

National Drought Management Authority
MANDERA COUNTY
DROUGHT EARLY WARNING BULLETIN FOR OCTOBER 2019



OCTOBER EW PHASE



Drought Situation & EW Phase Classification

Biophysical Indicators

- Rains were received in all parts of the county during the Month under review.
- **Vegetation condition;** the current three-month Vegetation Condition index for the County showed Normal vegetation greenness band.
- Pasture and browse conditions have regenerated across all parts of the County.
- Water availability has improved across the County with all the earth pans impounding water.

Socio Economic Indicators (Impact Indicators)

- Floods destroyed crops along the riverine as farms are still water logged.
- **Production indicator;** milk production is improving when compared last month but below long-term average
- Livestock body condition is poor but on improving trend
- Household return distance to water sources significantly decreased
- **Access Indicator:** The terms of trade are unfavourable to pastoral communities
- **Utilization indicator:** The MUAC rates are outside the expected normal range.

Early Warning (EW) Phase Classification

Livelihood Zone	Phase	Trend
Agro-pastoral zone	Alarm	Improving
Irrigated Cropping	Alarm	Improving
Pastoral all species	Alarm	Improving
County	Alarm	Improving
Biophysical Indicators	Value	Normal Range/Value
Rainfall (% of Normal)	0	80 -120
VCI-3Month	38.14	>35
Forage condition	fair	Good
Production indicators	Value	Normal
Crop Condition (Maize)	Poor	Good
Livestock Body Condition	Poor	Good
Milk Production	0.8	1.5 litres
Livestock Migration Pattern	No migration	Normal
Livestock deaths	deaths	No death
Access Indicators	Value	Normal
Terms of Trade (ToT)	31	>41kgs
Milk Consumption	0.5	1.2 litres
Return distance to water sources	5.1	<4.6 Km
Cost of water at source (20 litres)	3	<5Kshs
Utilization indicators	Value	Normal
Nutrition Status, MUAC (% at risk of malnutrition)	32	22.3
Coping Strategy Index	16.18	<0.95

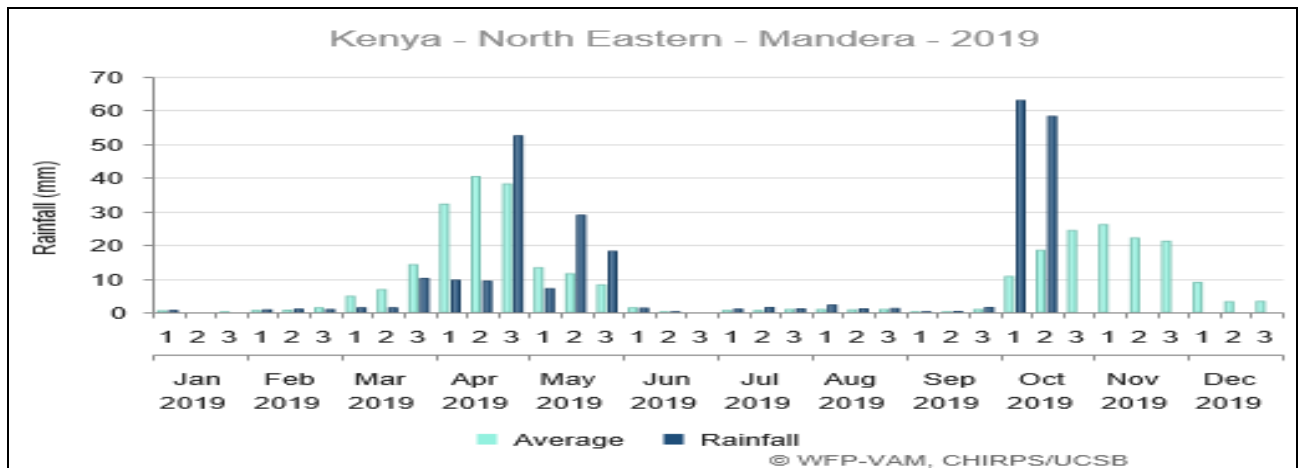
Seasonal Calendar

<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

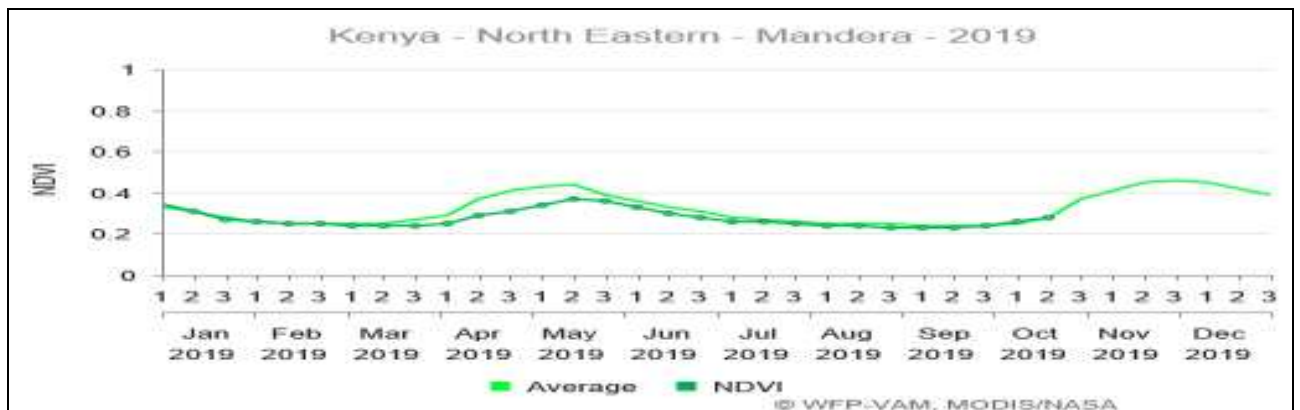
1. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

1.1 RAINFALL PERFORMANCE

- The onset of the rains was in the first week of the month of October, which is early onset. The performance of the rains was normal to above normal rainfall across the County. The rains had good temporal and even spatial distribution in the entire County.
- These is not normal during the time of years as the onset of rainfall is third dekad of the month of October.



