



**National Drought Management Authority  
WAJIR COUNTY  
DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR JUNE 2020**

**EW JUNE PHASE 2020**



**Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification  
Biophysical Indicators**

**Rainfall.**

No rainfall was received during the month, Though Experienced cool, cloudy and windy condition during the day and night.

**Vegetation condition** Current Vegetation Cover index indicated vegetation greenness above normal with ascore of 54 as opposed to previous value of 54, Except Wajir West that showed moderate vegetation with ascore of 32.6, while All other sub-counties showed Vegetation greenness and Normal vegetation greenness above normal.

**Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)**

**Production indicators:**

- Livestock body condition remained good to fair, except formal/Informal livelihood zones that showed fair to poor condition. No migrations reported. Stable milk production.

**Access indicators**

- Favourable terms of trade was reported, there was slight increase in maize prices and increased trekking distance to water source. Stable milk consumption as compared to previous month.

**Early Warning Phase Classification**

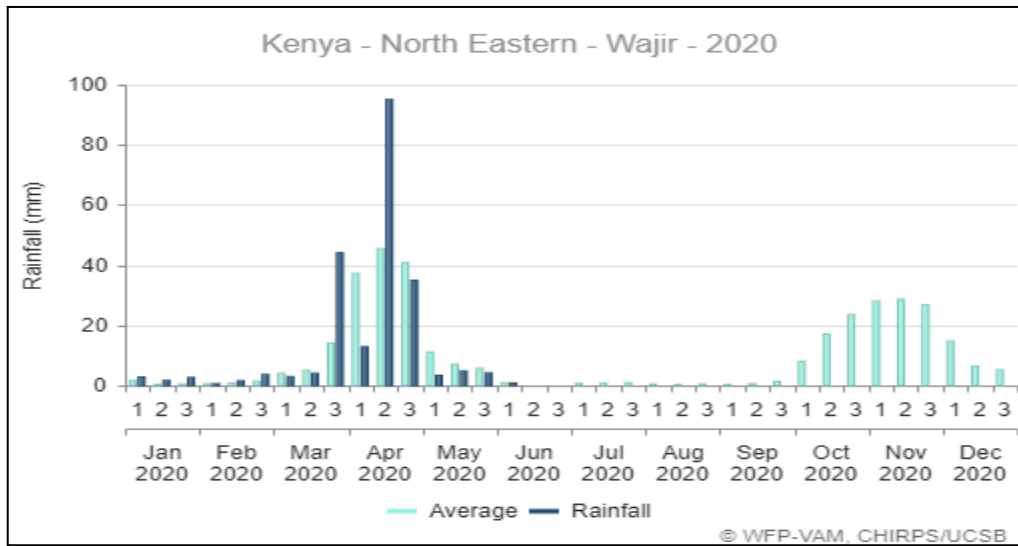
Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral	Normal	Improving
Pastoral cattle	Normal	Improving
Pastoral-all species	Alert	Improving
Pastoral camel	Normal	Improving
Informal employment	Normal	Improving
County	Normal	Improving
Biophysical Indicators	value	Worsening
Rainfall (% of Normal)	0	80 -120
VCI-3Month	54	>35
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Livestock Body Condition	Good	Normal
Crop production	Fair	Good
Milk production	2.2	>3-4litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	Normal	Normal
Livestock deaths (from drought)	No	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	81	>66
Milk consumption	1.3	>3
Return Distance to water source	4.4	<5 Km
CSI	6.65	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Short rains harvests</li> <li>▪ Short dry spell</li> <li>▪ Reduced milk yields</li> <li>▪ Increased HH Food Stocks</li> <li>▪ migrations</li> <li>▪ Land preparation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Planting/Weeding</li> <li>▪ Long rai Calving Rate</li> <li>▪ Milk Yields Increase</li> <li>▪ Breeding period</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Long rains harvests</li> <li>▪ A long dry spelnd preparation</li> <li>▪ Increased HH Food Stocks</li> <li>▪ Kidding (Sept)</li> <li>▪ Migrations</li> <li>▪ Herd separations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Short rains</li> <li>▪ Planting/weeding</li> <li>▪ High birth rates</li> <li>▪ Wedding</li> </ul>

## 1.0 CLIMATIC CONDITION

### 1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

- Wajir county was generally dry and sunny during the month, Occasioned by cool,



cloudy and windy condition during the day and night.

