

National Drought Management Authority

MANDERA COUNTY

DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR MAY 2017



A Vision 2030 Flagship Project



MAY EW PHASE

Drought Status: **ALERT**

Maandalizi ya mapema

Early Warning (EW) Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral zone	ALERT	
Irrigated Cropping zone	ALERT	Improving
Pastoral all species	ALERT	Improving
County	ALERT	Improving
Biophysical Indicators	Value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)	0	80 -120
SPI-3Month (TAMSAT)	-0.42	-1.0 to 1.0
VCI-3Month	32.7	>35
Forage condition	poor	Good
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Crop Condition (specify crop)	Fair	Good
Livestock Body Condition	poor	Normal
Milk Production	1.7	>46.0
Livestock Migration Pattern	Normal	Normal
Livestock deaths	No deaths	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	43	>47
Milk Consumption	0	40.3 litres
Return distance to water sources	11.8	<4 Km
Cost of water at source (20 litres)	10	<5Kshs
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	25	<30.0
Coping Strategy Index (CSI)		<0.95
Food Consumption Score		

Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

- Rainfall was reported during the first and last week of the month.
- **Vegetation condition;** the 3-month Vegetation Condition index is 32.7 categorizing the County as moderate vegetation deficit.
- Mandera East Sub County is in severe vegetation deficit while Mandera West, Banisa and Lafey sub counties are Moderate vegetation deficit band.
- Pasture condition are poor in all livelihood zones
- Browse conditions have improved in all sub counties.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

- **Production indicators;** Milk production and consumption are below long term average.
- Water situation is normal in all sub counties.
- The utilization indicator is outside the normal range

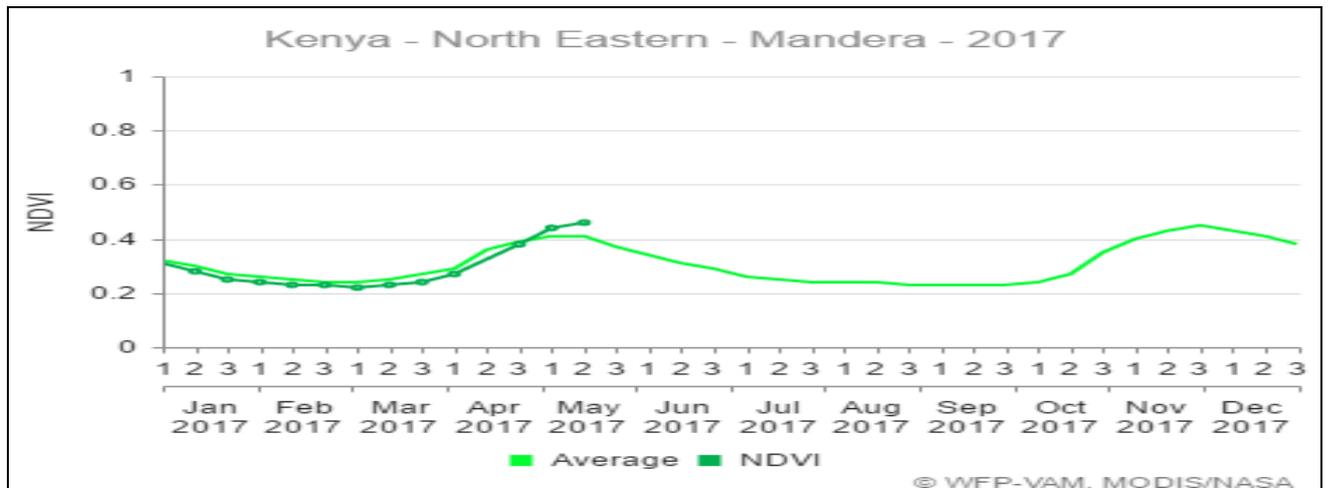
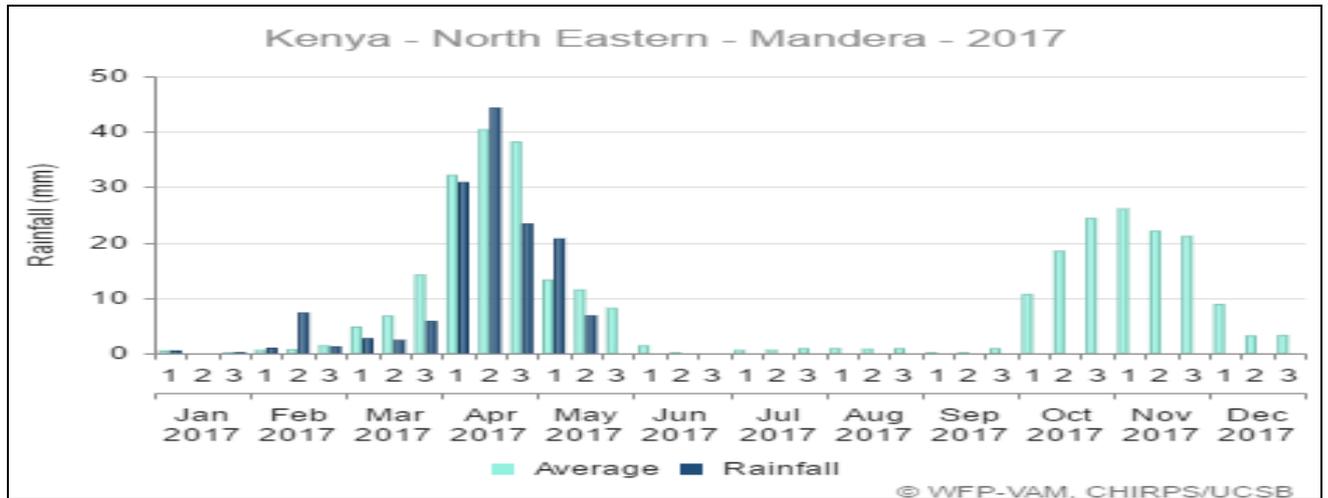
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Short rains harvests ▪ Short dry spell ▪ Reduced milk yields ▪ Increased HH Food Stocks ▪ Land preparation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planting/Weeding ▪ Long rains ▪ High Calving Rate ▪ Milk Yields Increase 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Long rains 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

