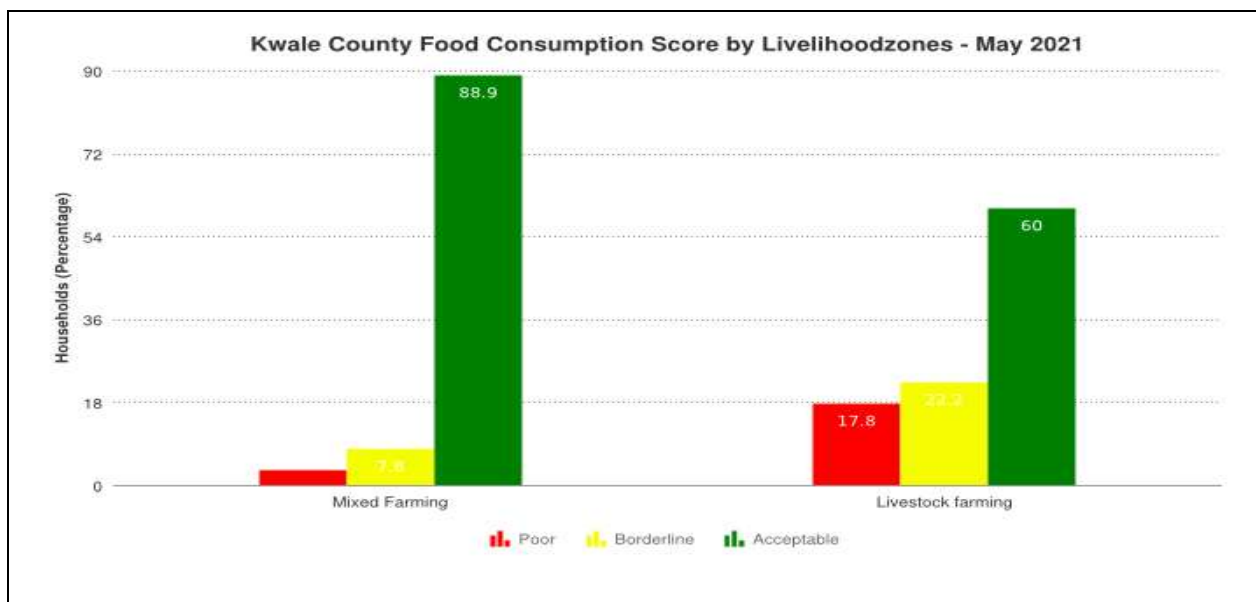
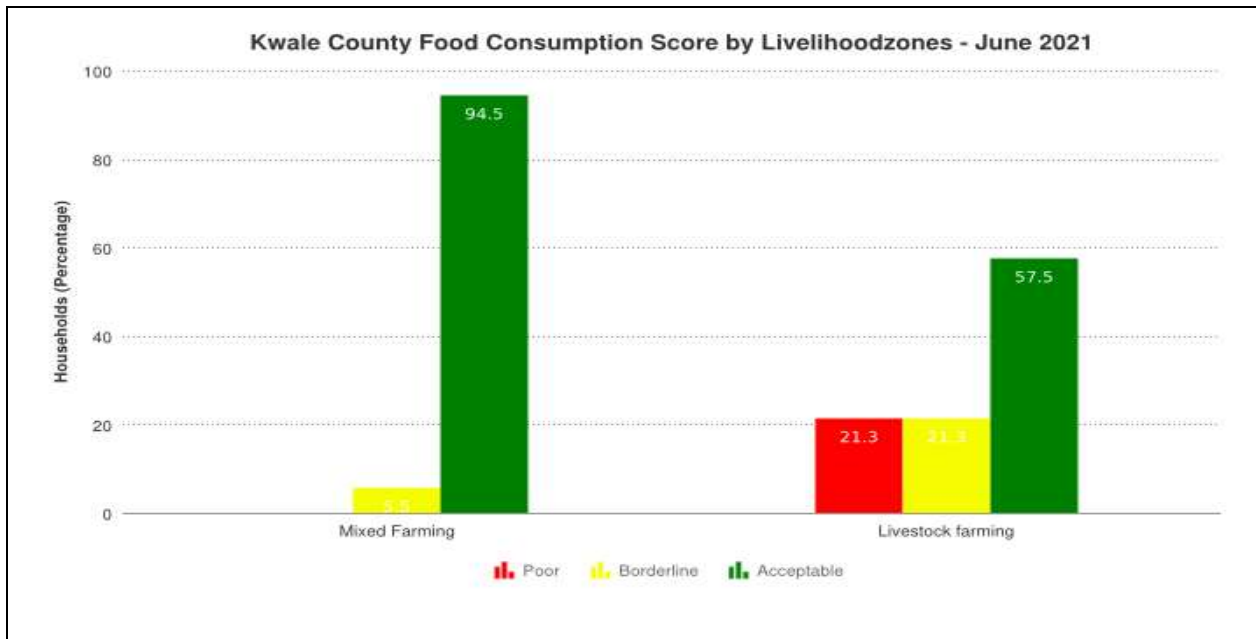
5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

- The average household milk consumption was 1.8 litres having maintained a stable trend compared with 1.7 litres recorded in May.
- The consumption was within seasonal averages of 1.4 litres as indicated in the 2016-2020 LTA as shown in the graph below.



5.2 FOOD CONSUMPTION

- Food consumption patterns remained fairly stable compared with May as the proportion of households with acceptable food consumption was recorded at 76 in June compared with 74.5 in May.
- The implication was therefore that the nutritional value of food, food frequency and dietary diversity had remained relatively the same in comparison with last month.
- Households with borderline and poor food consumption patterns averaged 13.3 and 10.7 percent respectively in June.
- In May the proportions were 15 and 10.6 percent in the borderline and poor food consumption groups respectively also indicating a fairly stable trend in comparison with this month.
- The charts below show the change in food consumption patterns in June compared with May at livelihood zone level.



5.3 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.3.1 Nutrition Status

- The proportion of children aged below five years at risk of malnutrition as determined by the mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) method was 1.1 percent in June having reduced from 2.8 percent in June.
- The implication was therefore that the nutritional status of children at risk had reduced this month compared with May.

5.4 COPING STRATEGIES

- The county’s average reduced coping strategy index (rCSI) stood at 15.3 in June having remained fairly stable in comparison with 13.8 recorded in May.
- Households had therefore neither significantly reduced nor increased the frequency and/or severity of the consumption-based coping strategies in order to mitigate food consumption gaps.
- The livestock farming livelihood zone recorded the highest index at 15.9 in June compared with 14.2 in May.

- The mixed farming livelihood zone recorded the least index at 14.7 compared with 13.3 posted last month.

6. CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES

6.1 NON-FOOD INTERVENTIONS

○ Health and nutrition department

- Growth monitoring for children aged below five years
- Zinc and iron folate supplementation for pregnant and lactating mothers

○ Livestock department

- Distribution of 40 dairy heifers, 10 each to Dzombo, Pongwe Kikoneni, Vanga and Ukunda Wards valued at 6M.
- Training of management of the dairy enterprise to beneficiaries of the 40 heifers.

7. EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement

- No cases of human displacement, insecurity or conflict were recorded in June.

7.2 Migration

- There were no migration cases recorded during the month.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Close monitoring of the rainfall performance in Kinango Sub-county which has been categorized in the moderate drought category.