*Figure 1: Rainfall Source: WFP-VAM/CHIRPS/UCSB*

#### 1.1.1 Amount of rainfall and spatial Distribution

- No Rainfall was experienced during the month under review, though characterised by cloudy, dry and windy throughout the day and night

## 2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

### 2.1 Vegetation Condition

#### 2.1.1 Vegetation condition index (VCI)

Current average vegetation cover indexes for the county showed vegetation greenness above normal with a value of 54.53 as opposed to previous month score of 52.0, while all other sub-counties showed vegetation greenness and normal vegetation across the livelihood zones except wajir west with moderate vegetation deficit, this showed slight improvement in vegetation with no significant changes.. This is expected to decline due to below normal rainfall during MAM,2020,which did not replenish.

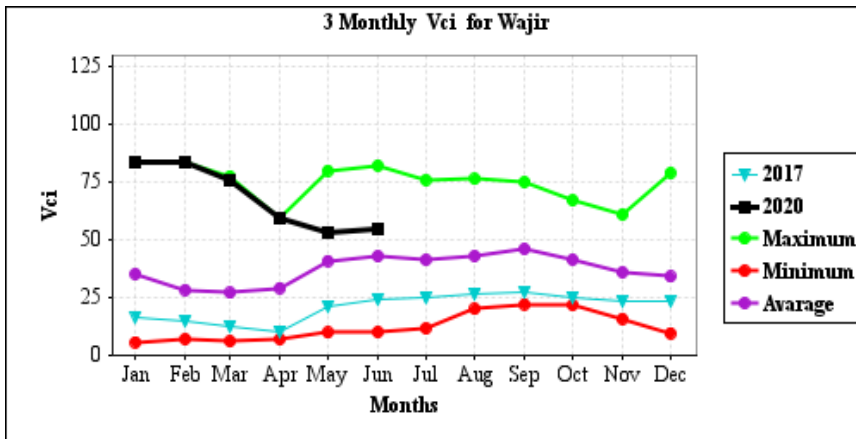
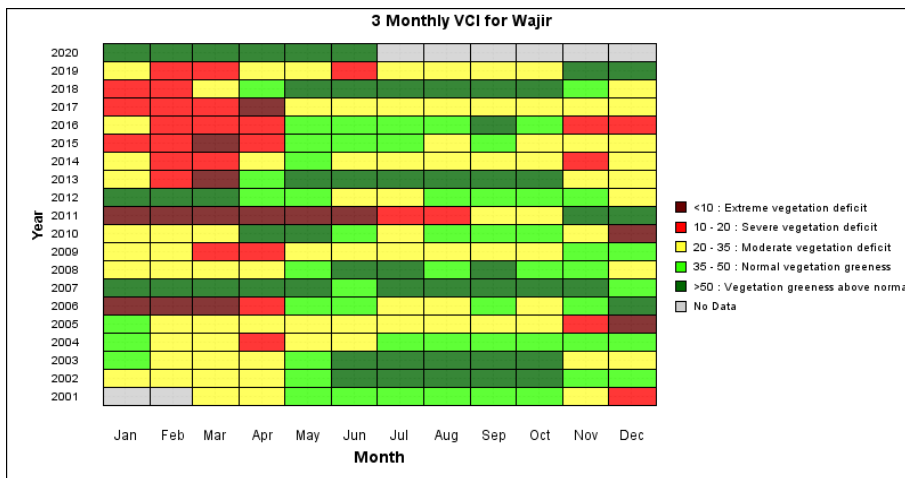


Figure 2: A chart of 3-monthly VCI for Wajir during the month of June 2020.



*Figure 3: A matrix of 3-monthly VCI for Wajir during the month of June 2020.*

### **2.1.2 Pasture**

- Currently, pasture condition across the livelihood zones still remained to be good to fair where 42 per cent of the community reported to be good and 58 per cent reported to be fair, this is due to available pasture attributed to adequate rainfall.
- In comparison to previous month pasture condition remained the same as a result of sufficient rains experienced during previous season, with existing brown standing hays and improvement of pasture during MAM 2020 rainfall.
- Available pasture is likely to last for the next two to three months due to available brown standing hay and pasture in the county.
- Quality and Quantity of pasture is good across the livelihood zones.
- No constraints reported during the month under review.
- All the livelihood zones across the county recorded high proportion of pasture except few sub-counties in Wajir West and Eldas.