Seasonal Calendar

1. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

- Rainfall was received in the entire County during the month of May during the first and last week of the month but was below normal across all livelihood zones.
- The rainfall ceased in the last week of May.



- The Current NDVI is showing positive deviation trend as the rains started during the third week of April and browse regeneration was noted.

1.2 Other Events

1.2.1 Flooding

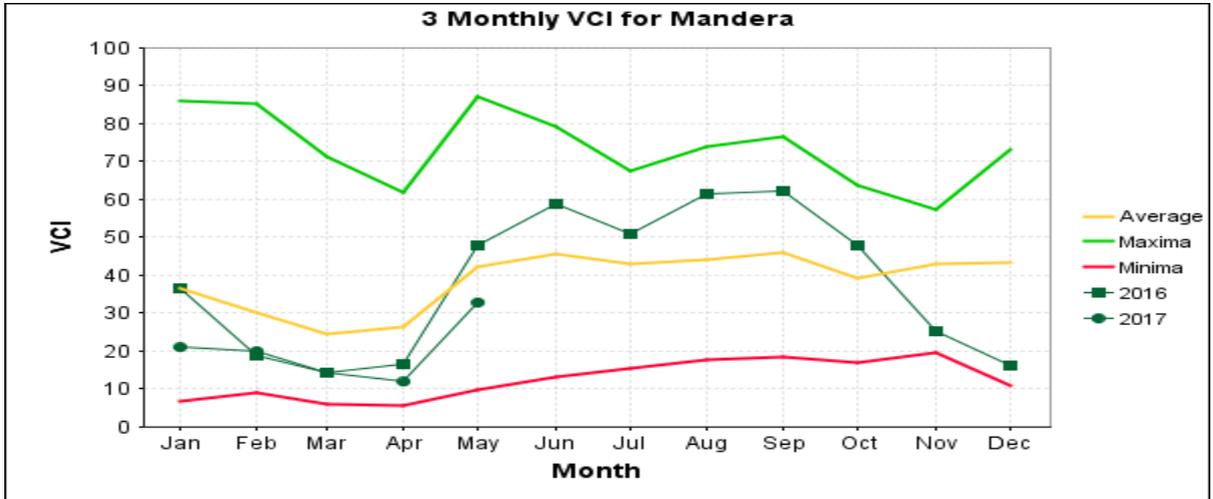
- No floods were reported during the month under review.

2. IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

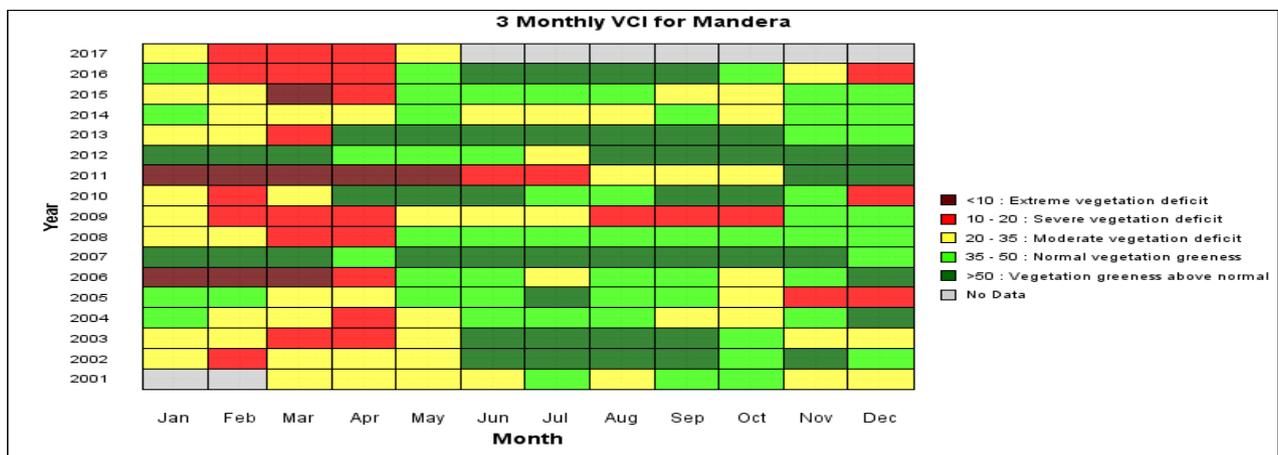
2.1 AGRICULTURAL DROUGHT

2.1.1 VEGETATION CONDITION INDEX (VCI)

- The vegetation greenness in the County as shown below on the 3-month Vegetation condition index graph is 32.7 in May2017 indicating moderate vegetation deficit.
- The monthly VCI is below average as compared to long term average as shown in the graph below.



- The 3-monthly Vegetation condition index matrix for the County is showing moderate vegetation deficit
- Mandera East sub county is in severe vegetation deficit while Mandera North, West, Banisa and Lafey sub counties are in moderate vegetation deficit.
- Mandera south sub county is in normal vegetation greenness band as shown below.



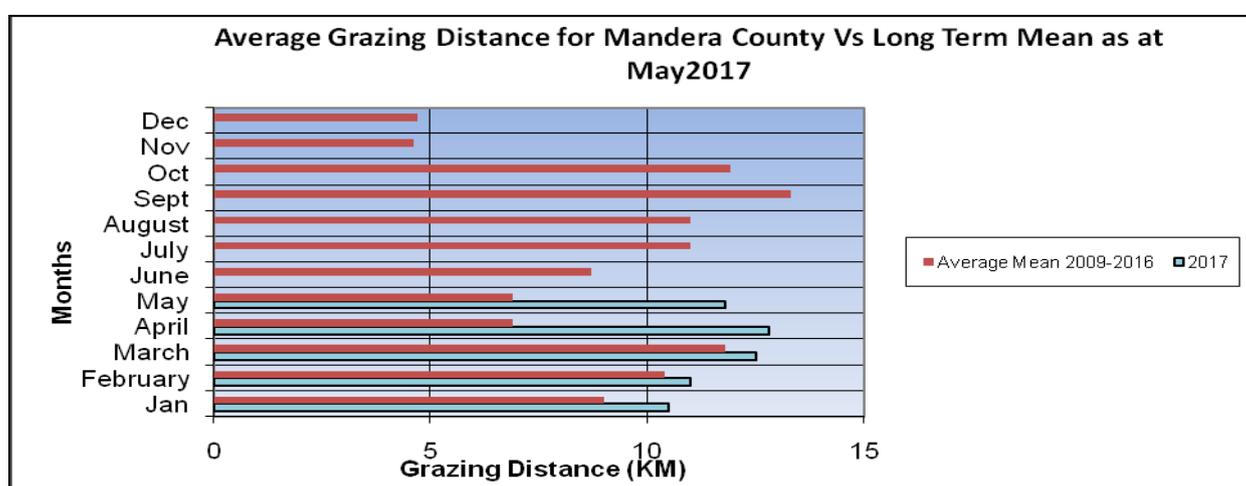
Field Observation:

2.1.2 Pasture:

- Pasture regeneration was poor in all parts of the County as the rains are below normal
- The situation is expected to worsen as the rains have stopped.
- When compared to the same period of the same year, the conditions are below normal.