- The current NDVI and rainfall averages is at bar with the seasonal norm as shown below.



1.1 Other Events

1.3.1 Flooding

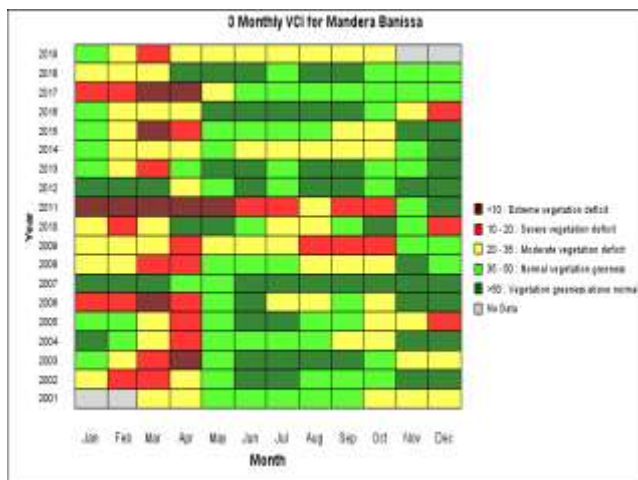
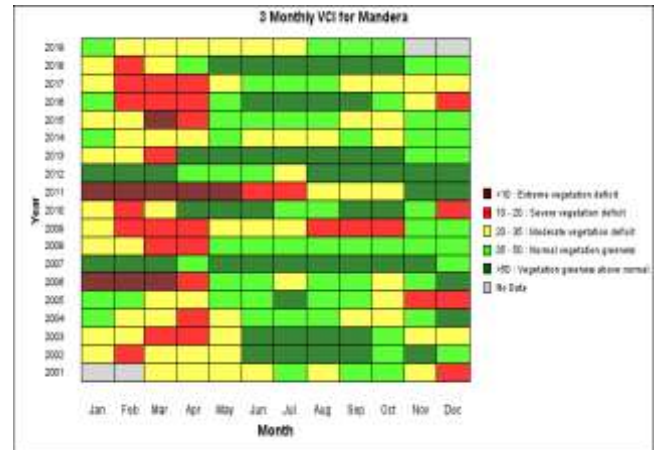
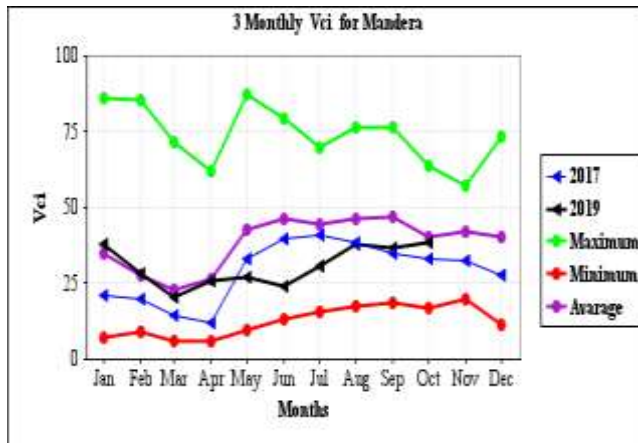
- Floods have been reported along the River Daua that has destroyed crops and washed way farm implements. most of the farms are water logged and farmers cannot plant their farms. Some town are still water logged like Elwak, Finjaro and Wargadud. Food commodities have been hiked due to low stock and no lorries coming to Mandera town and other centres

2.0 IMPACTS ON VEGETATION AND WATER

2.1 VEGETATION CONDITION INDEX

2.1.1 Vegetation Condition Index (VCI)

- The current vegetation condition index indicated normal vegetation greenness band.
- When compared to the previous month, the current 3-month VCI increased from 36.62 in Sept to 38.14 in October 2019.
- Mandera South, Mandera East, Mandera West and Lafey sub counties are showing Normal vegetation greenness while Banisa, Mandera North and are on Moderate vegetation deficit band.



