ZIMBABWE

MINISTER

OF

AGRICULTURE, MECHANISATION AND IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT

FIRST ROUND CROP AND LIVESTOCK ASSESSMENT REPORT

29 FEBRUARY 2012

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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 Area Planted to Maize and Other Crops

Table 1: Area Planted to Crops (hectares) in 2011/2012 in Comparison to 2010/2011 Season

Crop	2011/2012	2010/ 2011	Area planted 2011/2012 as a percent of 2010/2011
Maize	1 689 609	2 096 034	80.6
Sorghum	263 911	304 693	86.6
Pearl Millet	153 586	164 895	93.1
Finger Millet	36 945	63 287	58.3
Soya bean	51 869	60 124	86.3
Tobacco	65 020	78 359	83.0
Cotton	432 709	379 689	114.0
Groundnuts	315 339	426 806	73.9
Sugar bean	18 370	26 778	68.6
Sunflower	12806	31 102	41.2
Bambara Nuts	82 445	191 381	43.0
Tea	8 162	8 180	99.8
Coffee	649	900	72.0
Banana	4 583	4 000	114.6
Citrus	6 112	6 000	101.9
Irish potato	10 600	10 095	105.0
Macadamia nuts	3 334	2 300	145.0
Apples	224	224	100.0
Mango	3 462	3 462	100.0

NB: The area planted to maize is going to be affected since an estimated 498 144 ha (30%) is now a write off.

1.1.1.1 At the time of assessment, the maize crop condition was ranging from fair to good in the Northern provinces and poor to fair in the Southern provinces where most of the crop was now wilting.

1.1.1.2 Due to the prevailing dry conditions most of the crop in the Southern region as well as some dry districts in the Northern region of the country is now a total write off.

1.1.1.3 Out of the **1 689 609ha** planted to maize this season, about **498 144ha** (**30%)** is now estimated to be a write off. Effective hectarage for this season is now **1 191 465ha.**

1.2 Livestock

1.2.1 Livestock condition was fair in communal areas and good in the other sectors. Grazing was abundant in A1, A2, and Large Scale Commercial sectors while some communal areas were showing signs of overgrazing.

1.2.2 Dipping was adequate in most parts of the country except a few isolated areas.

1.2.3 Water for livestock was generally adequate but more rains are needed in parts of Manicaland, Masvingo, Midlands, Matabeleland North and South as current levels may not sustain livestock to the next season

1.2.4 Most communal, A1, small scale and Old Resettlement farmers depend on livestock for draft power

1.2.5 National average calving rate has remained at 45% and is below the expected target of 80%.

1.2.6 Kidding rate marginally increased from 108% to 112%, however it is still below the national target of 120%.

1.2.7 Lambing rate was at 47% which is below target of 100%.

1.2.8 Day old chick production increased by 40% from 37 million in 2011 to 52 million in 2012.

1.2.9 Major diseases were tick borne with high mortalities recorded in Midlands and Masvingo.

1.2.10 Newcastle disease for poultry was reported in Mashonaland East.

2. SEASON QUALITY

2.1 Onset of the season

2.1.1 The season started late for most parts of the country.

2.1.2 Onset of the season in most parts of the country was in the third week of November. (Fig 1a)

2.1.3 This is about 1 week later than the long term average (Fig 1b).

2.1.4 In some North-Eastern parts of the country including Manicaland, parts of Mashonaland East and parts of Mashonaland Central, the season started in the first week of November.

2.1.6 This is about 2 weeks earlier compared to the long term average onset.

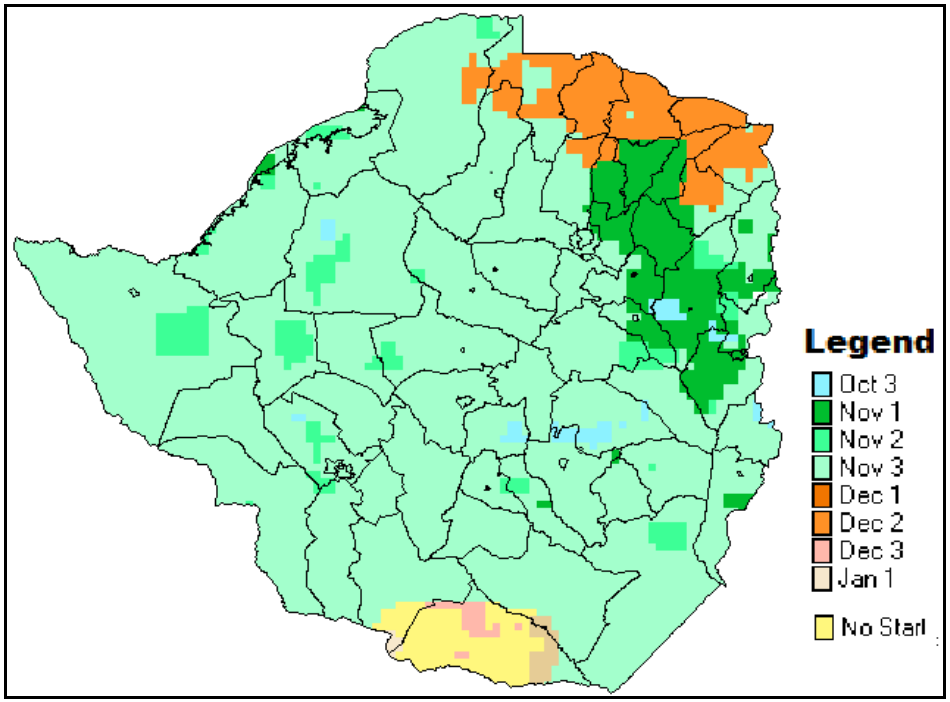
2.1.7 Most northern parts of the country received rains about 3 weeks late in the second to third week of December.