2.1.3 Browse:

- The browse conditions are fair-to-good in most parts of the County except Mandera East Sub County with poor browse conditions. The situation is expected to worsen as the dry spell progress
- The average distance to grazing areas from the main source of water is 11.8Km while that of households' access to water was 6.9km, and when compared to the month of April, the average grazing distance had slightly decreased by 1Km due to the rains received as shown in graph below.

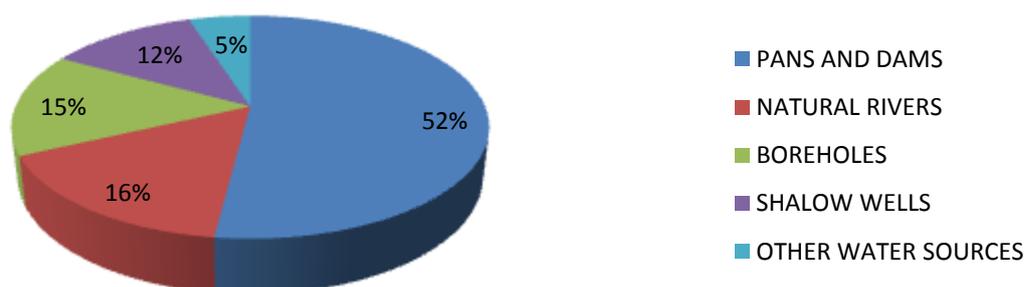


2.2 WATER RESOURCE

2.2.1 Sources

- The current main sources of water in use by both human and livestock's in the county are shallow wells, boreholes, River Daua and water pans. This is normal at this time of the year.
- Most of the household use earth pans with 52%, River at 16% and Boreholes 15% , shallow wells at 12% respectively.

Water sources utilization as at May 2017



2.3 Implication to food security

- livestock prices are expected to increase as body condition of livestock improve thus impacting positively on pastoral return at household level.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

3.1.2 Livestock Body Condition

- The body condition for goats and camel are fair in five sub counties while poor in Mandera East Sub County. These is due to availability of browse in the five sub counties.
- The cattle body condition is poor in all sub counties and thic is as result of poor regeneration of pasture in all parts of the County.
- Cattle have very thin, no fats and bones visible indicating critical situation while shoats have thin fore ribs visible.

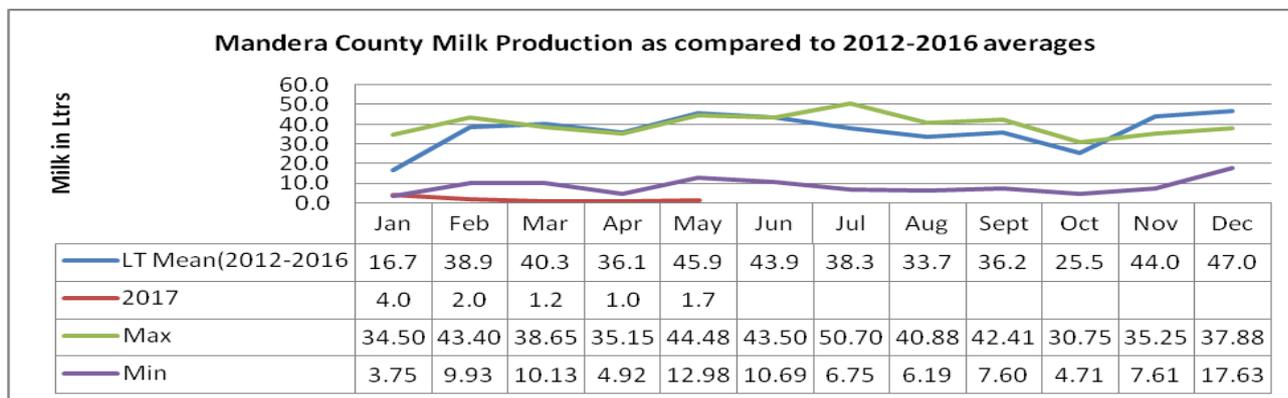
BODY CONDITIONS	SCORE
Emaciated, little muscle left	1
Very thin no fat, bones visible	2
Thin fore ribs visible	3
Borderline fore-ribs not visible. 12 th & 13 th ribs visible	4
Moderate. Neither fat nor thin	5
Good smooth appearance	6
Very Good Smooth with fat over back and tail head	7
Fat, Blocky. Bone over back not visible	8
Very Fat Tail buried in fat	9