2.1.2 Pasture and Browse

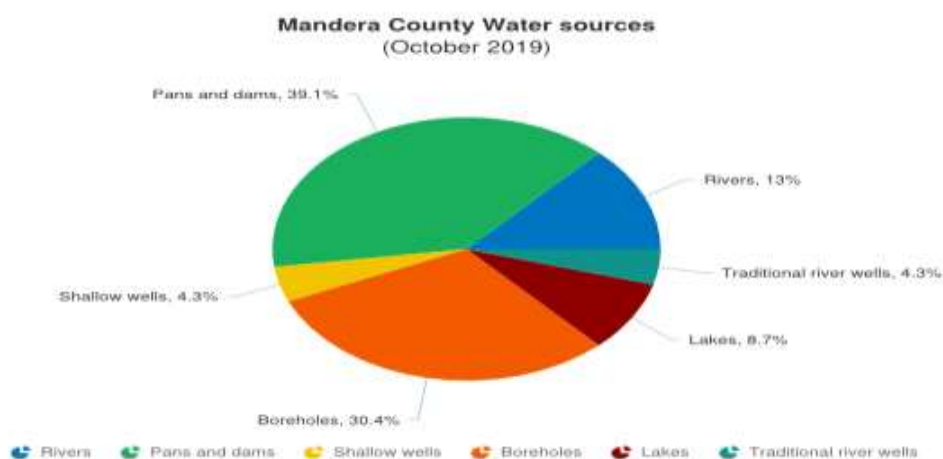
- According to sampled communities, 82percent of the 210 households interviewed reported that the pasture condition is fair while 11.9 percent reported pasture condition as good and 5.9percent reported pasture as poor as shown in the chart below
- Seventy percent of the 210 households interviewed reported browse conditions as good while 23.5 percent reported browse condition as fair and 5.9 as poor.
- When compared to last month pasture and browse regeneration was noted in all parts of the county.
- There was no constraint in pasture access reported across all the livelihood zones in the county.



2.2 WATER RESOURCE

2.2.1 Sources

- The current main sources of water in use for both human and livestock in the county are boreholes, River Daua and water pans.
- When compared with the previous month, the current water situation has improved in all the county since rains were received.

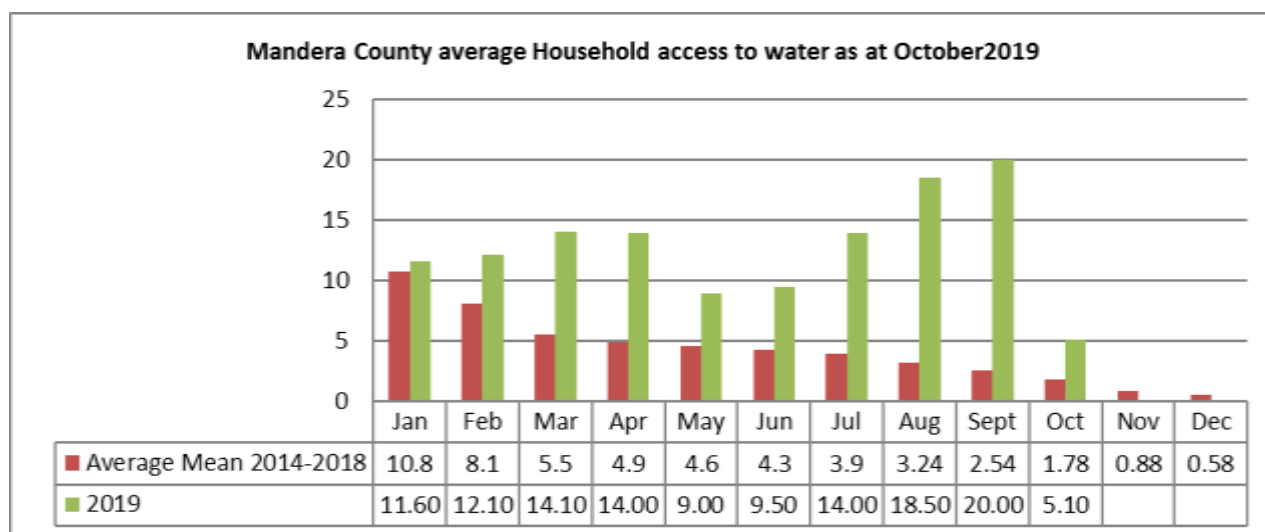


2.2.2 Household access and utilization

- The average household return distance to watering sources recorded during the month was 5.1Km as shown in the chart below.
- The current average return distance is below normal when compared to long-term average.
- The average household distance decreased by 14.9km when compared to previous month and this is attributed to good performance of October rains.
- The average cost of 20-litre jerry can at the source is less than Ksh3, which is normal at this

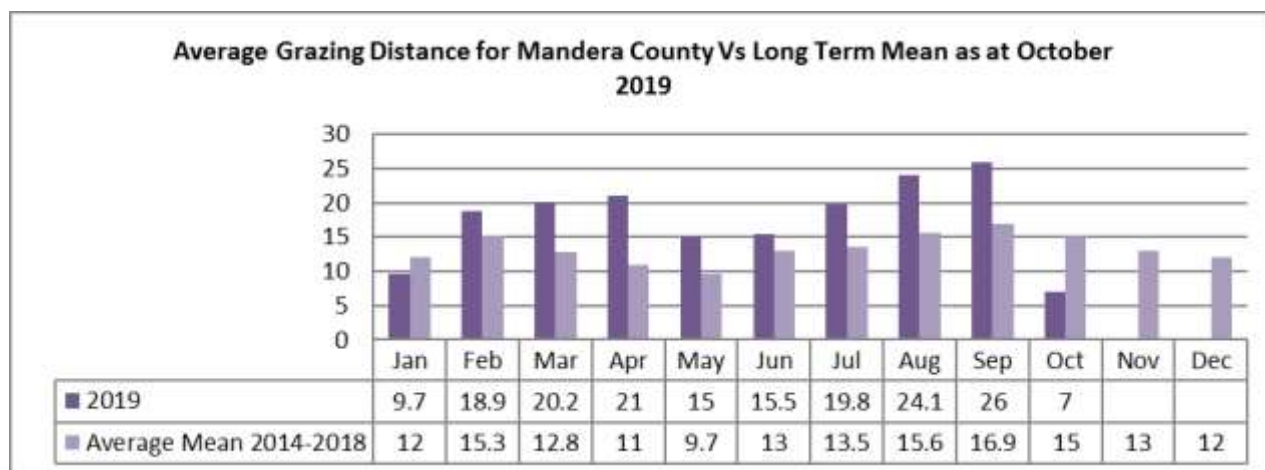
time of the year, and water consumption is normal in all parts of the county