2.1.8 At the time of the Crop and Livestock Assessment, Beitbridge had not yet received effective rains (Fig 1a).

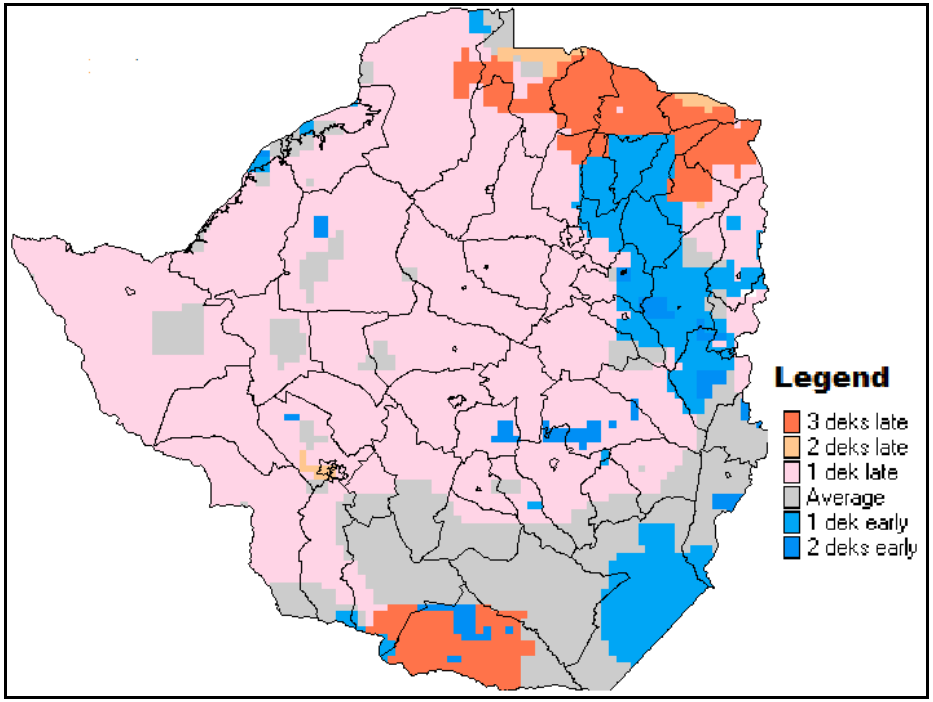
NB: Onset of the season is defined as when an area receives rainfall of 20mm and above in one or two days provided there is no dry spell of 10 days or more in the next 30 Days. The rains that mark the onset of the season are effective rains.

Figure 1: Onset of the Season 2011/2012 Compared to Long Term Average

1a**:** Onset of the season 2011/2012



1b: Comparison to Long Term Average



2.2 Rainfall distribution pattern

2.2.1 Distribution across most provinces has been erratic both in space and time.

2.2.2 The first rains were followed by a long dry spell coupled with very high temperatures in parts of Mashonaland provinces and low lying areas of Manicaland.

2.2.3 As a result there was poor germination and drying of the emerged crop which led to a lot of replanting and gap filling.

2.2.4 Ernest plantings in Mashonaland West and Central Provinces started in the last week of December when the rains resumed in these parts of the country.

2.2.5 In parts of Manicaland, Masvingo, Midlands and the Matabeleland provinces, rains continued from the onset up to the third week of December.

2.2.6 This was followed by a long dry spell which lasted up to about 7 weeks in some districts at the time of assessment.

2.3 Cumulative Rainfall Received from 01/10/11 to 8/02/12

2.3.1 The Central and Northern parts of the country had received more than 400mm by the time of the assessment since the beginning of the season.

2.3.2 Harare had the highest cumulative total of 808 mm followed by Marondera (760 mm), Murehwa (724 mm), Shamva (661 mm), Zvimba (658 mm), Stapleford (629 mm) and Gokwe (621 mm).

2.3.3 However, this season's highest total of 808 mm falls short of last season's total of 948 mm during the same period.

2.3.4 Areas such as Matabeleland North, South of Midlands, Bulawayo, Matabeleland South and Masvingo have received amounts below 300 mm (Fig 2).

2.3.5 The bulk of the country is still in the normal category.

2.3.6 However, some areas such as Southern parts of Masvingo, Central parts of Matabeleland North, Matabeleland South and the extreme eastern parts of Manicaland provinces were still in the below normal category at the time of the assessment.

