

National Drought Management Authority
MANDERA COUNTY
DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR AUGUST 2020



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



AUGUST 2020 EW PHASE



Early Warning (EW) Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral zone	Normal	Worsening
Irrigated Cropping	Normal	Worsening
Pastoral all species	Normal	Worsening
County	Normal	Worsening
Biophysical Indicators	Value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)	0	80 -120
VCI-3Month	95.49	>35
Forage condition	Fair-Poor	Good
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Crop Condition (Maize)	Poor	Good
Livestock Body Condition	Good	Good
Milk Production	1.9	2.0 litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	No migration	Normal
Livestock deaths	No deaths	No deaths
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	57	>34kgs
Milk Consumption	1	1.2litres
Return distance to water sources	9.8	<6.4 Km
Cost of water at source (20 litres)	5	<5Kshs
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	18.0	20.09
Coping Strategy Index	16.5	<0.95

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

- No rainfall was received in the County in August.
- **Vegetation condition;** the current three-month Vegetation Condition index was above normal vegetation greenness band for the County.
- Pasture and browse conditions are currently fair to poor across all the parts of the County.
- Water situation is on worsening trend as the number of water trucking centres increased in Banisa and Mandera north sub counties.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

Production indicators:

- Livestock body condition is currently good across all the livelihood zones.
- Milk production is below normal when compared to LTA.

Access indicators:

- Terms of trade is favourable across all the livelihood zones.
- Milk consumption is below normal in all the livelihood zone.
- Water access for both human and livestock consumption is on worsening trend.

Utilization Indicators:

- Nine new cases of Covid 19 pandemic was reported during the Month.
- The percentage of under five children at risk of malnutrition (MUAC) was below the long-term average

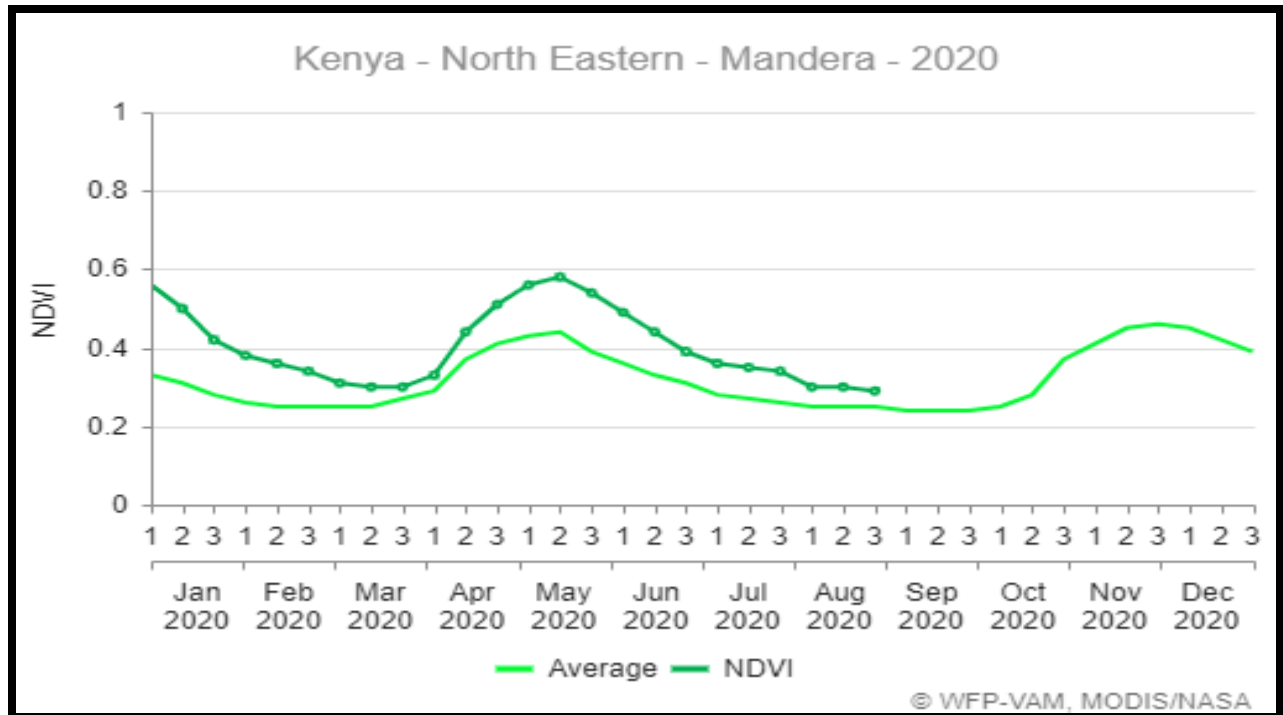
Seasonal Calendar

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short rains harvests ▪ Short dry spell ▪ Reduced milk yields ▪ Increased HH 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 HH 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. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

- No rains were received during the month under assessment.
- These is normal during these time of the year
- The next rains are expected on mid-October which is the short rains
- The current NDVI is also above average of the seasonal norm as shown below.