- 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 7Km, the average grazing distance has decreased by 19km when compared to last month and this is attributed to regeneration of pasture and browse due to rainfall received during the month under review.
- The average grazing distance is expected to decrease as pasture and browse conditions are still improving and rains are expected to continue.
- Pastoral all species zone reported the longest average return grazing distance at 4.7Km followed by Agro pastoral livelihood zone at a distance of 3.3km.
- The current trekking distances are below the long-term averages as shown in the table below



2.3 Implication on food security

- Availability of water and pasture regeneration will lead to decrease in trekking distance thus improving livestock body conditions resulting to increased production.

3.0 PRODUCTION INDICATORS

3.1 LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

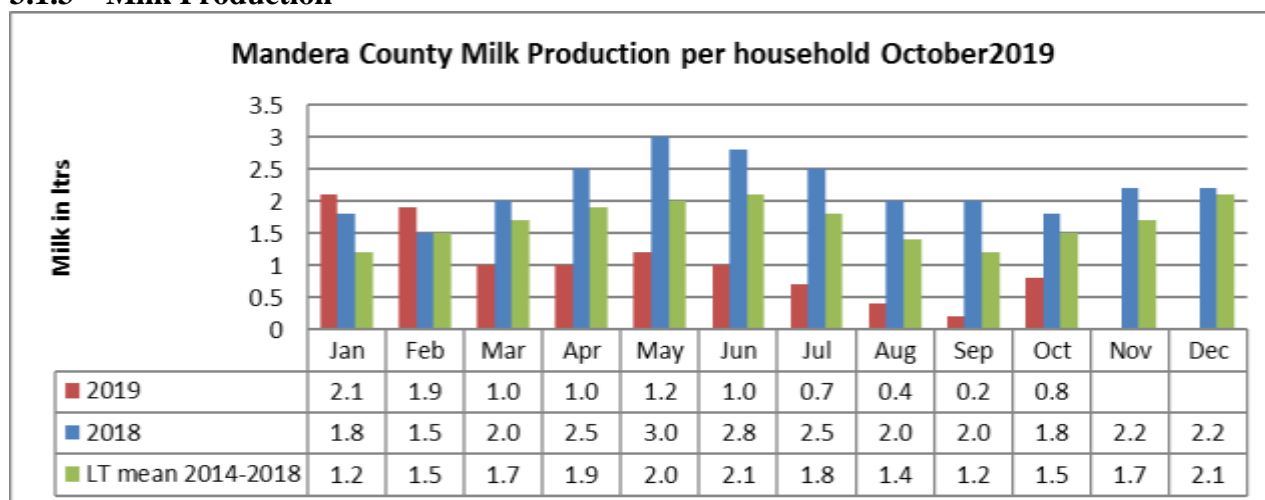
3.1.1 Livestock Body Condition

- The body conditions of livestock for all species is on improving trend across all livelihood zones in the County.
- Currently the body condition for shoats is fair to poor while cattle and camel have poor body conditions.
- Compared to a similar period in the previous years, the situation is improved during these time of the year
- Livestock deaths specially cattle and shoats were reported in Mandera South, Lafey, and Mandera West sub counties due to the heavy rainfall received and since the livestock body was weak, they could not withstand the heavy downpour.

3.1.2 Livestock Diseases

- There are suspected cases of PPR, CCPP, and Black Quarter County wide. 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 0.8litre in October, compared to the previous month the production increased by 0.5litre. The milk production is expected to increase as the pasture and browse is regenerating in entire County.
- Agro pastoral zone reported highest milk production with 0.3litre per HH followed by irrigated cropping zone and Pastoral all species respectively.
- The current milk production is below the long-term average.

3.2 RAIN-FED CROP PRODUCTION.

3.2.1 Stage and Condition of food Crops

- A Total of over 4000 Ha farm land affected by floods after River Daua burst its banks with 6000 farmers affected, infrastructures, pump sets and pump houses washed away. Crops like maize, watermelon, cowpeas, onions and fruits farmer affected and destroyed while some started harvesting prematurely. Most of the farms are water logged and farms are inaccessible and this will delay the planting of the farms
- in the Agro pastoral zone, farms have been planted waiting for germination