3.1.3 Livestock Diseases

- There were still reported cases of mineral deficiency in cattle of Mandera South sub county during the month under review.

3.1.4 Milk Production

- Currently, the milk production is 1.7litres in the months of May2017 in all livelihood zones. The milk production is much low than the LTA of 45.9 litres and lower than the minimum of the same month, this is attributed to poor pasture conditions due to poor body condition.
- Pastoral all species zone reported highest milk production followed by Agro pastoral and irrigated cropping zone respectively.



3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION.

3.2.1 Stage and Condition of food Crops

- In irrigated cropping zone: Land preparation and crop plantation was conducted after the flow of River Daua.

3.3 IMPLICATION OF THE ABOVE INDICATORS TO FOOD SECURITY

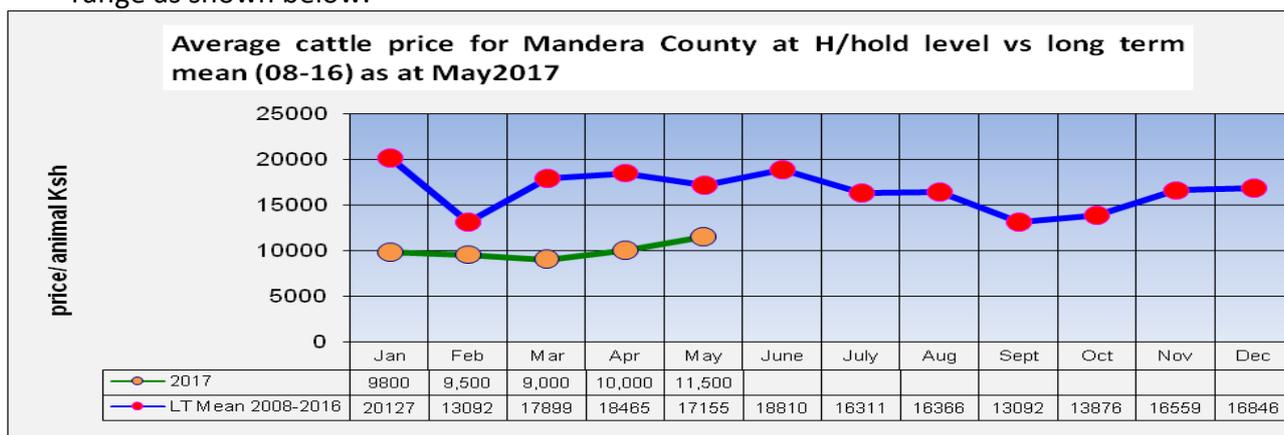
- Farmers are expected to plant their farms thus improving the food security at household level.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