1.3.1 Other Events

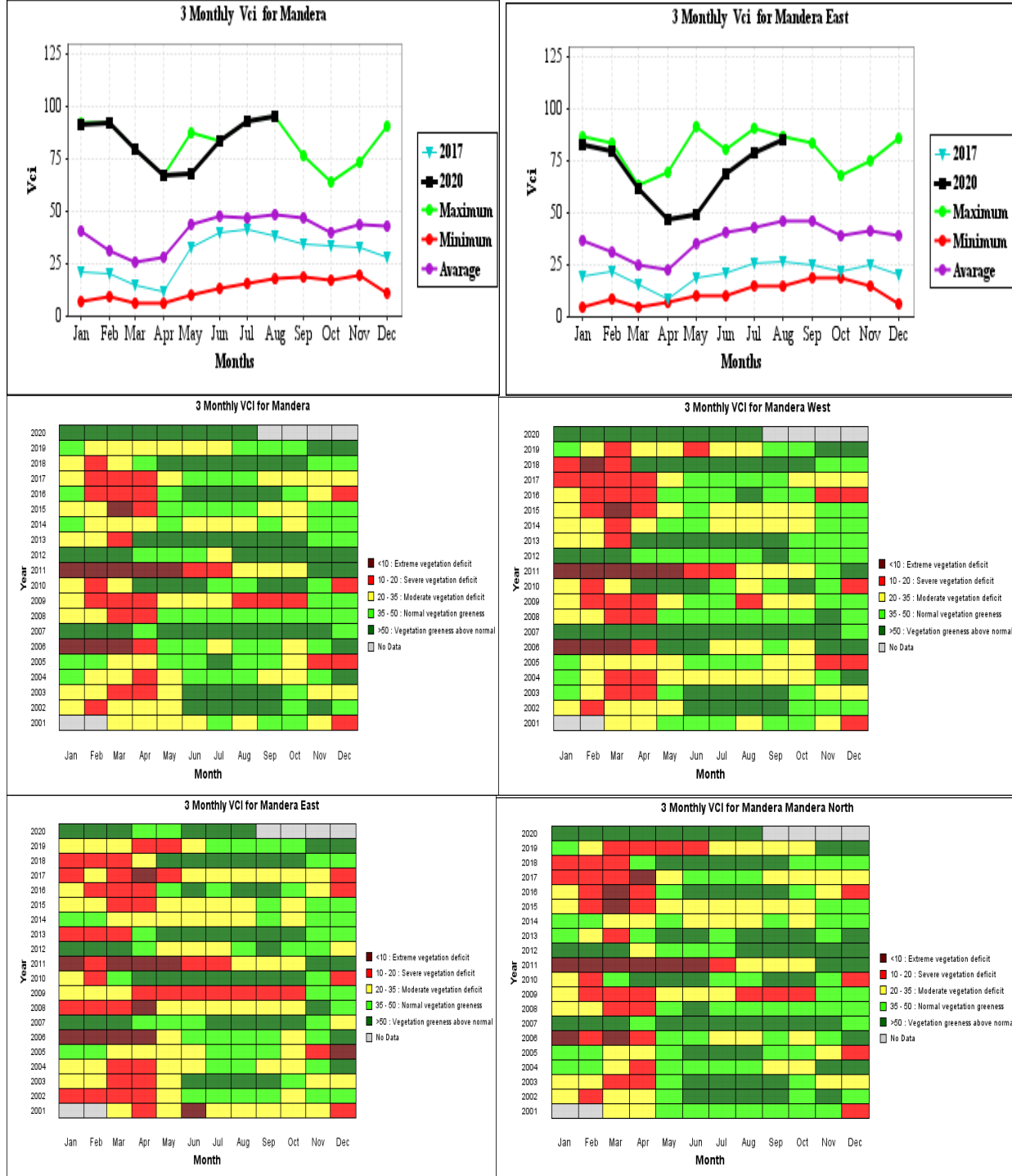
- The outbreak of Covid 19 epidemic diseases has so far recorded 9 new cases in August totaling to 29 cases for the County and all the have recovered. The current pandemic has continued to impact negatively the health care system delivery in Mandera with significant disruption of service delivery and other key health building blocks.
- The pandemic has also disrupted markets due to fear of spread of the disease, the government closed Somalia and Ethiopia border which was the main sources of supplies to Mandera markets, this has affected the markets supply volumes and movements of good and services and increased the essential food commodity prices within the county

2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

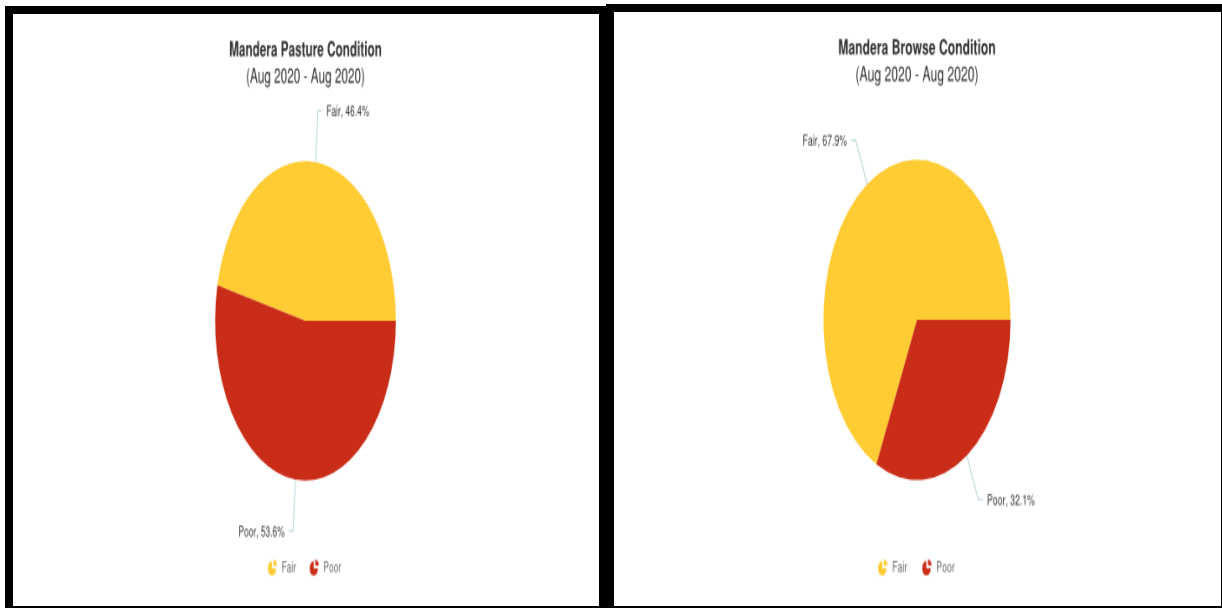
2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION INDEX

2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

- The current vegetation condition index showed vegetation greenness above normal band for the County.
- When compared to the previous month, the current 3-month VCI from increased from 92.45 in July to 95.49 in August 2020.
- All the sub counties are showing above normal vegetation greenness.