### **2.1.3 Browse**

- Browse condition in the county ranges between good to fair across the livelihood zones, where most of the community reported browse to fair while others reported to be good, except few areas in Wajir West and Eldas that remained to be poor.
- Currently, Browse situation slight decreased as compared to previous months due to the dry spell and cessation of rainfall.
- Available browse is expected to last for aduration of one to two months as aresult of the ongoing dry spell and heavy wind.
- No constraints recorded during the month under review.
- Quality and Quantity of browse condition across the livelihood zones are good to fair.

## **2.2 Water Source**

### **2.2.1 Sources**

- Currently, the major water source in use by both human and livestock in the county are Water Pans, Shallow wells and some few boreholes.
- Currently, the water situation in the county remained the same as opposed to previous months due to high recharge of water during MAM, 2020, except Parts of Wajir west that their water pans dry up and are using boreholes.
- Available water is expected to last for more than two to three months across the livelihood zones as aresult of the available water.

## Household access and Utilization

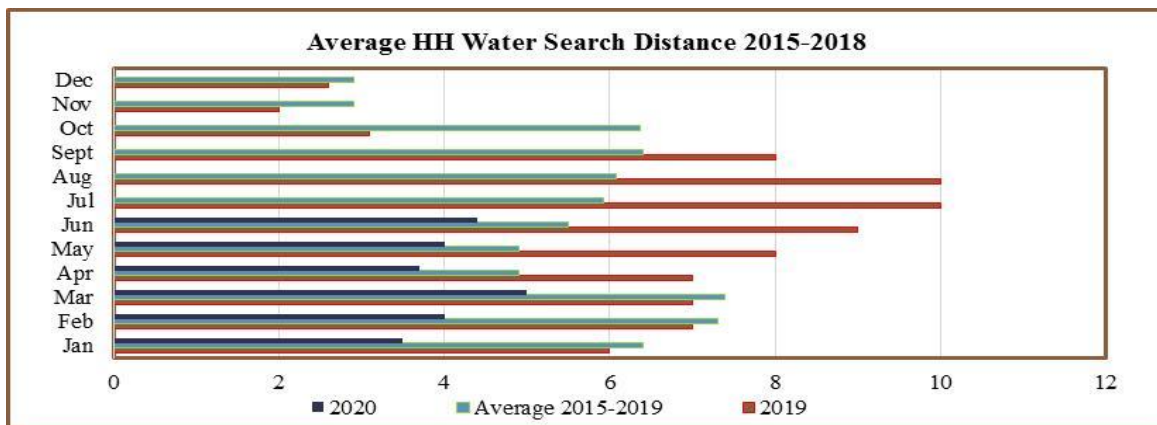


Figure 4: Current Return Distance to Water Sources against 2015-2019 average

- Currently, average return distance from household to water point remained the same in the month under review, when compared to previous month due to available water as a result of slight to moderate rainfall recorded during MAM 2020, which recharged some few water pans, Except parts of Wajir West and Wajir south where recharge level was very low.
- Current average household return distance to water source is below the long-term average and previous month average due to available water.
- Average water consumption per person per day is normal as compared to previous month due to sufficient water available. this is normal at this time of the year.
- The proportion of households that treat water is too with only some few households in urban using aqua tabs while few others use boiling methods.