3.3 IMPLICATION OF THE ABOVE INDICATORS ON FOOD SECURITY.

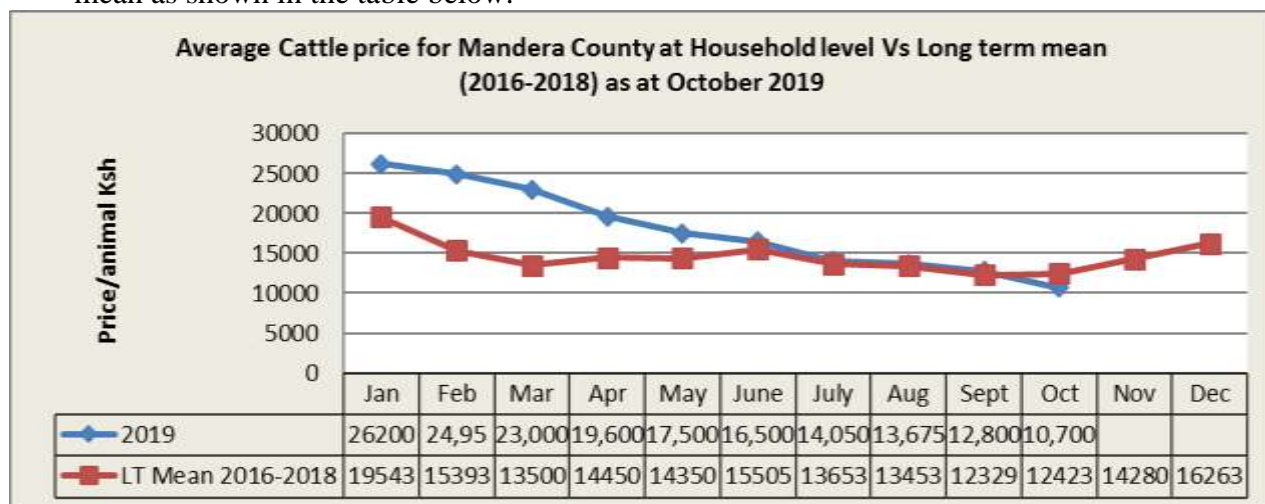
- Minimal harvest is expected along River Daua as flood have destroyed all crops and farms are still water logged.

4.0 MARKET PERFORMANCE

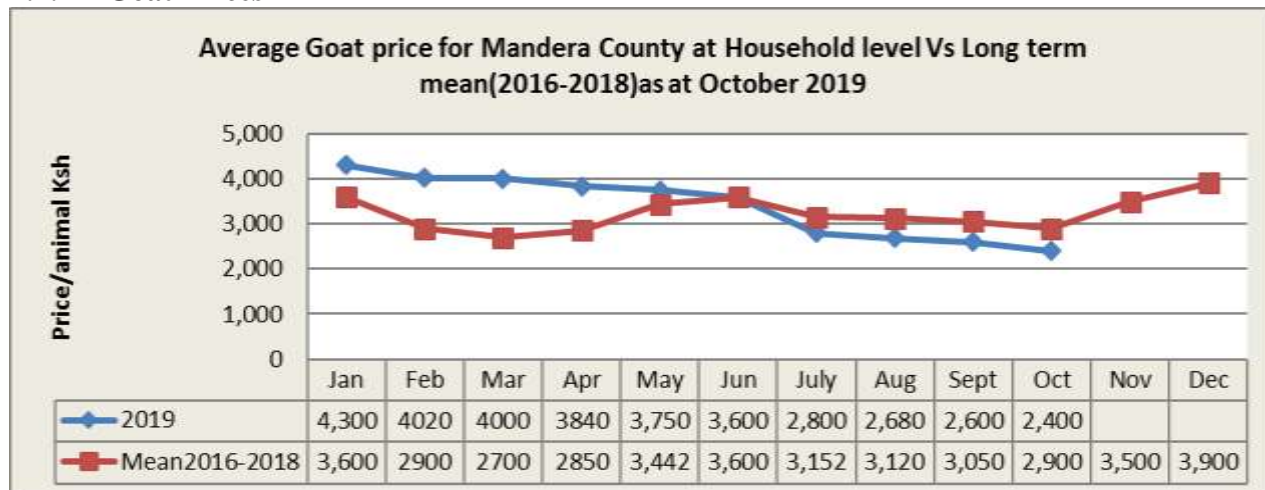
4.1 LIVESTOCK MARKETING

4.1.1 Cattle Prices

- Average cattle price decreased from 12,800Ksh in September to 10,700Ksh in the month of October 2019. These is attributed to poor body conditions.
- Pastoral all species recorded the highest average price followed by Irrigated and Agro pastoral livelihood zone respectively.
- When compared to the long-term mean, the average cattle price is same as the long-term mean as shown in the table below.