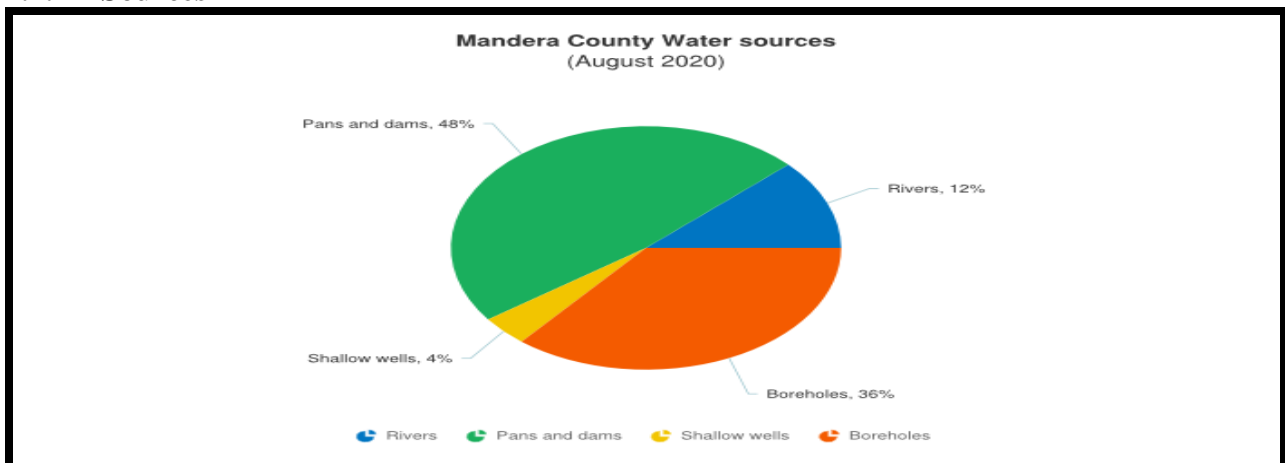
2.1.2 Pasture and Browse



- According to sampled communities, 46 percent of the 210 households interviewed reported that the pasture condition is fair while 54 percent reported pasture condition as poor as shown in the above chart.
- The pasture situation is expected to decline further as the dry spell progress and no regeneration is expected until short rains of October.
- Sixty eight percent of the 210 households interviewed reported browse conditions as fair while 32 percent reported browse condition as poor.
- The browse situation is declining and is expected to worsen in the coming period due to windy and harsh climate.
- There was no constraint in access reported for both browse and pasture across all the livelihood zones in the county.

2.2 WATER RESOURCE

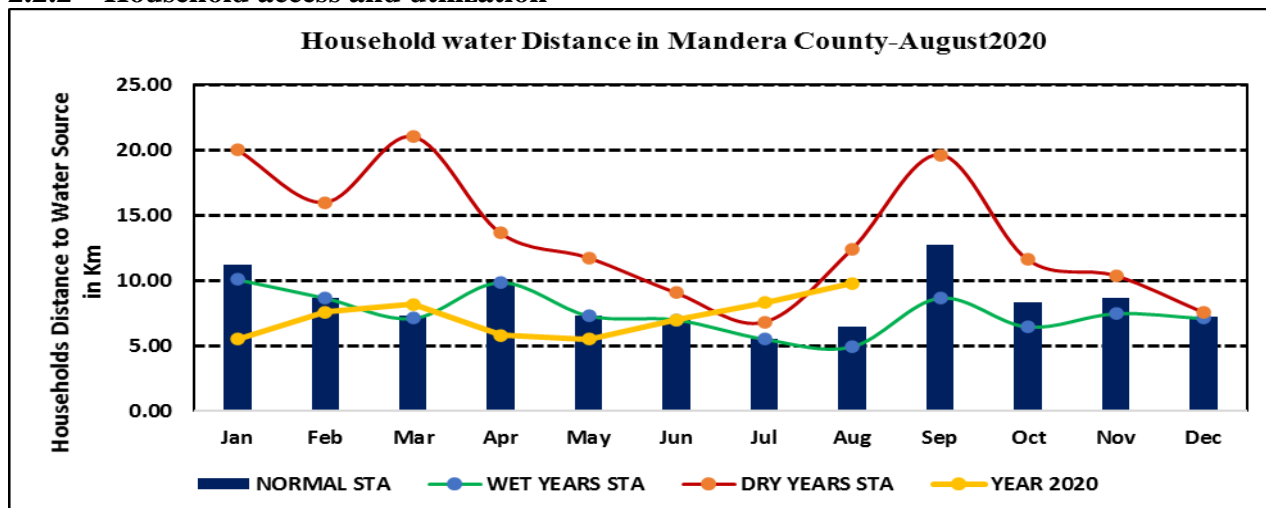
2.2.1 Sources



- The current main sources of water in use by both human and livestock are boreholes, River Daua and earth pans. The proportion of sampled population using earth pans was 48% percent in August, boreholes at 36% and River at 12% and shallow wells with 4% respectively.
- Currently the water situation on worsening trend as households water distance has also increased and more earth pans and underground water tanks have dried up.

- Currently there are 100 centres under water stress and water trucking conducted by County government during the month.

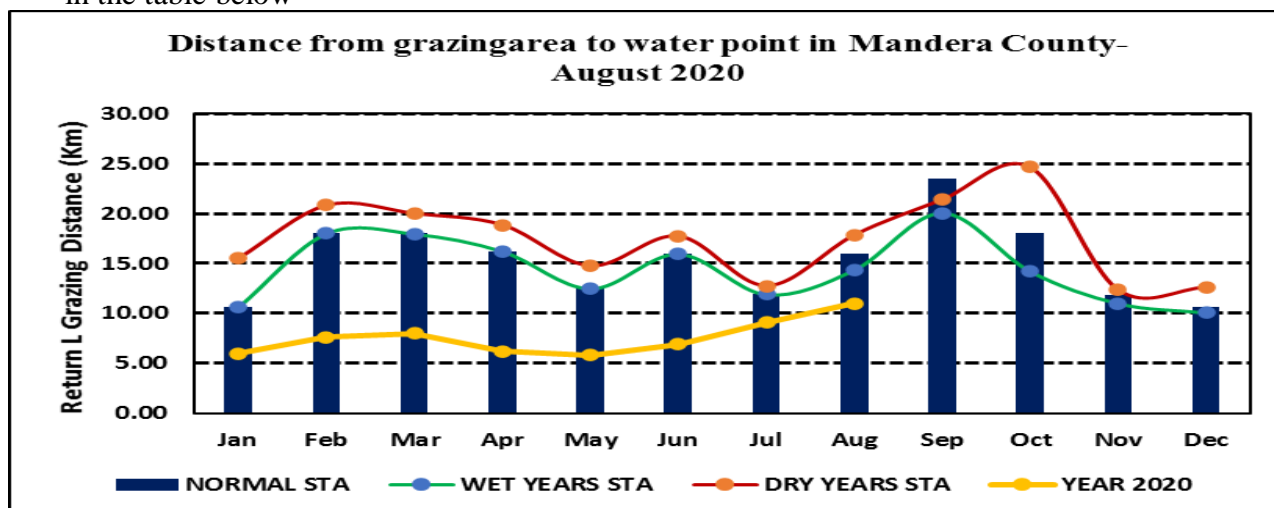
2.2.2 Household access and utilization



- The average household return distance to watering sources recorded during the month was 9.8Km as shown in the chart above.
- The current average return distance is above the normal STA and the wet season STA.
- The average household distance increased when compared to last month.
- The average cost of 20-litre jerry can at the source is between Ksh5-10, which is normal at this time of the year, and water consumption is normal in areas where water is available.
- The proportion of households currently treating water is significantly very low with only few households mainly in urban centers reported to have used boiling methods

2.2.3 Livestock Access

- The current trekking average return distance from grazing areas to the main source of water is 11Km, the average grazing distance increased when compared to last month.
- Pastoral all species livelihood zone reported the longest average return grazing distance at 7.7Km followed by Agro pastoral zone with 6.6 and Irrigated cropping livelihood zone with distance of 4.3 km respectively.
- The current trekking distances are below the normal and wet season STA averages as shown in the table below