Fig 2a Cumulative rainfall from 1-10-11 to 8-02-12

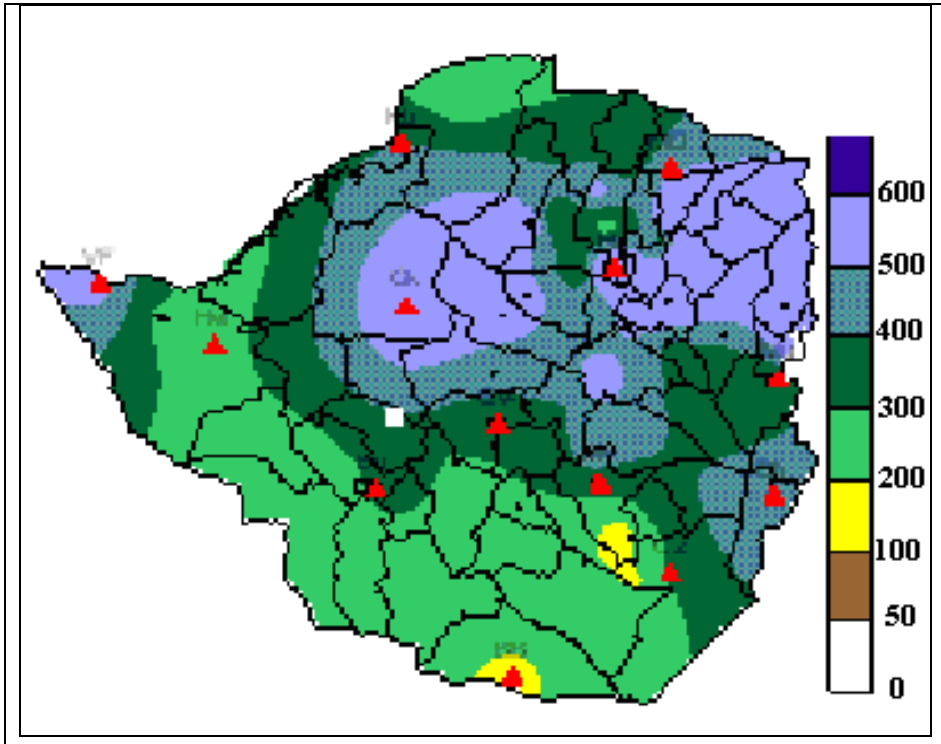
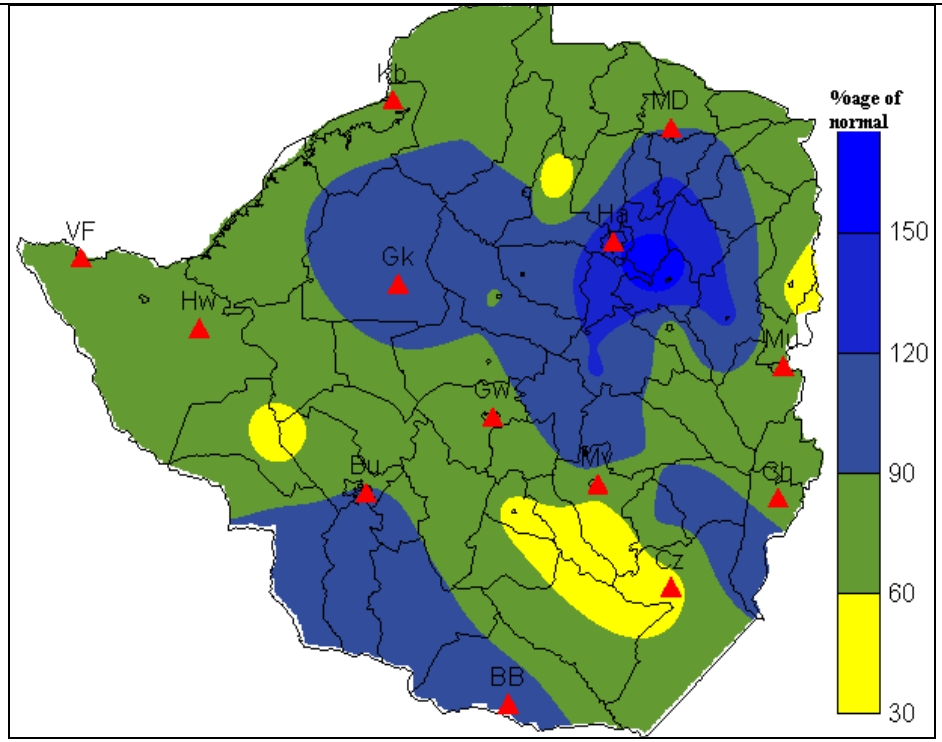


Fig 2b Cumulative rainfall as percentage of normal from 1-10-11 to 8-02-12



3. AGRICULTURAL INPUTS SITUATION

3.1 Crop Input Support

3.1.1 The 2011/2012 season was mainly supported by the Presidential Well Wishers Support Scheme, Government Input Support Schemes, Contract Farming and Donors.

3.1.2 There was a critical shortage of top dressing fertilisers across all provinces at the time of assessment.

3.1.3 On the open market top dressing was not readily available and where it was available, the prices were ranging from US$34 to US$38 per 50kg bag.

3.1.4 The following agricultural input facilities were availed in the 2011/2012 season:

3.1.5 The **US$ 27 million** Presidential Well-wishers Agricultural Inputs Scheme which supported **712 400** families with crop inputs.

3.1.6 Government Crop Input Schemes which comprised of:

3.1.6.1 **US$30.0 million** exchange facility.

3.1.6.2 **US$45.4 million** subsidized input facility.

3.1.6.3 **US$56.2 million** Commercial Funding.

3.1.6.4 The Government input schemes were collapsed into one scheme **(The Government Stop Order Facility)** towards the end of December, 2012

3.1.6.5 The Government Stop order facility offered farmers inputs on credit and eased the shortage of inputs. The stocks of fertilisers held by GMB depots were quickly depleted when this facility came into effect.

3.1.7 The **$US90 million** Donor facility which supported **319 200** households in both crop and livestock inputs.

3.1.7.1 Farmers were supported with crop inputs for 0.5ha or vouchers of minimum pack value of US$160 for crops, US$200 for livestock and US$400 for contract farming.