### 2.2.2 Livestock access

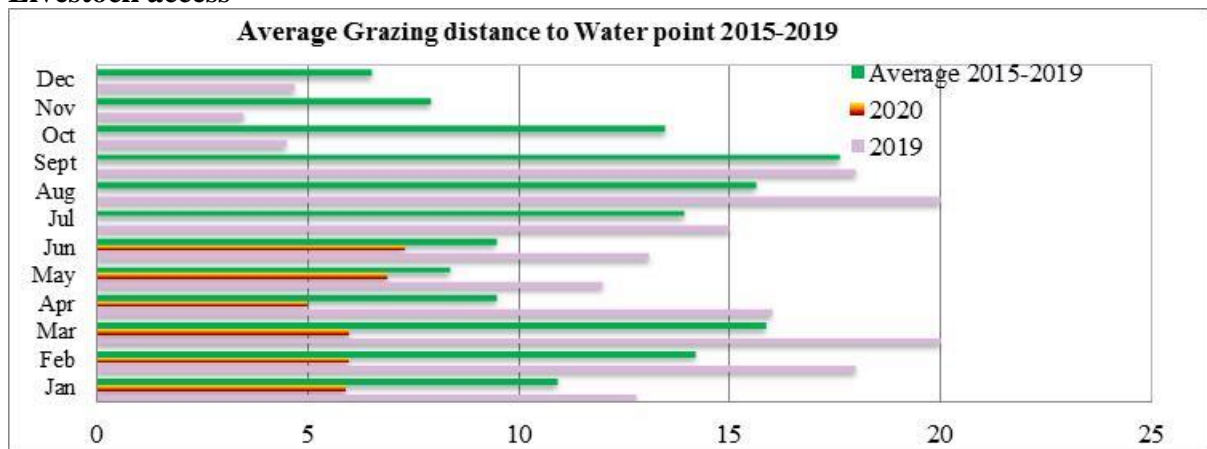


Figure 5: Current Distance from Grazing to Water Sources against 2015-2019 average

- Current trekking average return distance from livestock grazing area to main water sources increased from 6.9km in May 2020 to 7.3km in the month under review as a result of slight deterioration and depletion of water pans in some parts of the livelihood zones due to low recharge, thus increased trekking distance.

- Current average return distance from grazing area to water points is below the long-term average and previous year's month average. This indicated an improvement when compared to previous year's month and long term due to presence of pasture and browse.
- Trend and frequency of watering livestock by species varies where for goat is 1-2 days, cattle-every one day and Camel 7-14 days.
- Current distance from grazing to water sources varies according to livelihood zones, where highest was still reported in Pastoral all species in Wajir West, Wajir South and Eldas and lowest recorded in Agro-pastoral in Wajir North, Pastoral Camel in Wajir East, Tarbaj and Eldas.

### **3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS**

#### **3.1 Livestock production**

##### **3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition**

- Currently, The Livestock body situation across the livelihood zones remained to be good but for cattle and sheep in the urban areas indicated fair in the entire county due to poor regeneration of pasture and browse.
- Currently, The body condition of livestock remained to be good as compared to previous months due to available pasture, browse and water attributed to adequate rains witnessed during the previous seasons.
- When compared to similar previous period, current livestock body situations are above normal due to sufficient pasture and water attributed to enhanced rainfall during OND 2019 and MAM 2020.
- The body situation of livestock is expected to remain good across the livelihood zones due to adequate pasture and browse available in the county. This is normal at this time of the year.
- All the livelihood zones across the county are in good condition, except formal/Informal livelihood zones that indicated to be fair.

##### **3.1.2 Livestock Diseases**

- Cases of CCPP, PPR LSD and camel flu still exist in the county, though the department are doing vaccination. In the county.

##### **3.1.3 Milk Production**

- Currently, Average milk production per household per day remained the same which recorded 2.2 litres in the month under review; this is due to available pasture, browse and reduced trekking distance.

- Current average Milk production per household per day is equal to the long term average and previous month average as a result of available milk attributed to good pasture, browse and water.
- The trend and Quantity of milk production is normal for this time of the year as opposed to the same period due to available vegetation and water in the county.
- Highest livestock producing milk in the livelihood zones was reported in Pastoral Camel, Pastoral Cattle and Pastoral All species because camel and Cattle are the species that produce milk and Lowest producing was recorded in agro-pastoral and Pastoral all species.

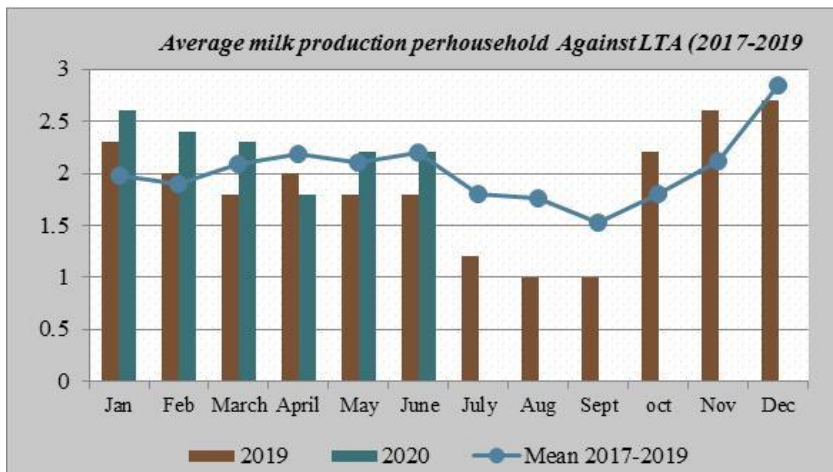


Figure 6: A graph showing current average milk production for Wajir against (2017-2019) mean

### 3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION

#### 3.2.1 Stage and condition of food Crops

- The main food crops grown in the county are mainly millet, maize, beans, sorghum, pulses and others like Kales, Watermelon.