2.3 Implication on food security .

- Declining pasture and water will negatively impact on livestock production thus reducing the purchasing power of the pastoral communities.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

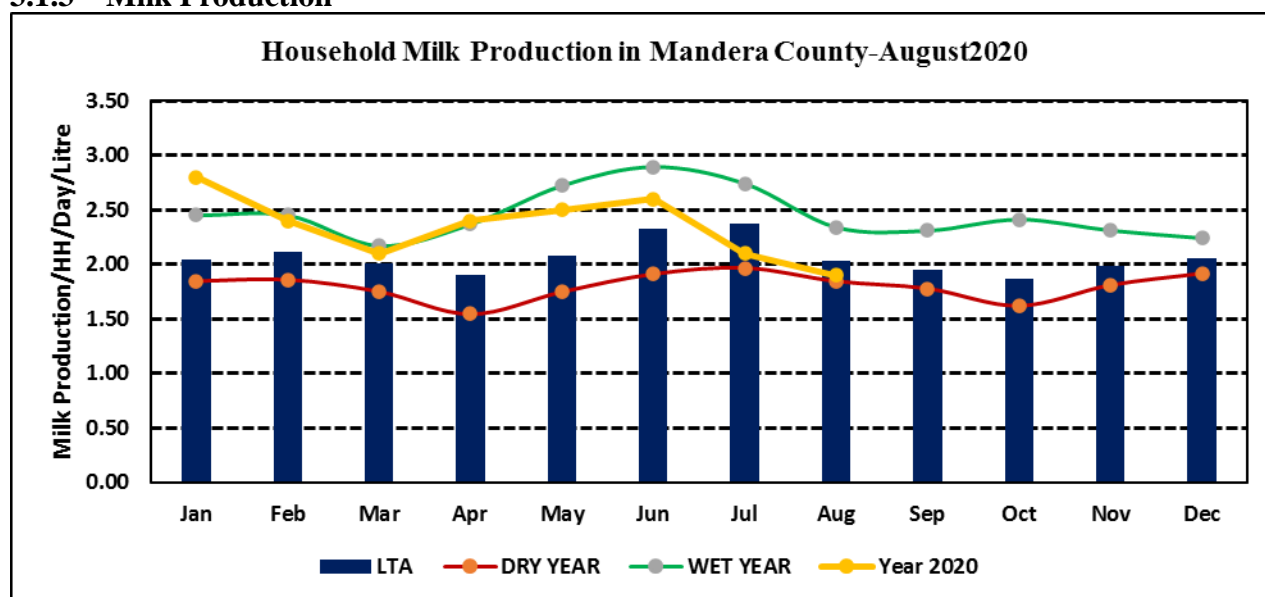
3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition.

- The body condition for all livestock species in all livelihood zones is currently good.
- Normally the body condition of cattle and sheep (browsers) are fair during this period while camel and goats (grazers) are good.

3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

- There are still suspected cases of PPR, CCPP, and Black Quarter County wide.
- Cattle deaths was reported in areas of Mandera South sub counties specially Wargadud and Simbir Fatuma wards.
- The department of veterinary service continues to carry out routine treatment and deworming of reported cases.

3.1.3 Milk Production



- The average milk production per household was 1.9 litres in August, compared to the previous month, the milk production decreased.
- The production is below the long-term average and wet year and at par with dry year as shown above.
- Agro pastoral zone reported highest milk production followed by Pastoral all species and irrigated cropping zone respectively.

3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION.

3.2.1 Stage and Condition of food Crops

- Maize crop along the Riverine is at tussling stage of crop production.
- Agro pastoral zone, most of the crops have wilted due to moisture water stress.

3.3 IMPLICATION OF THE ABOVE INDICATORS ON FOOD SECURITY.

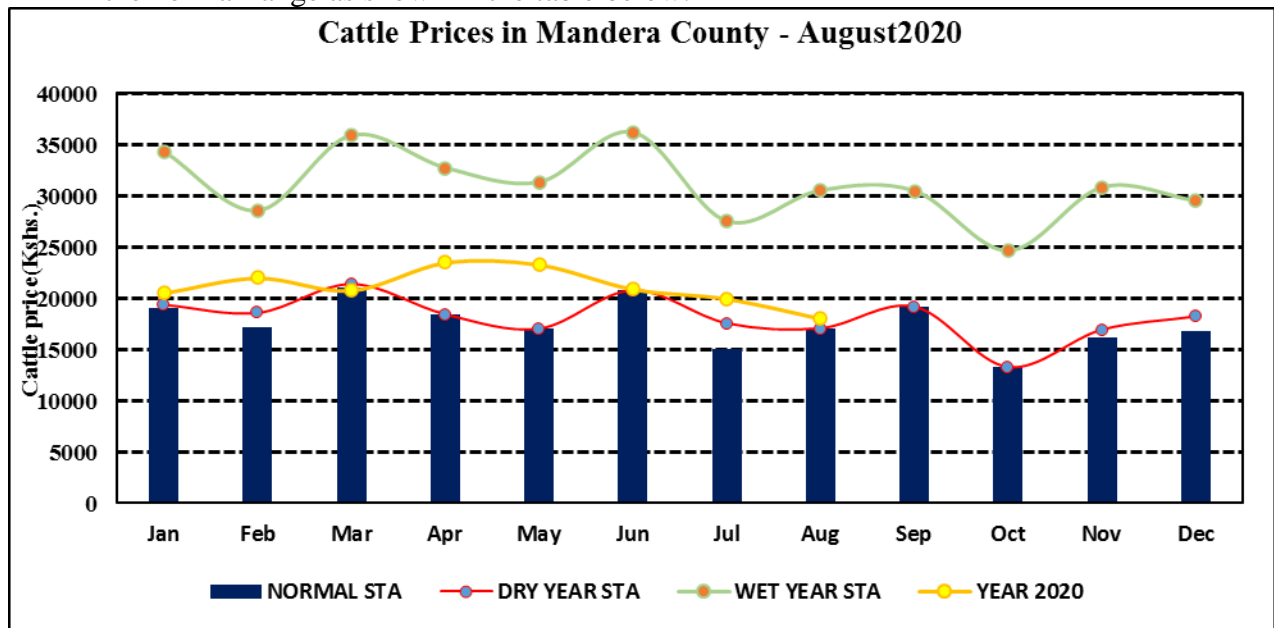
- Minimal harvest is expected along River Daua will affect the households along the irrigated cropping zone.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