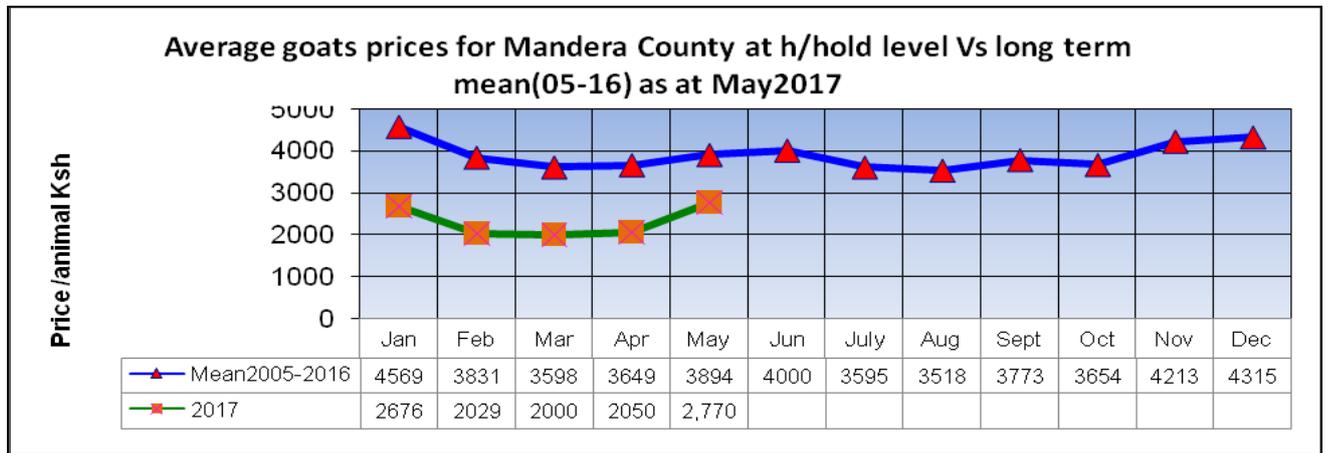
4.1.1 Cattle Prices

- Average cattle price increased from Ksh10,000 in April to Ksh11, 500 in the month of May 2017.the increased price is due to recovering body condition.
- When compared to the long-term mean, the average price is below the expected normal range as shown below.

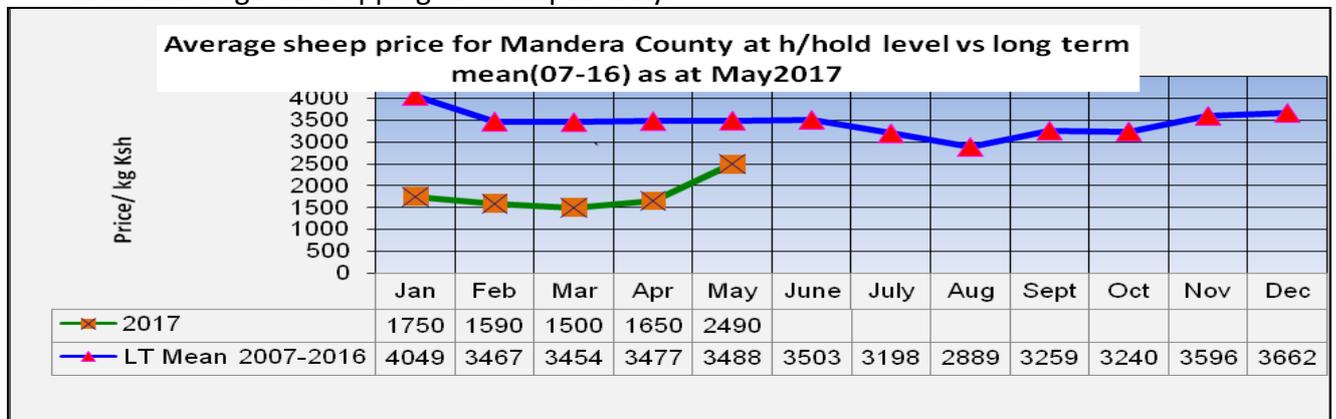


4.1.2 Goat Prices

- Average goat price increased from Ksh 2,050 in April 2017 to Ksh 2,770 for the month of May 2017. The increase in price is attributed to fair body condition.
- Compared to the long-term mean (2011-2015), the average price was below the normal Range.