#### IMPLICATION OF THE ABOVE INDICATORS TO FOOD SECURITY

- Available vegetation and water will improve livestock body condition thus improving the purchasing power of the households.

## 4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

### 4.1. LIVESTOCK MARKETING

#### Cattle Prices

- Current average cattle prices of four-year-old medium size increased significantly from kshs 23,500 in May 2020, to kshs 26,000 in the month under review due to high demand and low supply attributed to good livestock body condition.
- In comparison to previous month, average price of cattle increased due to high demand in the market and low supply. This is due to pastoralist households holding their herds.
- Currently, average price of cattle is still above the long-term average and previous year's average due to good livestock body condition attributed to good market.
- Highest average prices were reported in the urban areas and lowest recorded in the rural areas.

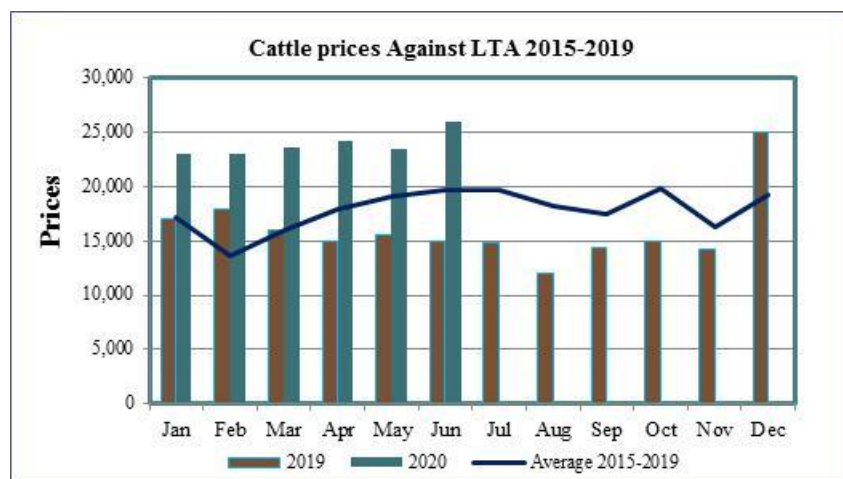
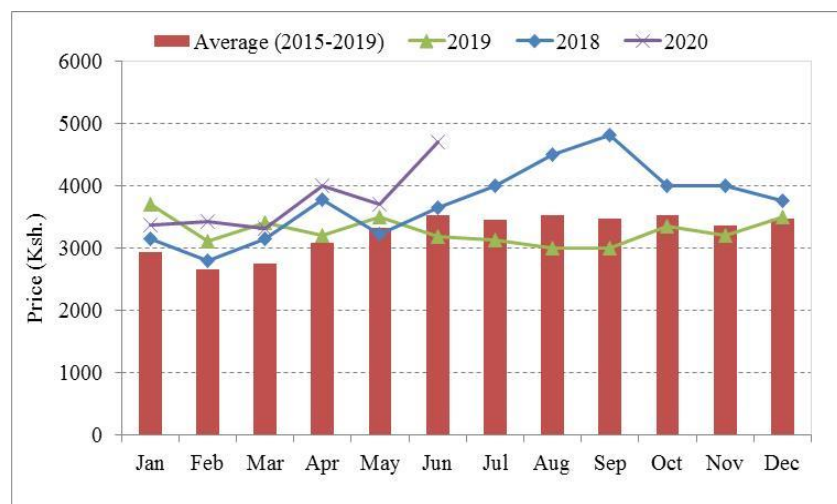


Figure 7: Current cattle prices against LTA 2015-2019

#### 4.1.2 Small Ruminant (Goat price)

- Currently, average livestock prices of goat increase significantly from kshs 3697 in May 2020, to Kshs 4700 in the month under review due to high demand and low supply as a result of good livestock body condition and reduced trekking distance.
- Current average prices are above long-term average and previous year's month average as compared to normal of kshs.3521 for the LTA and kshs 3,180 for the





previous month year price. This indicates that the prices are still normal when compared to the LTA and Previous month year prices.

The highest prices of livestock were reported in Bute and Dagahley market in Wajir South and lowest reported in Tarbaj and Wajir west.