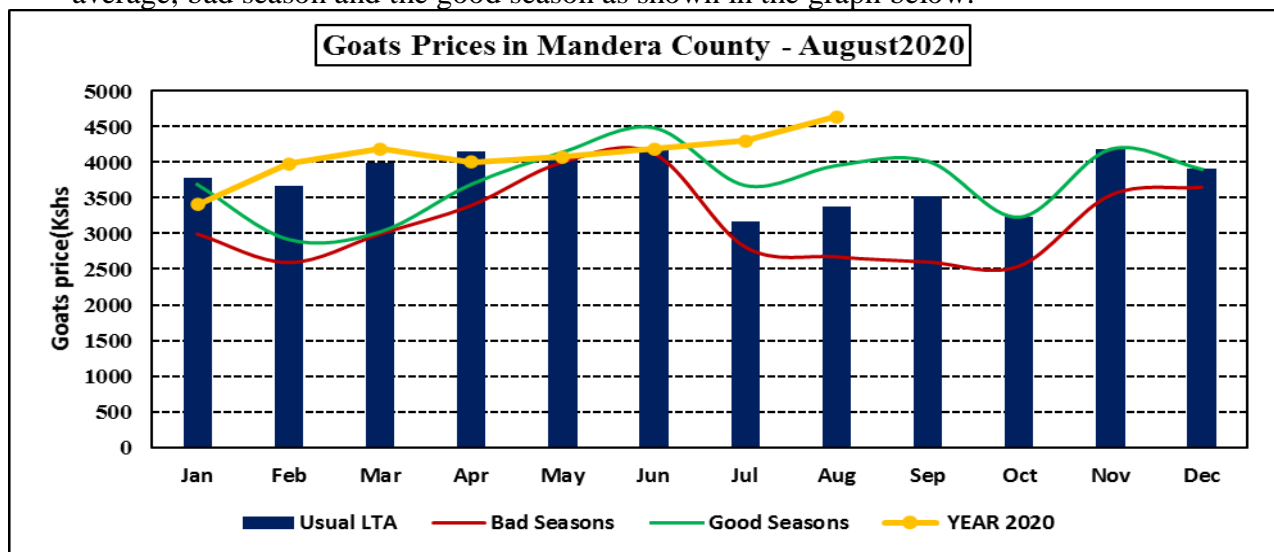
4.1.1 Cattle Prices

- Average cattle price was Ksh 18,000 in the month of August 2020. The price slightly decreased when compared to last month.
- Agro pastoral livelihood zone recorded the highest average followed by Pastoral all species and Irrigated Livelihood zones respectively.
- When compared to the Normal STA and dry season, the average cattle price was within the normal range as shown in the table below.



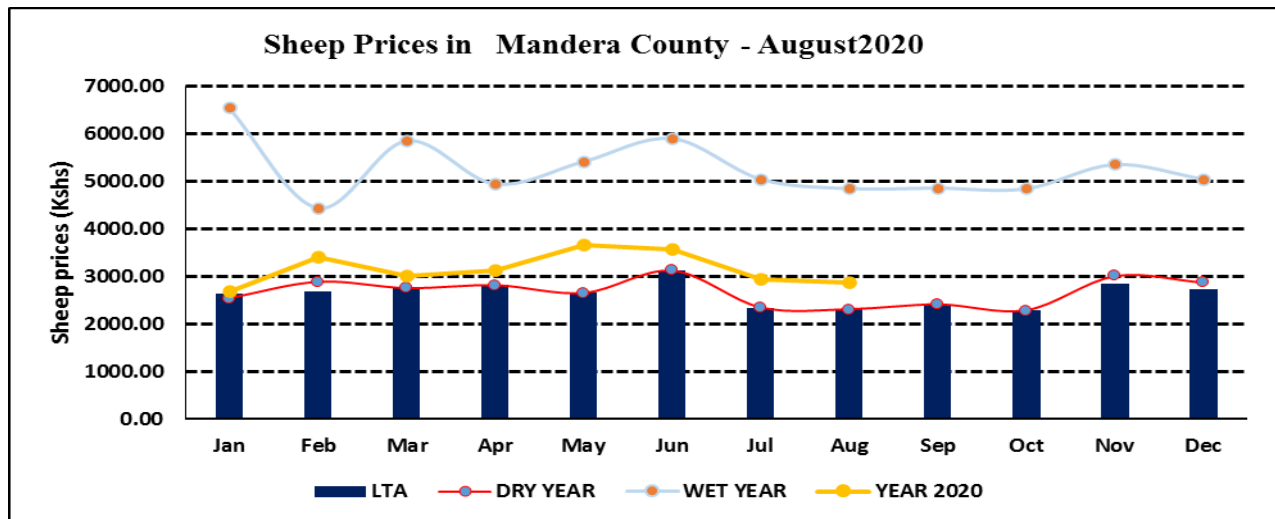
4.1.2 Goat Prices

- Average goat price was Ksh 4,644 in the month of August, when compared to previous month, the goat price increased.
- Highest price range was in Agro pastoral livelihood zone followed by Pastoral all species livelihood zone and Irrigated livelihood zone.
- Compared to the Normal LTA, the current average price is higher than the usual long-term average, bad season and the good season as shown in the graph below.