4.1.2 Goat Prices

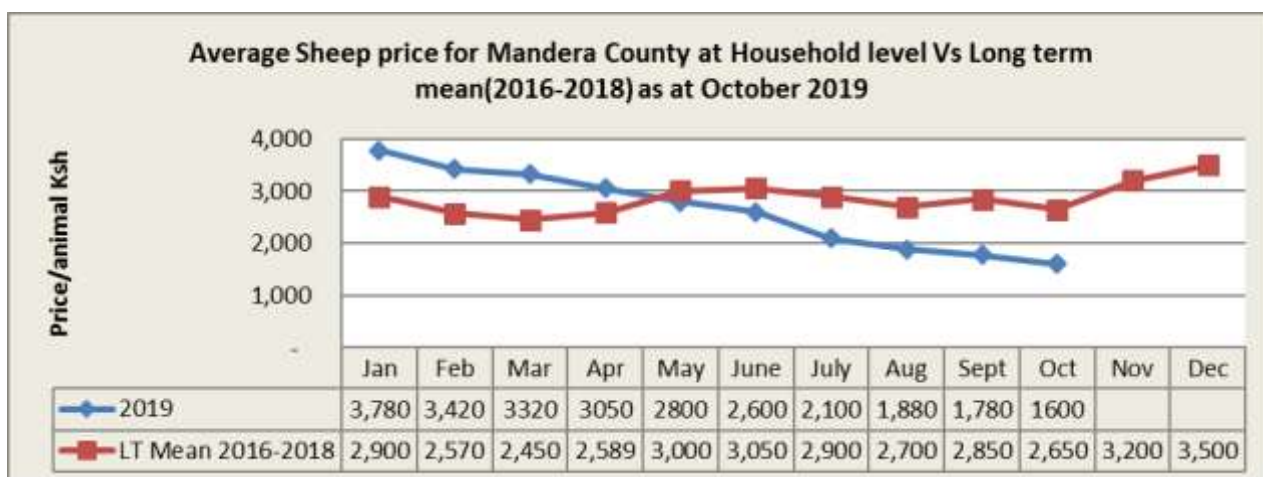


- Average goat price for the month of October was Ksh 2,400 when compared to previous month the average prices has decreased by Ksh200 and These is attributed to poor body conditions due to lack of water browse and pasture.
- Highest price range was Pastoral all species livelihood zone followed by Agro pastoral and Irrigated livelihood zone.
- Compared to the long-term mean (2016-2018), the average price Is below Long-term mean

Sheep Price

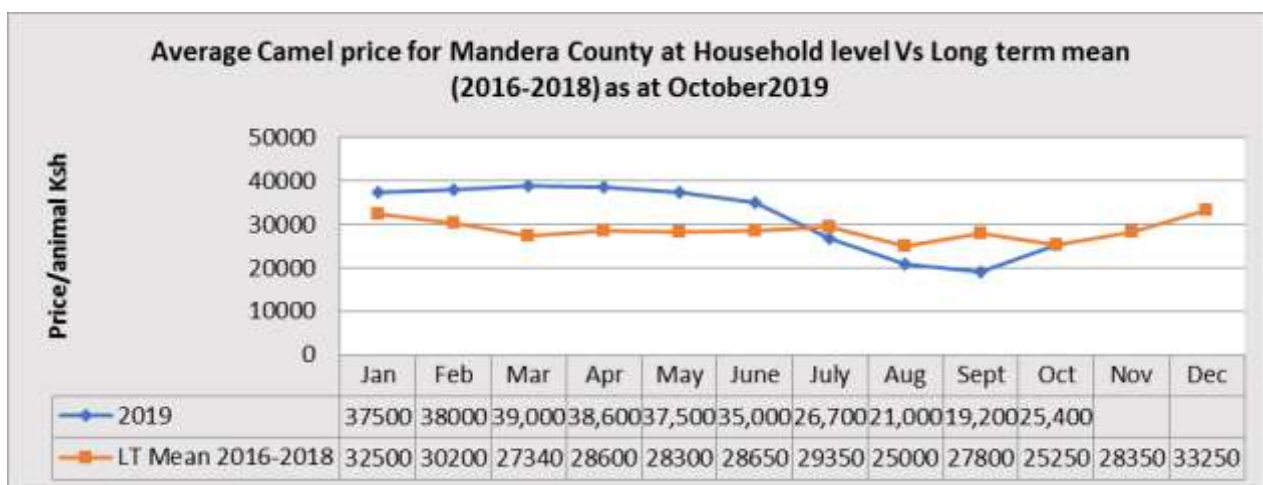
- Average sheep price was Ksh 1,600 in October and when compared to the previous month the average price decreased by Ksh 180 and this is because of poor livestock body condition

- The average price was lower when compared to long term average of the same month,
- The highest average price was noted in irrigated cropping zone followed by Pastoral all species zone and Agro pastoral zone respectively.