3.1.7.2 Farmers were to contribute at least **10%** towards the total value of the voucher

3.1.7.3 Farmers under contract schemes were to repay full value of the contract.

3.1.7.4 Farmers had a choice of agricultural inputs to buy using the voucher

3.1.8 The Crop and Livestock assessment results indicates that:

3.1.8.1 For Maize Seed, the major supply was from own purchases

3.1.8.2 For small grains seed, the major source of supply was retained seed.

3.1.8.3 Table 2 shows proportion of households which received inputs from different sources

3.1.9 The Presidential Well Wishers Scheme was the most effective input support scheme in terms of quantity as well as timely distribution of inputs.

3.1.10 Supply of seed was better this season as compared to the fertilizer supply situation.

3.1.11 Major sources of seed and proportion of farmers that accessed from each source were as in Table 2

Table 2: Crop Input Sources and Proportion of Farmers Accessing Inputs for 2011/2012 Season

Sources of Inputs	Proportion of farmers accessing inputs from different sources (%)			
	Maize seed	Sorghum	Pearl millet	Finger Millet
Presidential	19.3	0.6	0.5	0.5
Government	15.6	2.5	2.5	1.1
Donor	16.4	34.9	34.9	23.5
Farmer Unions	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2
Purchases (Open and Bank)	60.2	10.1	10.1	3.0
Retained (Yemudura/ Eyesiphaleni)	20.6	46.0	46.0	64.5
Gifts and Remittances	5.7	7.0	7.0	5.1
Contract farming	0.6	1.2	1.2	0.0
Carry over	8.3	6.4	6.4	5.9

3.2 Seed

3.2.1 The Presidential Well Wishers Scheme availed **6 000 Mt** of maize seed, **964 Mt** of cotton seed and **400 Mt** of small grains seed (Table 3).

3.2.2 Of the **16 644 Mt** maize seed contracted to suppliers through Government input support schemes, **16 354 Mt** was supplied to Grain Marketing Board**.**

3.3 Fertilizers

3.3.1 The Presidential Well Wishers Agricultural Support Scheme availed **500 Mt** basal fertilizer and **17 410 Mt** of top dressing fertilizer.

3.3.2 A total of **64 400 Mt** of basal fertilizer and **69 100 Mt** top dressing fertilizer was contracted to suppliers through the Government Input Support Schemes.

3.3.3 However, **51 322 Mt (80%)** of basal fertilizer and **15 702 Mt (23%)** of top dressing fertilizer was supplied causing a critical shortage of top dressing fertilizer in the country.

Table 3: Crop Inputs availed under The Presidential Well Wishers Agricultural Support Scheme

Input	Maize seed	Small Grains Seed	Cotton Seed	Basal fertilizer	Top Dressing
Quantity (Mt)	6 000	400	964	500	17 410

Table 4: Crop Inputs availed through the 2011-2012 Government Input Support Schemes

	Quantity (Mt)			
Input	**Contracted**	**Received at GMB Depots**	**Distributed to Farmers**	**Balance still to be received**
Maize seed	16 644	16 145	10 145	499
Sorghum Seed	160	30	23	130
Mhunga	485	-	-	485
Rapoko	300	-	-	300
Groundnuts	2 000	-	-	2 000
Sugar Beans	1 980	435	435	1 545
Cowpeas	695	288	145	407
Basal fertilizer	64 400	51 322	43 244	13 078
Top dressing Fertilizer	69 100	15 702	12 102	53 398

Table 5: Donor Assisted Input Support

Donor Funded Program: 2011/2012 Season	
Category	**Number Assisted**
Direct Seed and Fertilizer Distribution	110 000
Subsidized Crop Input Vouchers	97 300
Livestock Input Vouchers	28 900
Donor Contract Farming Arrangements	83 000
Grand Total	**319 200**

3.4 Other Major Crops

3.4.1 Tobacco

3.4.1.1 A total of **13** contracting companies supported tobacco production in the 2011/2012 season.

3.4.1.2 The companies supported **39 227 ha**. Of this **29 969 ha** was dry-land crop and **9 258 ha** was crop under irrigation.

3.4.1.3 Non contracted farmers sourced inputs using their own resources or funding availed by banks.

3.4.2 Cotton

3.4.2.1 A total of 14 companies contracted farmers and supported them with inputs in the 2011/2012 season

3.4.2.2 Some farmers sourced their inputs after selling cotton.

3.4.3 Soya-bean

3.4.3.1 A total of **102** farmers were contracted to grow about **3 954** ha using funds raised through agro bills by Agriculture Marketing Authority (AMA).

3.4. 4 Small Grains and Pulses

3.4.4.1 Small grains and pulses were supplied under the Presidential, Government, donor input schemes and direct purchases by farmers.

3.5 Livestock Input Support

3.5.1 The Presidential Well Wishers Scheme availed **US$500 000** each to Matabeleland North and South for the purchase of Dip Chemicals and other veterinary remedies.

3.5.2 In 2011 the Government released **US$1 million of the US$7 million** livestock restocking program facility.

3.5.3 The Cold Storage Company is currently accepting applications for livestock support for cattle breeding and fattening across all provinces to increase productivity.

3.5.4 **28 900** Households were assisted through the livestock vouchers through Donor Assisted Programme.

4. CROP SITUATION

4.1 Maize

4.1.1 A total of 1 **689 609 ha** has been planted to maize compared to **2 096 034 ha** in 2010/2011 season**.**

4.1.2 This was a decrease in area by 19%.

4.1.3 The decrease is attributed mainly to the late onset of the season in most parts and dry conditions which prevailed in the southern provinces in January 2012.