Figure 8: Current Goat prices against LTA of 2015-2019

### 4.1.3 Camel price

- Currently, average price of four-year-old Camel slightly increased from kshs 27,777 to kshs 28000 in the month under review due to high demand and low supply in the market.
- Currently, average price of four-year-old camel is below the long-term average and previous year's month average price due to poor market attributed to the on-going pandemics.
- Livelihood zones with the highest prices of camel were recorded in the urban areas and lowest reported in the rural areas

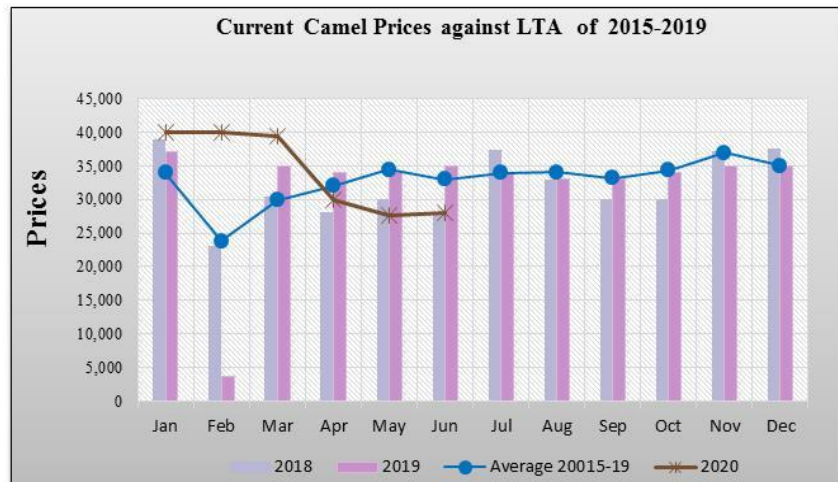
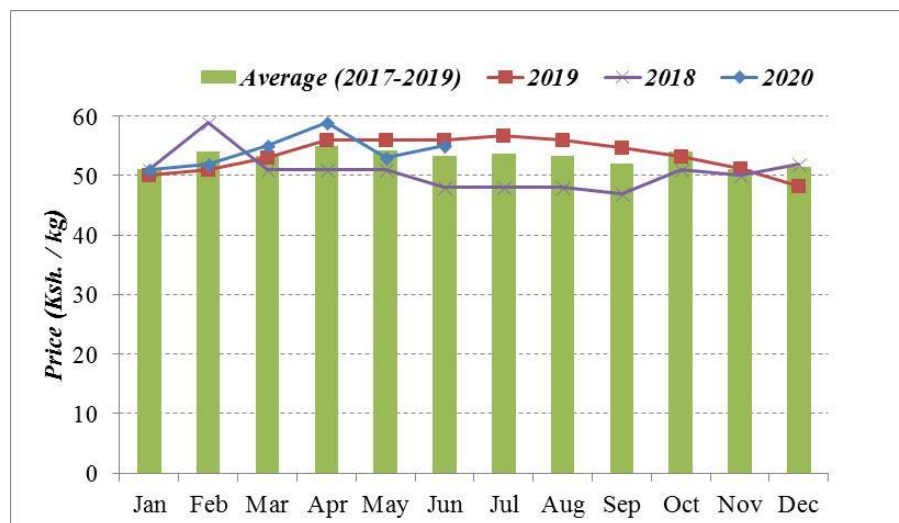


Figure 9: Current Camel Prices against LTA of 2015-2019

## 4.2 CROP PRICE

### 4.2.1 Maize

- Currently, average maize prices increased from kshs 53 in the month of May 2020 to kshs 55 in the month under review as a result of low supply and high demand in the market.
- Current average maize price is above the long term average but below previous month prices, this is due to high demand and low supply in the market.



- The livelihood with the highest prices was recorded in the rural areas and lowest was recorded in the urban areas.

Figure 10: Current maize prices against LTA (2017-2019)

#### 4.2.1.1 Other outstanding observation

- The major staple food consumed and utilized in Wajir, is rice, beans, meat, milk, maize and spaghetti in the entire livelihood zones.

#### 4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade (TOT).

- Currently, the Terms of Trade increased significantly from 69kg in May 2020 to 81kg in the month under review due to significant increase in goat prices thus making Pastoral households to fetch more kg of Maize, This indicates that the terms of trade for the county is still favourable and this is normal at this time of the year.
- Currently, the term of trade is above the long-term average and previous year's month average with an LTA of 72kg and previous month average of 63kg.
- Livelihood with the highest ratio was reported in Wajir Town and lowest recorded in the rural areas. This is normal at this time of the year.