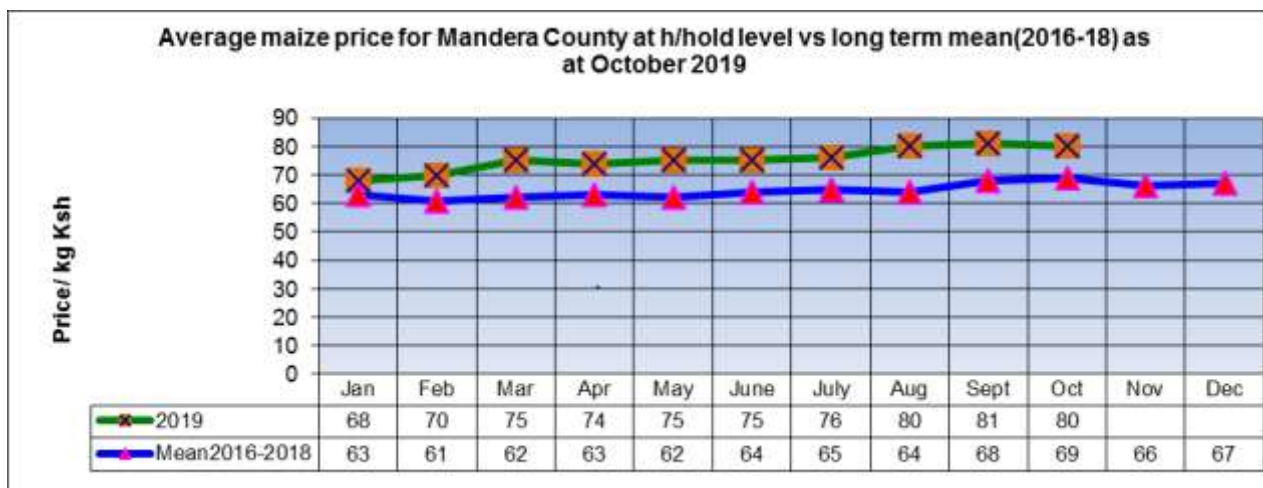
4.1.3 Camel Prices

- The average camel price during the month of October 2019 is Ksh25,400 when compared to the previous month the average price increased by Ksh 6000.
- Highest average price was recorded in Pastoral all species livelihood zone followed by Agro pastoral livelihood zone.
- The average camel price is 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 October 2019 was Ksh.80 per kg.
- Compared to the previous month, the average price decreased by 1Ksh.
- When compared to the long-term mean price, the average price was higher.

4.3 Livestock Price Ratio/Terms of Trade



- Currently a household can purchase 30Kgs of maize by selling one medium goat.
- The Terms of trade decreased when compared to last month and this is attributed to decrease in goat price.
- The terms of trade are still unfavourable to pastoral communities when compared to long-term average and with worsening trend. The current ToT is lower than the long-term average for the month of October.
- The highest terms of trade were reported in Pastoral all species livelihood zone followed by Agro pastoral and Irrigated livelihood zone.
- Flush floods have affected the roads of the County from Wajir and Moyale making it impassable and over 200 vehicles carrying essential food communities and other items stranded in the road. These has resulted to decrease in stock available in the County and hiking of the price of food commodities to double.

4.4 Implication of above indicator on Food Security

- Poor livestock prices coupled with high cereal prices impacted negative on pastoral return and decreasing the purchasing power of pastoralist.

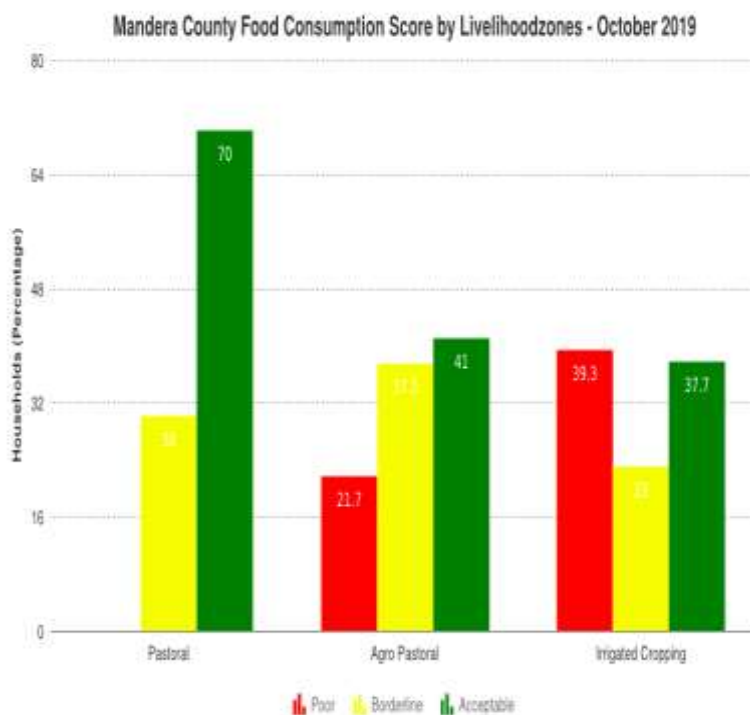
5.0 FOOD CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION STATUS

5.1 Milk consumption

- Milk consumption per household was 0.5liter in the month of October.
- Milk consumption per household was 0.5liter in all livelihood zones. The average milk price was Ksh 70 to 100 per 750 ml bottle during the reporting month.
- The current milk consumption rate is below the long term mean which is not normal at this time of the year thus making children under five be food insecure.
- The decline in milk consumption is attributed to poor body conditions.

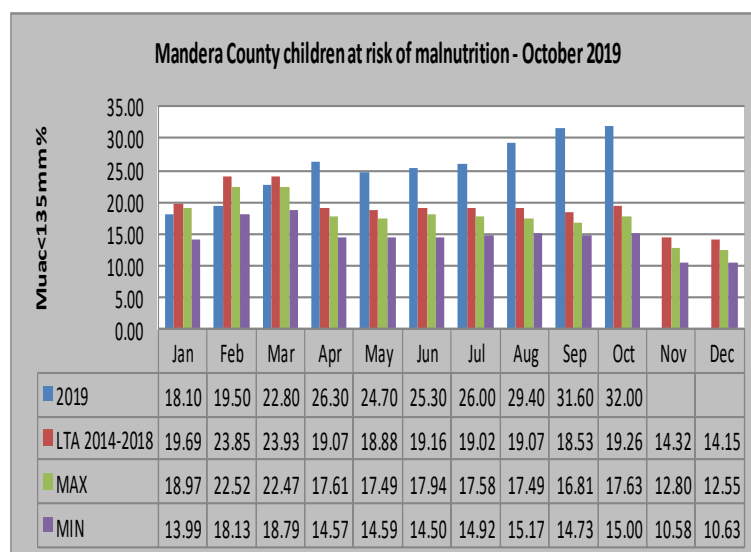
5.2 Food Consumption Score

- The proportion of households with a poor food consumption score was 21 percent in Sept compared to 24 percent recorded in October. The proportion in the borderline category was 31 percent in October in comparison to 42 percent in September 2019 while those in the acceptable food consumption score were at 44 percent.
- The proportion of households in Pastoral all species and Agro pastoral zone with acceptable food consumption score was below sixty percent. This implies that majority of households were consuming staples (maize) every day, frequently accompanied by oil and pulses. The food consumption situation at livelihood zone level is shown in the graph below:



5.3.1 HEALTH AND NUTRITION STATUS

- The percentage of children (<5yrs) at mid-risk category for 125mm to 134mm during the month of October was 32.68%. The proportion of children at risk of malnutrition in Mandera has increased by 3.7% compared to last month. MUAC rate are higher 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.
- Shimbir Fatuma sentinel site in the Agro pastoral zones recorded the highest percentage of malnourished children while the lowest percentage of malnourished children is Banisa sentinel site in the Agro pastoral Livelihood zone.

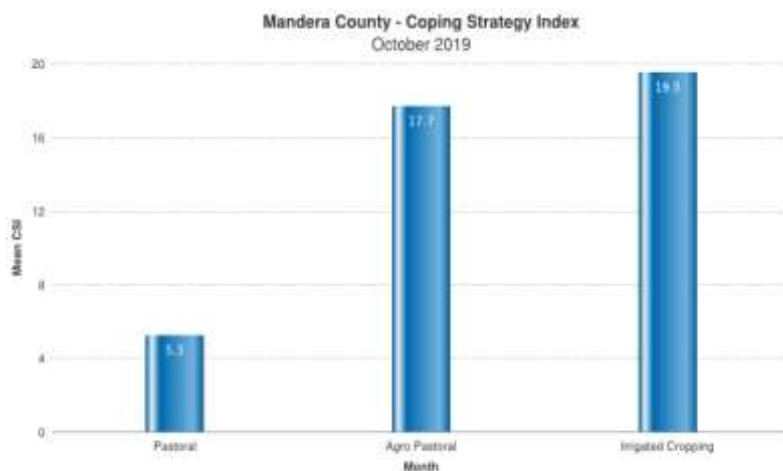


5.3.2 Health

- No outbreak of human disease was reported across the County and the active cholera outbreak in Takaba was contained and no new cases load was reported in the last two weeks.

5.4 COPING STRATEGIES

- The Coping Strategy Index (CSI) was 16.18. 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 below:

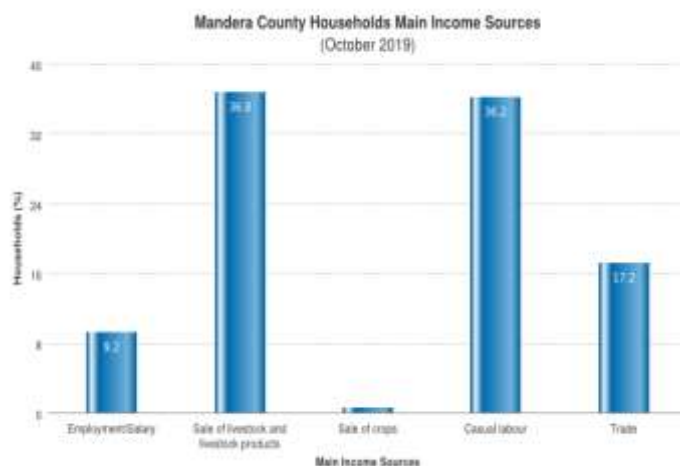


The main coping strategies used by communities include-

- 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
- charcoal burning and cutting wood materials for sale.
- borrowing from friends and relatives
- consumption of less preferred and cheaper foods,
- reduction in the number and sizes of meals,
- skipping of meals
- scale up of group two HSNP beneficiaries for 4,535 beneficiaries

5.5 HOUSEHOLD SOURCE OF INCOME

- The main sources of income in the County normally include sale of livestock and livestock products, casual waged labour, petty trade and employment.
- The main household income for the county during the month of October 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

- Hunger safety net programmes provides regular payment of Ksh5,400/= bi-monthly to 22231 beneficiaries in order to build households resilience and to help mitigate the shocks of the drought in the entire County.
- Kenya Red cross society is conducting 16 outreach sites In Mandera East, North and Banisa sub counties
- Water trucking by County Government in all centres under stress in the first week of the month

6.2 FOOD AID - NOTE THE FOLLOWING

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

7.0 EMERGING ISSUES

7.1 Insecurity/Conflict/Human Displacement

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

7.2 Migration.

- No migration pattern noted during the month under review

7.3 FOOD SECURITY PROGNOSIS

The Food security situation is on improving trend compared to last month. These is attributed to normal to above normal rain received in all parts of the County that resulted to pasture and browse regeneration, improved water availability across all the livelihood zones. decreased the trekking distance for both domestic and livestock. slightly improving milk availability at household level though still below normal, livestock body condition is currently poor while livestock prices are below average but on improving trend.

8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- Construction of dykes and other floods control measures along the riverine
- Food aid to beneficiaries affected by the floods
- Construction of toilets to beneficiaries affected by floods
- Mass deworming and treatment of livestock county wide.
- Disbursement of Drought Contingency funds for resilience activities.
- Capacity building and training of communities on Disaster Risk Reduction and drought cycle management.
- Scale up of health and nutrition outreach programme for settelement 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.