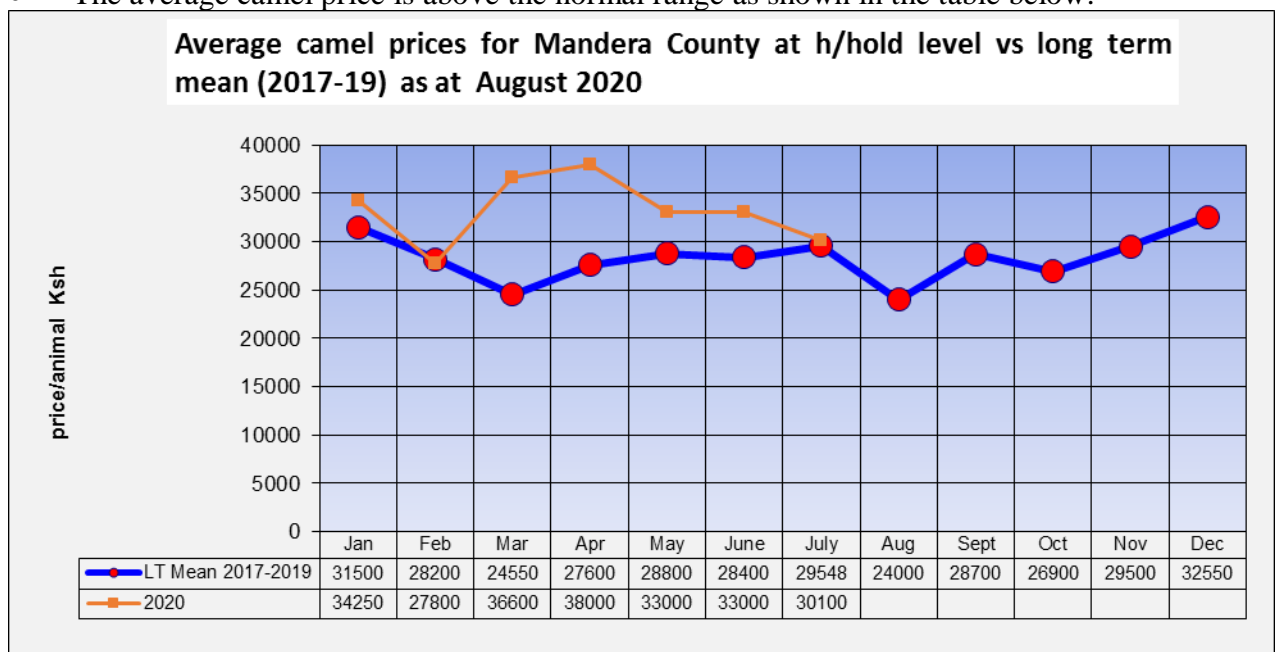
Sheep Price

- Average sheep price was Ksh 2,869 in August and when compared to July, the current average price slightly decreased.
- The current average price is higher than the long-term average, dry year, wet year of the same month.
- The highest average price was noted in Agro pastoral zone followed by Pastoral all species zone and irrigated cropping zone respectively.



4.1.3 Camel Prices

- The average camel price during the month of August 2020 is Kshs 30,100 when compared to the previous month, the average price slightly decreased.
- Highest average price was recorded in Agro pastoral livelihood zone followed by Pastoral all species zone and Irrigated cropping livelihood zone.
- The average camel price is above the normal range as shown in the table below.

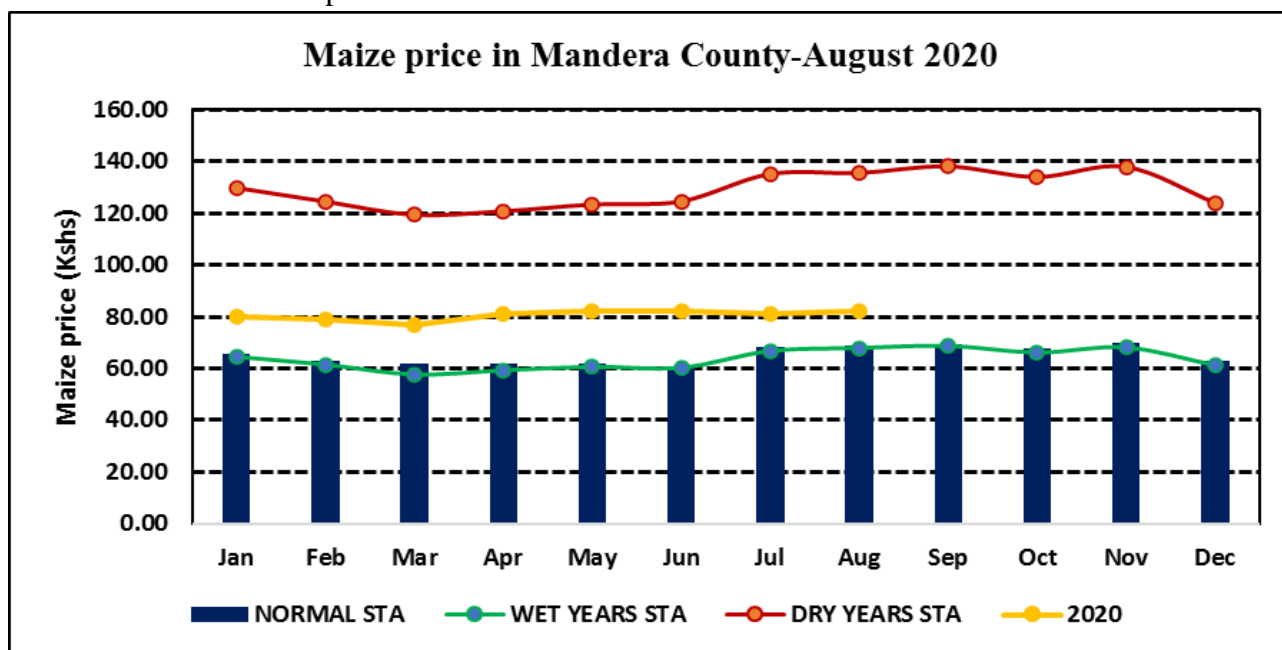


4.2 CROP PRICES

Maize

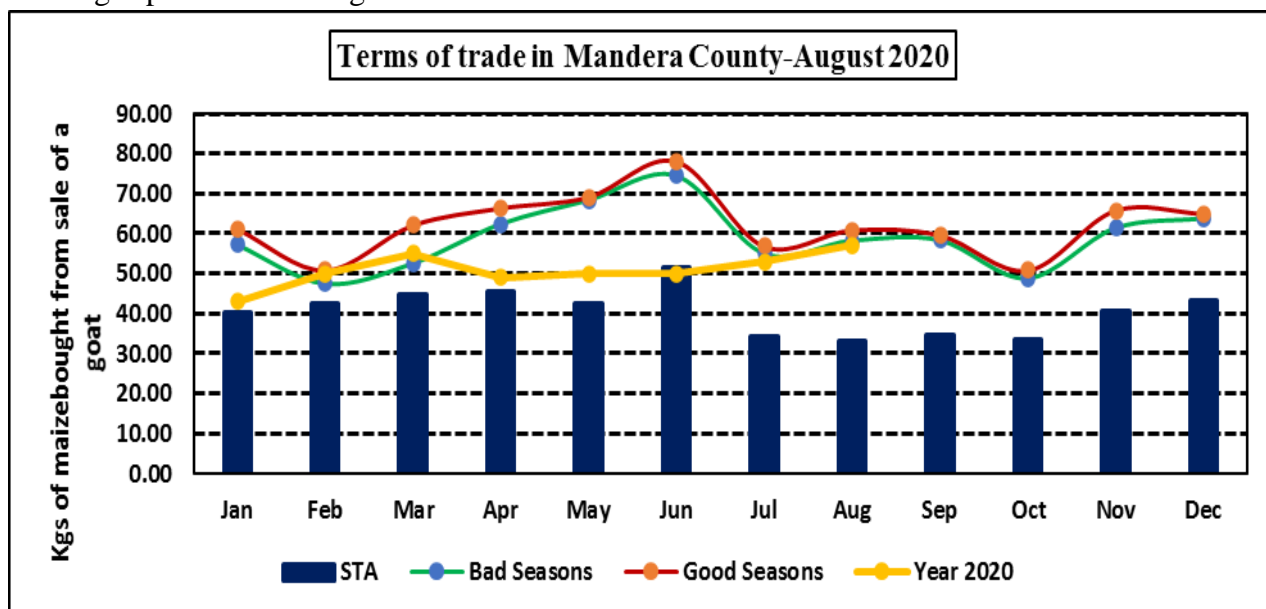
- The average maize price in August 2020 was Ksh.82per kg.
- Compared to the previous month, the average price slightly increased.