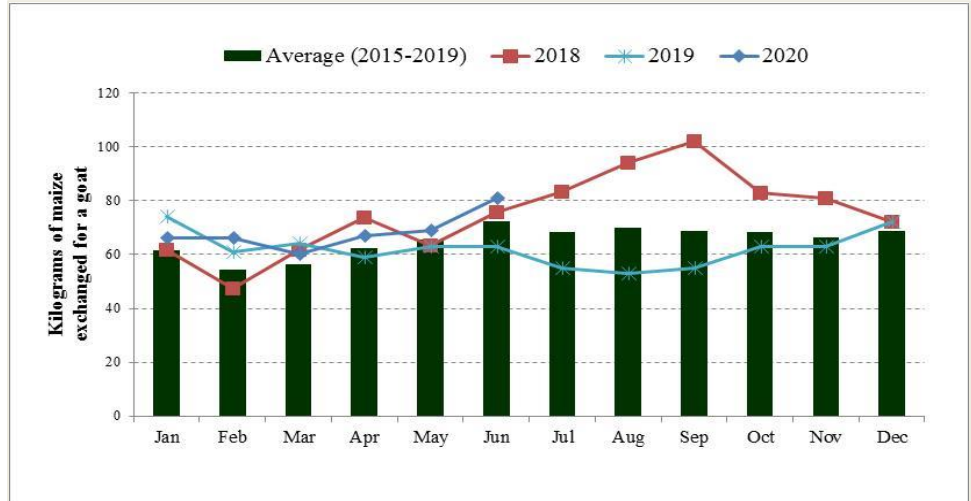


Figure11: A graph of current Terms of Trade against the long-term (2015-2019)

## 5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

### 5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

- Currently, average milk consumption per household remained the same as compared to previous month due to available milk production attributed to good livestock body condition, reduced trekking distance and good pasture and browse.
- Livestock species with the highest milk production are Cattle and camel across the livelihood zones.
- Current average household milk consumption per household per day are below the long-term average and previous year average.
  - Trend and Quantity of milk consumption at household is still normal.

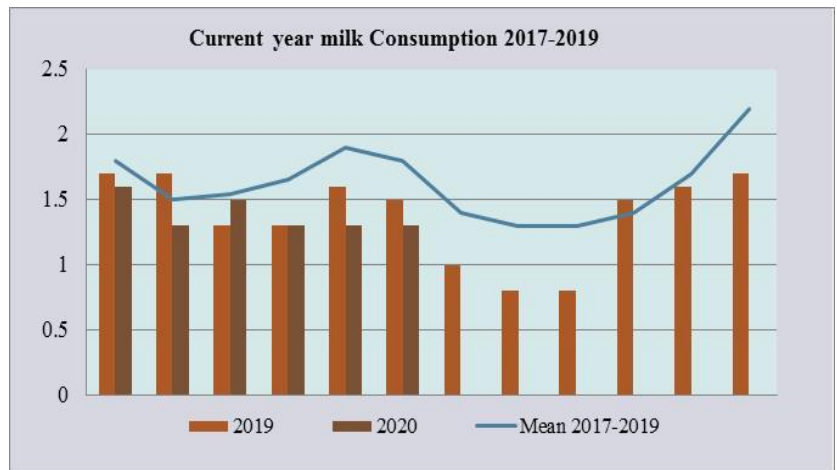


Figure12: A graph of current year milk consumption against the long-term (2017-2019)

### 5.2 :Food Consumption Score

Most of the livelihood zones are in borderline and acceptable, Apart from proportion of pastoral and pastoral all species that are in poor food consumption with ascore of 57.8, 8.5 and 1.7 respectively. This showed that pastoral households in some livelihood zones have recorded adecline in food consumption as compared to previous month which was an improvement.