Table 6: Area Planted to Maize in 2011/2012 by Time of Planting

Province	Planted (ha)		By Date of Planting					
			% Planted by end of November		% Planted in December		% Planted in January	
	2011/2012	2010/2011	2011	2010	2011	2010	2012	2011
Manicaland	245 084	262 106	54	43	40	44	6	13
Mash Central	185 584	231 814	19	36	66	58	15	6
Mash East	229 873	247 511	48	52	45	43	7	5
Mash West	257 343	379 066	43	45	47	48	10	7
Mat North	112 834	166 266	34	30	49	54	17	16
Mat South	131 018	148 921	22	31	68	48	10	21
Midlands	315 753	384 246	44	23	46	47	10	10
Masvingo	212 120	276 105	38	31	47	48	15	21
Total	1 689 609	2 096 034	40	40	50	48	10	12

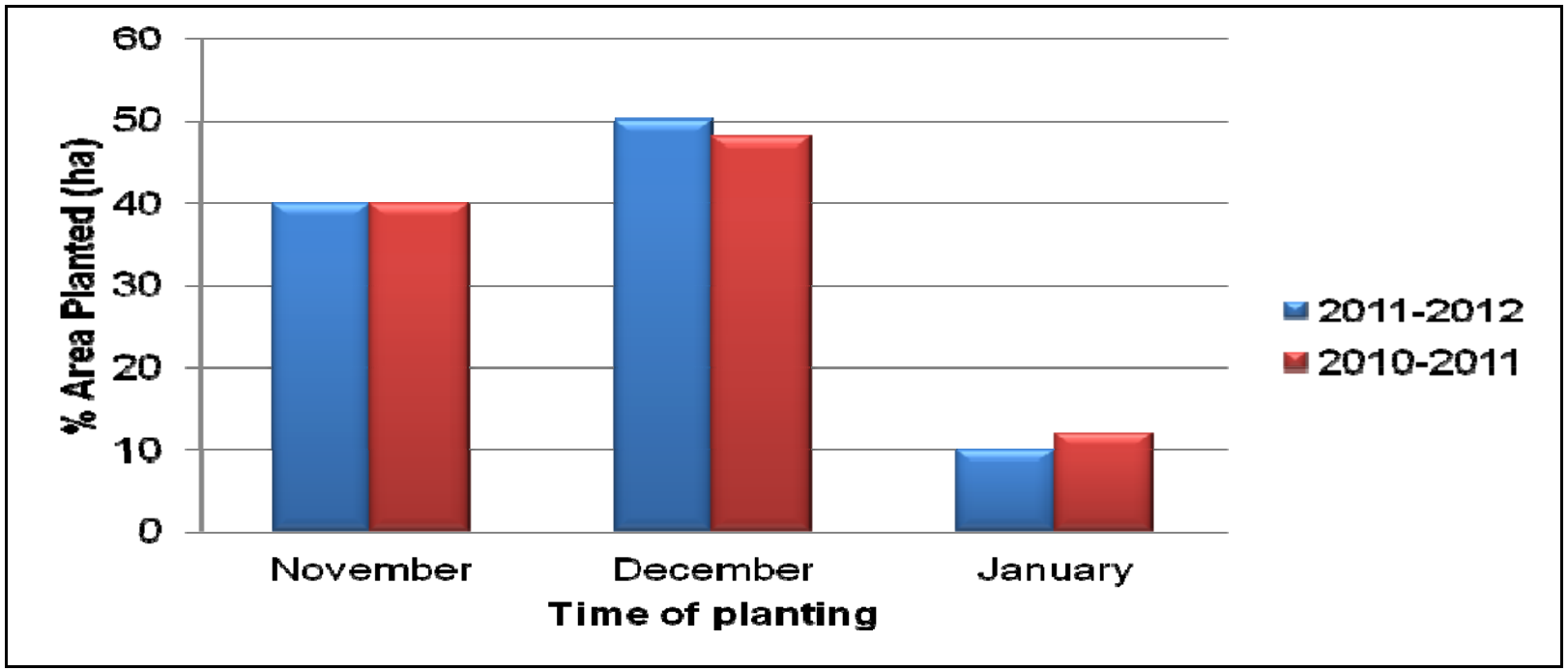
4.1.4 About **674 776 ha (40%)** was planted by end of November 2011**, 840 949 ha (50%)** in December 2011 and **173 884 ha (10%)** in January 2012 (see figure 3 below).

4.1.5 There was a decrease to the area planted by 30 November 2011 in provinces which received effective rains late such as Mashonaland Central, Mashonaland East and Mashonaland West compared to last season.

4.1.6 There was an increase to area planted by November 2011 in Masvingo, Manicaland and Midlands, which received rains earlier.

4.1.7 About **498 144ha** (**30%)** of the total area planted to maize is now estimated to be a write off leaving about **1 191 465ha** effective hectarage.