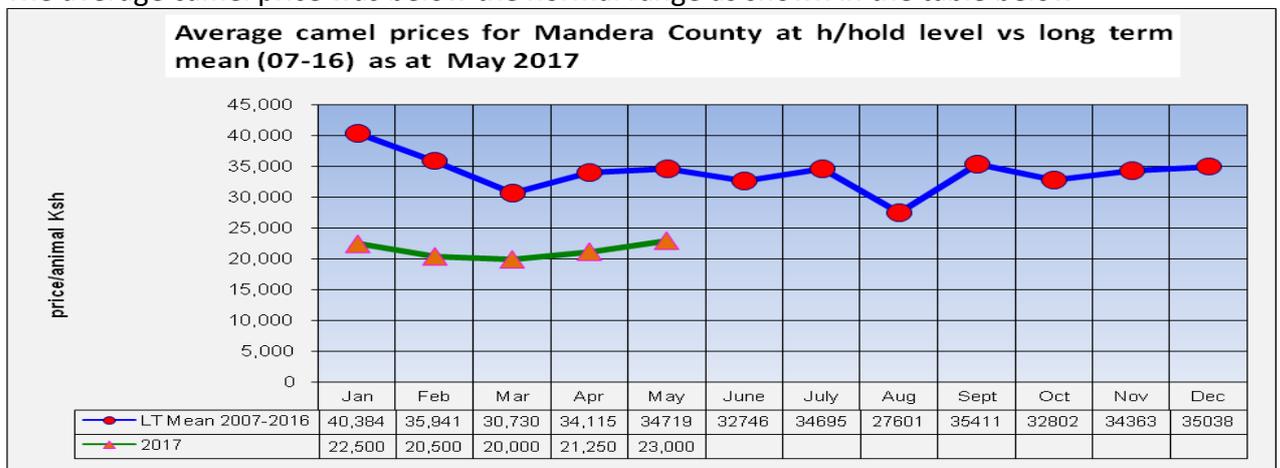


- Average sheep price increased slightly from Ksh.1, 650 in April2017 to Ksh.2, 490 in the month of May2017. The increase in price is attributed to fair body condition.
- The current average sheep price is below the long-term mean.
- The highest average prices were noted in Agro pastoral zone followed by Pastoral all species zone and irrigated cropping zone respectively.



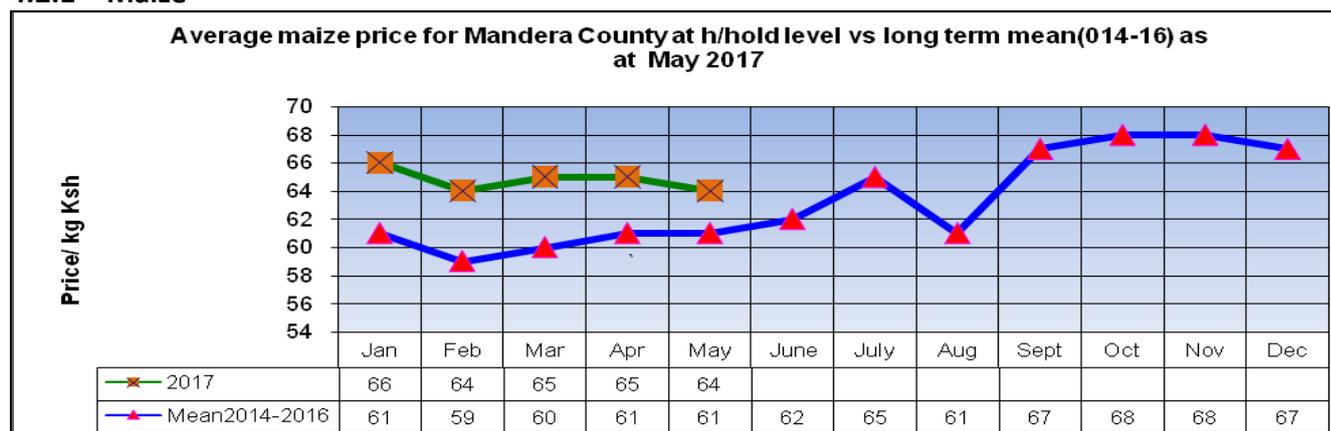
4.1.3 Camel Prices

- The average camel price during the month of May2017 is Ksh23,000/= when compared to last month the average price has increased. This can be attributed to recovering of body condition of Camel
- The average camel price was below the normal range as shown in the table below



4.2 CROP PRICES

4.2.1 Maize



- The average maize price during the month of May 2017 was Ksh.64 per kg.
- Compared to the previous month, the average price reduced by Ksh1/=.
- When compared to the long term mean price, the average price was higher than the expected long term mean.

4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade



- Currently a household can purchase 43 kilograms of maize by selling one medium goat.
- When compared to last month, the terms of trade have improved and this is attributed to the increase in goat price as a result of fair body condition.
- The terms of trade are below long term average indicating an unfavourable situation for pastoral communities.