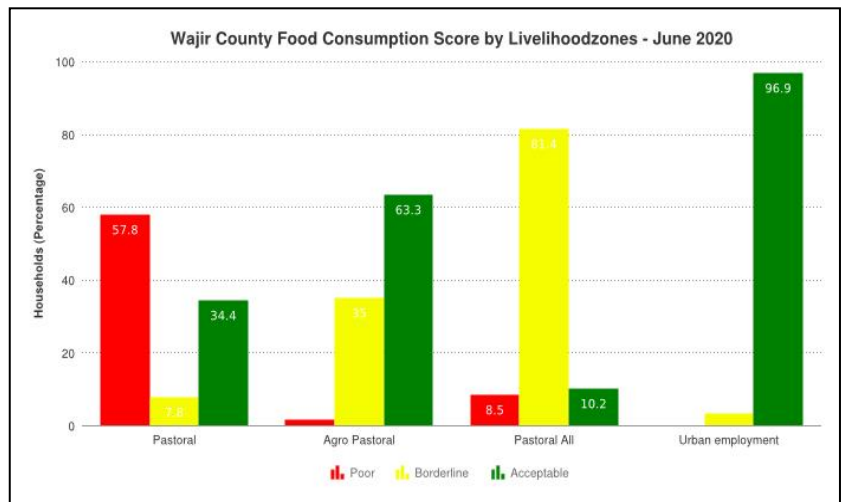
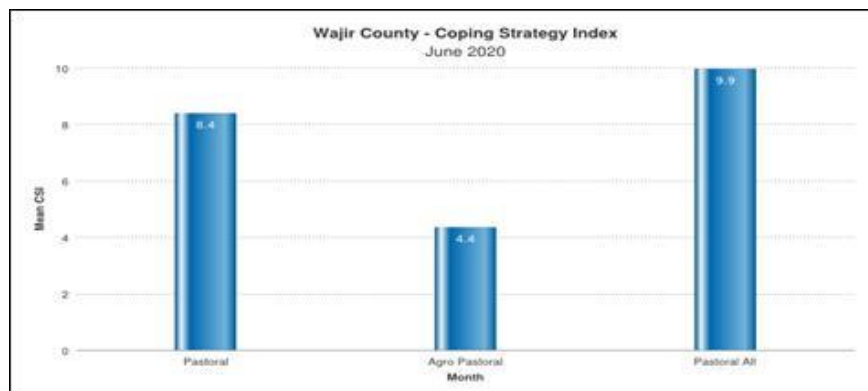


Figure 13: Food consumption Score

### 5.3.2 COPING STRATEGY INDEXES

- The mean CSI for the county is 6.5 in the month under



review as compared to previous month of figure of 6.82. Less coping strategies were employed in all livelihood zones except Pastoral all species

*Figure 14: Coping strategy*

Some of the strategies applied are: Borrowed food or relied on help from friends or relative, Reduced the quantity of food consumed by adult/mothers, relied on less preferred and less expensive food.

## **6.0 CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)**

### **6.1 Non-food interventions. -Ongoing**

- Sustainable food system Program by World Food Program-Ongoing
- Updating and Reviewing of Contingency plan

### **6.2 Food Aid.**

- Relief food distributed by the National and County government.

## **7.0 EMERGING ISSUES**

### **7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement**

- Cases of insecurity were recorded between border of Wajir and Marsabit County, where human displacement were reported.

### **7.2 Migration**

- Livestock Migration are still normal, however some parts of Wajir west have moved towards the border of marsabit for better pasture, though it is insignificant. All other livestock are within the grazing zones.

### **7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS**

- Pasture and browse condition are expected to deteriorate due to the below normal rainfall experienced during March, April and May 2020.
- Water for both livestock and human use are likely to decrease due to low recharge level experienced during MAM, 2020.
- Range land conditions are likely to continue to deteriorate as a result of unfavourable rains experienced in several places during MAM, 2020, thus deteriorate.
- Prices of livestock are expected to be poor as a result of the pandemic which attributed to low traders and high supply in the market.
- Prices of livestock in the county are likely to be poor due to the current pandemic affecting the traders.
- Availability and accessibility of milk is likely to be good, thus improve nutrition status of children under-five.

- Prices of food commodities are likely to be higher due to the COVID-19 pandemic in the country.

## **7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Health& Nutrition.**

- Sensitization and creating awareness on the pandemic (Covid 19)-ongoing
- Active Case finding on Imam-on-going.
- Rolling out of family muac
- Monitoring of Routine Disease Surveillance conducted.

### **Livestock Sector.**

- Vaccination and treatment of livestock on PPR and CCPP.
- Livestock disease surveillance
- Livestock disease Surveillance by the department of Livestock-On-going

### **Water Sector.**

- Provision of water treatment chemicals-ongoing
- Construction of underground water tank-On-going
- Drilling of boreholes

### **Peace Sector**

- Community Peace dialogue meeting conducted