- When compared to the normal STA, the average price was higher than normal.
- The price of maize is expected to go higher as the COVID 19 pandemic diseases is spreading and border is still expected to remain closed.



Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade

- Currently a household can purchase a 57Kg bag of maize by selling one medium goat.
- The terms of trade slightly improved when compared to last month.
- The terms of trade are still favourable to pastoral communities
- The current TOT is slightly below the good season, but above normal STA.
- The highest terms of trade were reported in Pastoral all species livelihood zone followed by Agro pastoral and Irrigated livelihood zone.



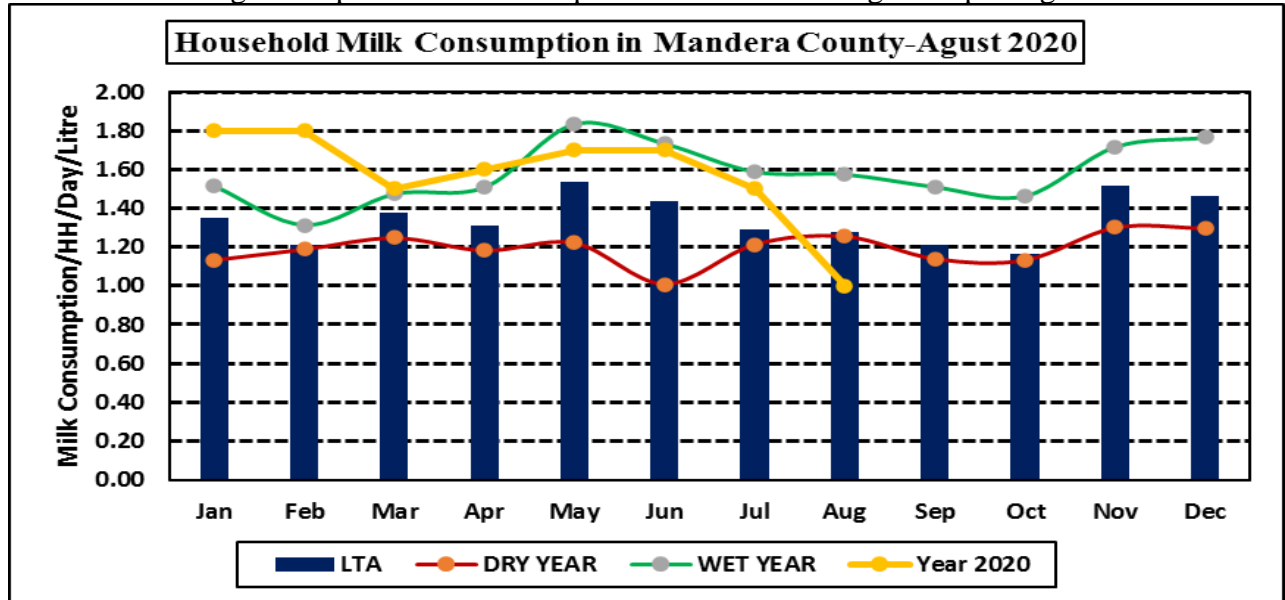
4.2 Implication of above indicator on Food Security

- Increased prices of essential commodities will impact negatively on pastoral return thus decreasing the purchasing power of communities.

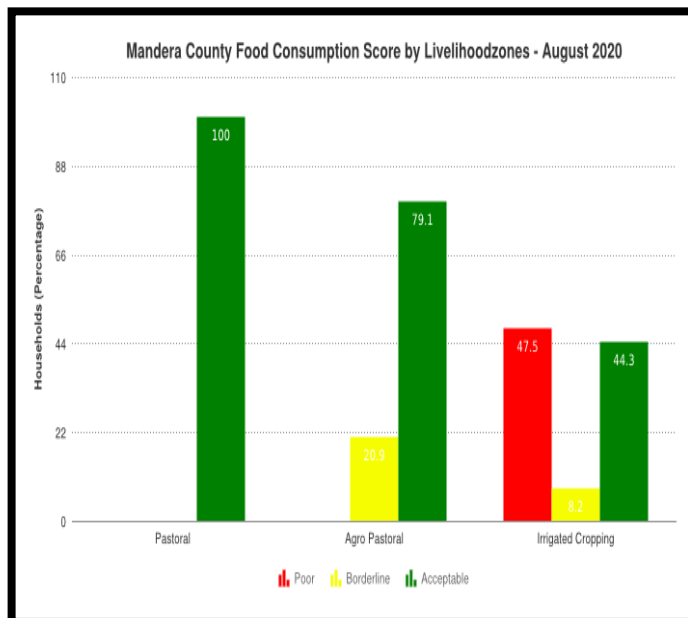
5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

Milk consumption

- Milk consumption at household level for the month of August was one litres
- When compared to last month, the consumption slightly decreased as shown in the graph below.
- The Milk consumption is below the LTA, dry year and the wet year.
- The average milk price was Ksh 70 per 750 ml bottle during the reporting month.



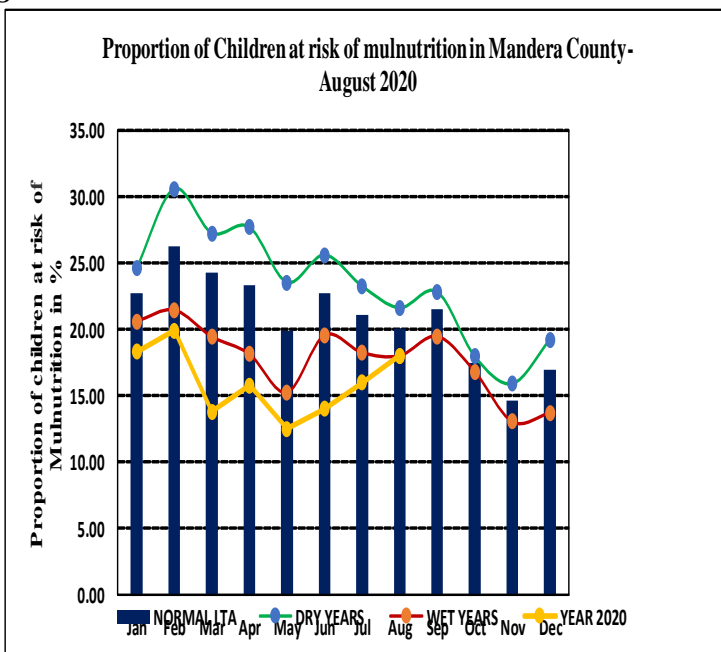
5.1 Food Consumption Score



- The proportion of households with a poor food consumption score was 16 percent in August 2020 compared to 15 percent in July2020.
- The proportion in the borderline category was 13 percent in August in comparison to 12 percent in July while those in the acceptable food consumption score were at 71 percent for August2020.
- When compared to August 2019 which had 21 percent poor and 30 percent borderline and 49 percent acceptable indicating improvements.