Figure 3: Percentage Area Planted to Maize by Time of Planting



4.1.7 The communal sector has the highest contribution to maize area planted.

4.1.8 Its contribution has slightly decreased from 64 % in 2010/2011 to 62% in 2011/2012.

4.1.9 The contribution by A1 has increased from 16% in 2011/2012 to 19% in 2010/2011.

4.1.10 The LSCFA and Peri urban sector contribution remains unchanged.

4.1.11 Contribution by sector to total area planted to maize is shown in table 7.

Table 7: Comparison of Area planted to maize by sector in the 2011/2012 and 2010/2011 season

Sector	**Area (ha)**		**% Contribution to area planted**	
	2011/ 2012	**2010/2011**	**2011/ 2012**	**2010/2011**
CA	1 038 370	**1 331 439**	**62**	**64**
A1	319 225	**331 930**	**19**	**16**
OR	147 751	**165 210**	**9**	**8**
A2	100 996	**147 522**	**6**	**7**
SSCFA	41 443	**69 745**	**2**	**3**
LSCFA	17 103	**20 513**	**1**	**1**
Peri-urban	24 721	**28 857**	**1**	**1**
Total	**1 689 609**	**2 096 034**	**100**	**100**

Contributions by sector in 2011/2012 season in comparison to the 2010/2011 season is shown in figure 4

Figure 4a: Area Under Maize in 2011/2012 by Sector[1]

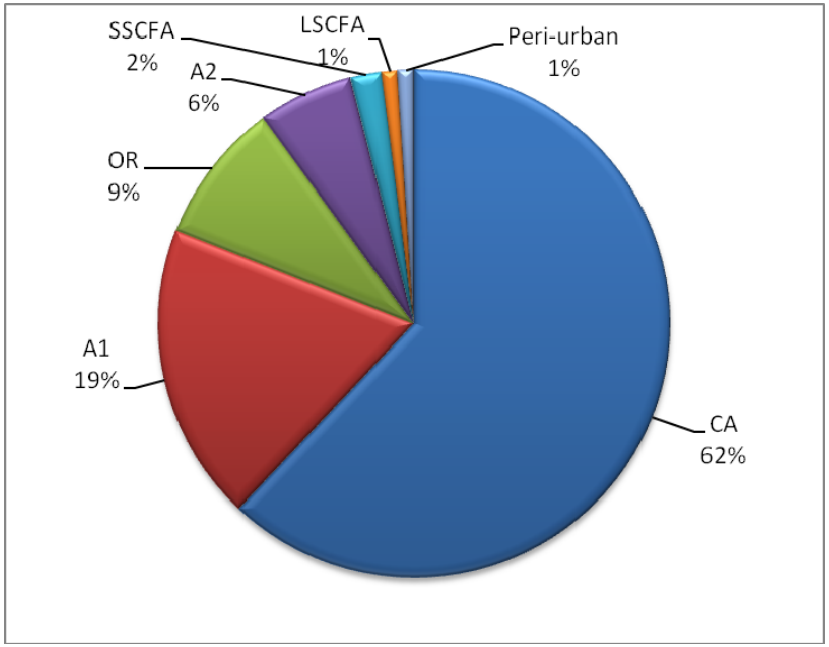
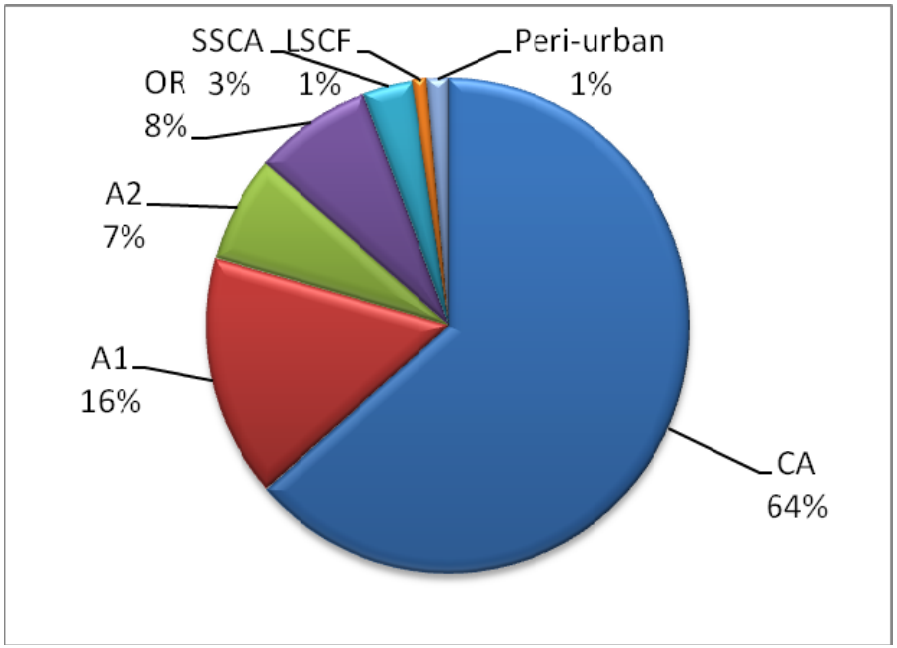


Figure 4b: Area Under Maize in 2010/2011 by Sector



[1] CA stands for communal areas, OR for Old resettlement, SSCA for small scale commercial areas, A1 for A1 new resettlement model, A2 for A2 new resettlement model and LSCA for large scale commercial areas.

4.2 Maize Crop Stage and Condition

4.2.1 Crop stage

4.2.1.1 The bulk of the maize crop was ranging from late vegetative to tasselling stage at the time of assessment.

4.2.1.2 Most of the crop at this stage was in Manicaland, parts of Masvingo, Matabeleland South, and Mashonaland West provinces.

4.2.1.3 The maize crop at milk dough stage was found in parts of Masvingo, parts of Matabeleland South, parts of Mashonaland East and Manicaland provinces which received early rains.

4.2.1.4 The maize crop at early vegetative stage was mostly in parts of Mashonaland Central, parts of Midlands and Matabeleland North province.