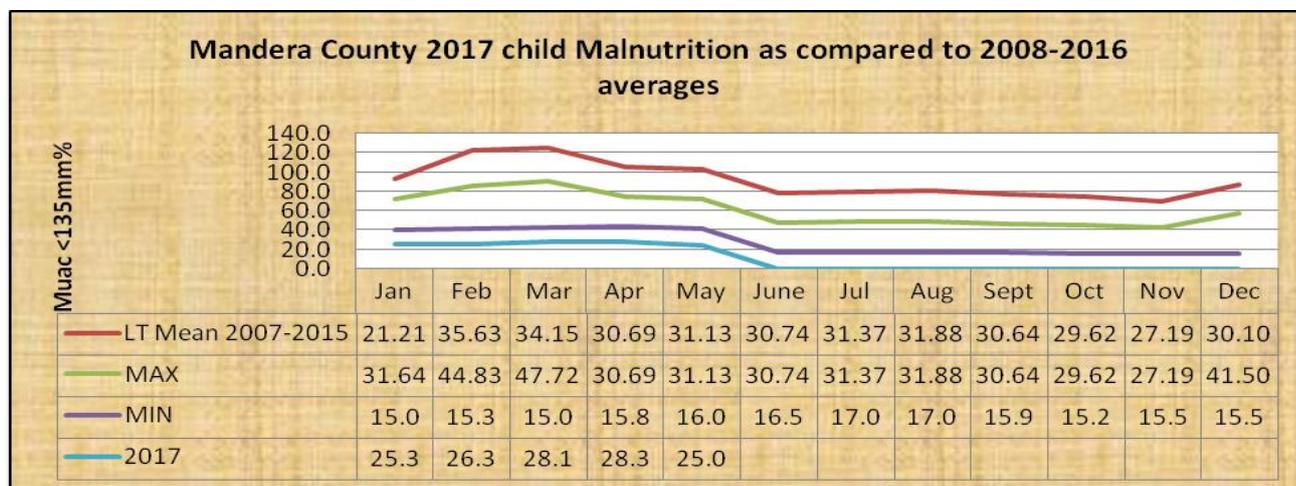
5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 MILK CONSUMPTION

- Milk consumption remained stable in comparison to last month. The total number of litres consumed was 0 litres while total produced was 1.7 litres on average for all the sampled sentinel sites. The average milk price was Ksh 80 per 750 ml bottle during the reporting month.

5.2 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

- The percentage of children (<5yrs) at mid-risk category for 125mm to 134mm during the month of May was 25%. When compared to last month it has decreased by 3.3%
- The high levels of nutritional cases are attributed to below normal milk production, Poor dietary diversity, poor child feeding practices, poor caring and poor feeding practices.



5.3.2 Health

- Cases of diarrhoea and vomiting in human was reported in Mandera and Rhamu sub counties during the month under review

5.4 COPING STRATEGIES

The main coping strategies used by communities include-

- borrowing from friends and relatives
- consumption of less preferred and cheaper foods,
- purchasing food on credit
- reduction in the number and sizes of meals,
- skipping of meals
- Provision of relief food and supplementary feeding for the vulnerable groups of the communities in the divisions still remained as the top most coping strategy.
- Remittance and Casual labour

6. CURRENT INTERVENTION MEASURES (ACTION)

6.1 NON-FOOD INTERVENTIONS - NOTE THE FOLLOWING

- Kenya Red Cross conducted outreach for health nutrition

6.2 FOOD AID - NOTE THE FOLLOWING

- 41,550 beneficiaries given relief food through food for asset and supplementary feeding programme given to 50 health facilities through the entire County by COCOP

7.0 EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement

- No major insecurity incidence was reported during the month under review

7.2 Migration

- Migration within the county was reported during the month under review.

7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

- The pasture and water situation are expected to deteriorate due to below normal rains. This will lead to worsening of food security situation and nutrition status of children under five years. The situation needs to be closely monitored as the rains have ceased.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- Mass deworming and treatment of livestock county wide. Cattle disease investigations to be undertaken to determine cause of deaths reported in mandera south sub county
- Disbursement of Drought Contingency funds for resilience activities.
- Capacity building and training of communities on Disaster Risk Reduction and drought cycle management during the normal phase
- Up scale Hunger Safety Net Programme across all the group two beneficiaries
- Scale up of health and nutrition outreach programme for settlement without facilities
- Increase mass screening of under five children.
- Provide essential drugs to all health facilities particularly newly operationalised facilities
- Fast truck nutritional commodities supplies to avoid IMAM programme defaulters.