5.3.1 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

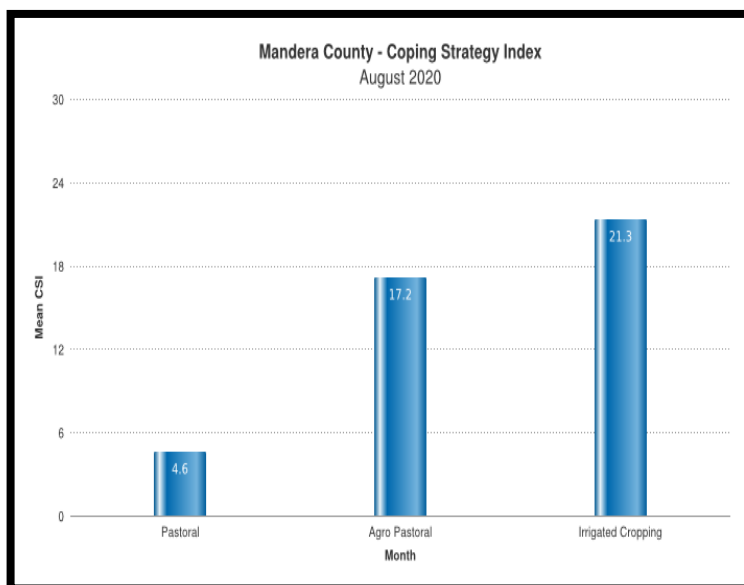
- The percentage of children (<5yrs) at mid-risk category for 125mm to 134mm during the month of August was 18 percent.
- The proportion of children at risk of malnutrition in Mandera slightly increased when compared to last month. MUAC rates are lower than the long-term average.
- The high levels of malnutrition cases are attributed to Poor dietary diversity, poor child feeding practices, poor caring and poor feeding practices.
- Simbir fatuma sentinel site in the pastoral all species livelihood zones recorded the highest percentage of malnourished children while the lowest percentage of malnourished children is Yabicho sentinel site.



5.3.2 Health

- The Covid 19 epidemic disease has so far recorded 9 new cases during the evaluation period totaling to 29 caseloads for the County and all recovered.
- No other outbreaks of human disease were reported across the County.

5.4 COPING STRATEGIES



- The Coping Strategy Index (CSI) was 16.5 for the August 2020 .
- When compared to same time last year, the CSI was stable.
- The highest CSI is in the Irrigated cropping livelihood zone followed by Agro pastoral zone and Pastoral livelihood zone respectively.
- This implies communities were employing less severe strategies to cope with food shortages
- The indices at livelihood zone level are shown in the graph:

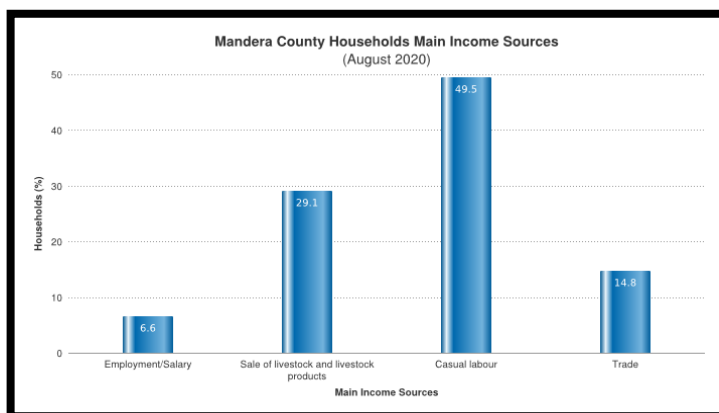
The main coping strategies used by

communities include-

- HSNP regular beneficiaries receiving by monthly payment for 22231 households.
- Food and nutrition support services offered by various actors
- Sale of livestock
- Purchasing basic food items on credit from local shops.

- Borrowing and receiving of gifts from neighbours.
- Engaging in casual labour to support families
- Financial aid and remittances from relatives working in and outside the County
- borrowing from friends and relatives
- Cash transfer for elderly/OVC.

5.5 HOUSEHOLD SOURCE OF INCOME



- The main household income for the county during the month of August was sale of livestock and livestock products and casual labour as shown in the graph above.

6. CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)

6.1 NON-FOOD INTERVENTIONS

- Kenya Red cross society is conducting 16 health outreach sites In Mandera East, North and Banisa sub counties.
- Kenya Red cross society is implementing two projects on Health funded by Master card foundation- Emergency Health support (COVID-19 project) and EU- Covid19 Emergency Health Project.
- DRC is implementing two projects (Covid-19 response and locust response projects) for three months.

6.2 FOOD AID - NOTE THE FOLLOWING

- Supplementary feeding at 63 health facilities by WFP through KEMSA and COCOP.

7.0 EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement

- No major cases of insecurity were reported in entire County in August.

7.2 Migration.

- No migration pattern noted during the month under review

7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- The Food security situation is projected to remain stable until the onset of the short rains.
- The current pasture and browse conditions poor to fair in most parts of the County.
- Livestock body condition is good for all species resulting
- Milk production and consumption has decreased as dry spell progress.
- Most earth pans and underground water tanks impounded water during have dried and number of water trucking centres increased. Distance of household water sources increased.
- Terms of trade (TOT) is currently favourable improving purchasing power of the pastoralist households.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- Support water trucking to areas with water stress.

- Provision of PPEs and Sanitizers to poor households
- Community Sensitization through Radios and other media service on Coronavirus outbreak and preventions.
- Provision of relief food to vulnerable households affected by the Covid 19 pandemic crisis.
- Enhance livelihood programmes especially for affected families.
- Mass deworming, treatment and vaccination of livestock in the entire county.
- Fast track disbursement of Drought Contingency funds for resilience activities
- Capacity building and training of communities on Disaster Risk Reduction and EWS and drought cycle management.
- Scale up of health and nutrition outreach programme for settlements without facilities
- Increase mass screening of under five children.
- Provide essential drugs to all health facilities particularly newly operationalised facilities
- Fast track nutritional commodities supplies to avoid IMAM programme defaulters.