4.2.1.5 About **498 144ha** (**30%)** of the total area planted to maize is now estimated to be a write off.

4.2.2 Maize Crop condition

4.2.2.1 The bulk of the maize crop across the country was in fair condition especially in the northern part of the country which is Mashonaland West, Mashonaland Central, Mashonaland East, Midlands and some parts of Manicaland.

4.2.2.2 The maize crop in the southern parts of the country such as Masvingo, Matabeleland South and some parts of Matabeleland North were showing signs of temporary and permanent wilting.

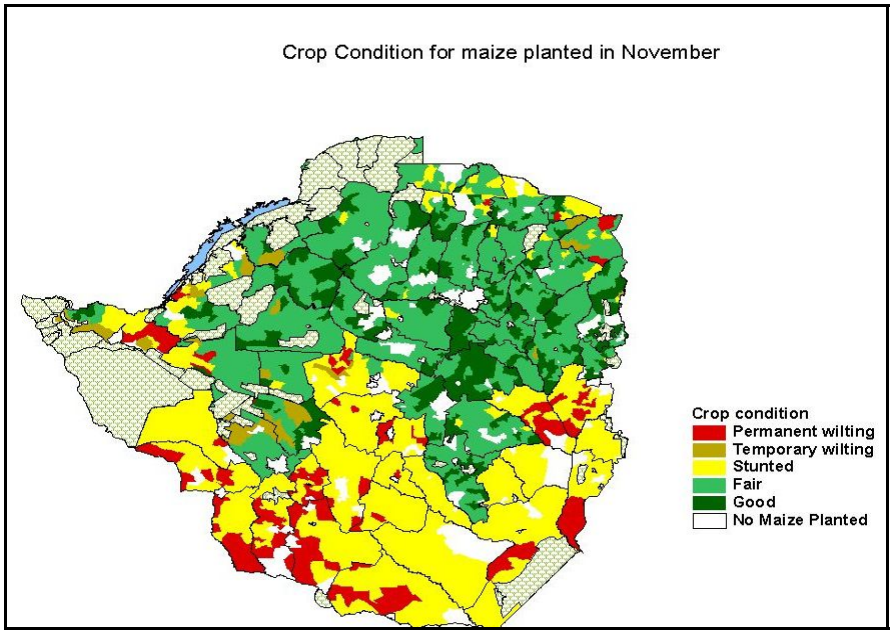
4.2.2.3 Stunted growth was evident in Masvingo and Matabeleland South due to insufficient rainfall.

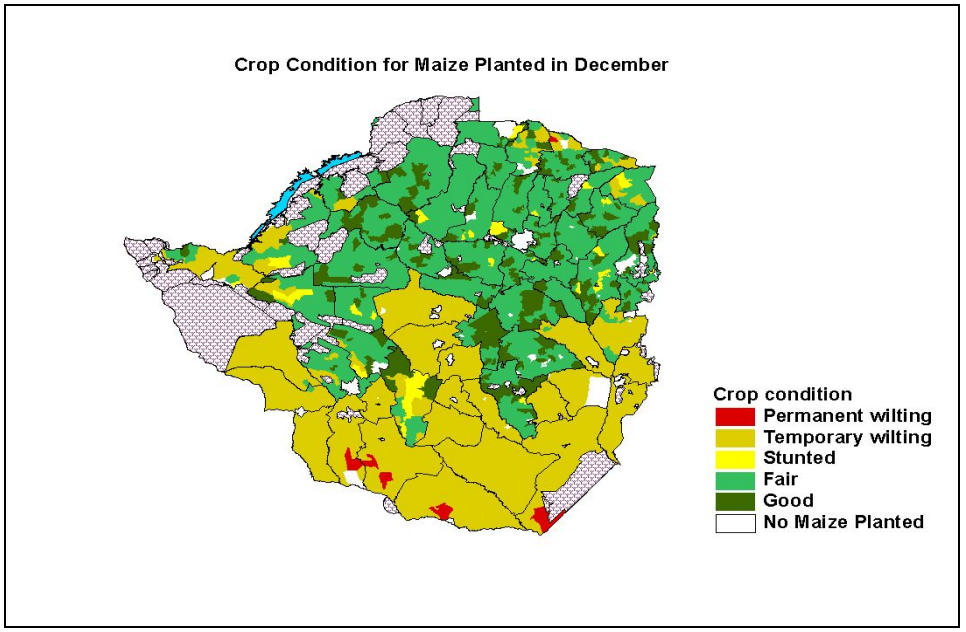
4.2.2.4 Most provinces have a stunted maize crop as a result of nitrogen deficiency and moisture stress.

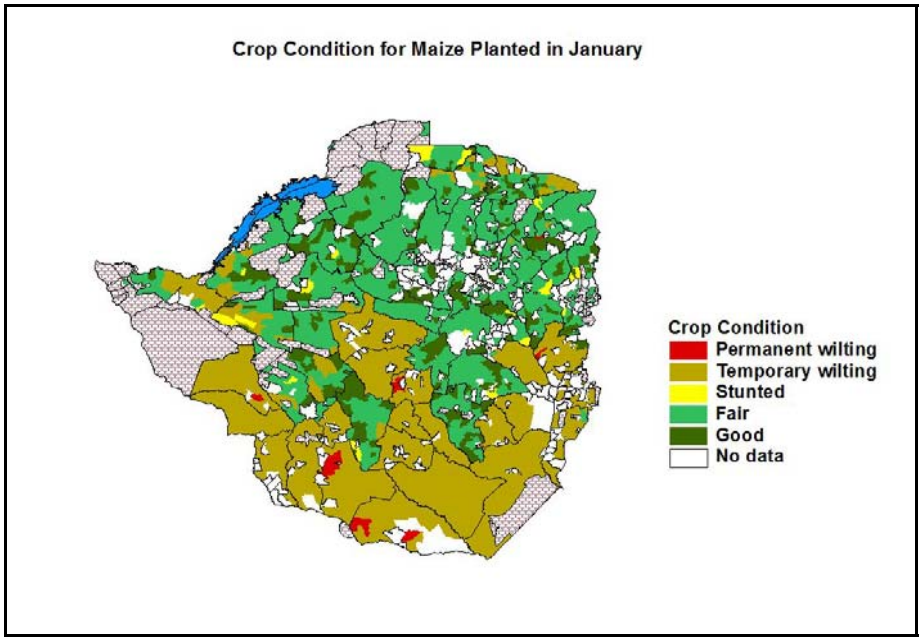
4.2.2.5 Due to prolonged dry spells the crop situation has worsened in the Southern provinces and some dry districts in the Northern provinces

4.2.2.6 At the time of assessment, the crop condition by time of planting was as shown in Fig 5 below:

Figure 5: Maize Crop condition as at 10 February 2012







4.3 Sorghum and Millets

4.3.1 The **263 911 ha** planted to sorghum in 2011/2012 season decreased by **13%** compared to **304 693 ha** planted in 2010/2011 season.

4.3.2 Area planted to pearl millet in 2011/2012 decreased by **19%** from **189 643 ha** in 2010/2011 to **153 586 ha.**

4.3.3 Area under finger millet decreased by **42%** from **63 287ha** in 2010/2011 season to **36 945ha** in the **2011/2012** season.

4.3.4 The condition of small grains is fair in most parts of the country except Matabeleland South and parts of Manicaland where the condition is poor.

Table 8: Area Planted to Sorghum and Millets (ha)

Province	Sorghum		Pearl Millet		Finger Millet	
	2011/2012	2010/2011	2011/2012	2010/2011	2011/2012	2010/2011
Manicaland	58 387	61 593	41 581	26 808	10 952	11 790
Mash Central	29 045	34 114	2 833	2 536	975	1 540
Mash East	18 727	27 673	4 861	8 573	5 309	7 391
Mash West	4 230	7 140	136	301	362	730
Mat North	26 297	23 626	37 348	41 028	39	103
Mat South	36 122	24 340	26 152	66 413	288	1 697
Midlands	27 692	32 479	8 148	33 946	5 499	8 877
Masvingo	63 411	93 728	32 527	9 038	13 521	31 159
Grand Total	**263 911**	**304 693**	**153 586**	**189 643**	**36 945**	**63 287**

4.4 Other Crops

4.4.1 Cotton

4.4.1.1 Area planted to cotton increased to **432 709** ha **from 379 689 ha** planted in 2010/2011 season **(see table 9 below)**.

4.4.1.2 This can be attributed to favorable prices paid last season and increased input support through the Presidential Well Wishers Scheme and contracts.

4.4.1.3 Crop condition is good in most cotton growing districts. However, crop stand in some parts of the country was poor due to erratic rainfall.

4.4.1.4 The crop was planted late across all the provinces and ranges from late vegetative to boll formation stage.

4.4.2 Tobacco

4.4.2.1 **65 020 ha** flue cured tobacco has been planted compared to **78 359 ha** planted in 2010/2011 season, a 24% decrease.

4.4.2.2 The decrease is mainly attributed to the high rate of die backs due to high temperatures and poor rainfall at the start of the season. Some dry land farmers were forced to replant.

4.4.2.3 Smallholder farmers are facing challenges in curing of tobacco as the number of functional barns is not proportional to the area under tobacco as well coal and power outages.

4.4.2.4 The crop condition ranges from fair to good.

4.4.3 Soya-bean

4.4.3.1 The area planted to soya beans is **51 531 ha** which is **14%** lower than **60 124 ha** planted in the 2010/2011 season.

4.4.3.2 The crop was planted late due to a late start of the season. However, crop is in fair to good condition across all the provinces

4.4.4 Groundnut

4.4.4.1 **315 339 ha** has been planted as compared to **426 806 ha** last year.

4.4.4.2 The decrease in area can be attributed to the late onset of the season in most parts of the country. Groundnuts are mostly planted in December.

4.4.5 Sunflower

4.4.5.1 **12 806 ha** were planted to sunflower compared to **31 102** ha planted in the 2010/2011 season. This is a **41%** decrease.

4.4.5.2 Planting of the crop was still in progress.

4.4.5.3 The crop condition was generally fair to good in most provinces

4.4.6 Sugar beans

4.4.6.1 The area planted is **18 370 ha** compared to **26 779 ha** last season.

4.4.6.2 Planting of sugar beans was still in progress at the time of the assessment.

4.4.7 Sweet Potatoes

4.4.7.1 The area planted was **14 772 ha** in 2011/2012 compared to **42 840 ha** in 2010/2011 season.

4.4.7.2 Continuous showers in most parts of the provinces enabled progressive planting

Table 9: Comparison of Area planted to Other Crops in the 2011/2012 and 2010/2011 season

Crop	2011/2012 (ha)	2010/2011 (ha)	(%)Area planted 2011/2012 as % of 2010/2011 plantings
Cotton	432 709	379 689	114
Tobacco	65 020	78 359	83
Soyabeans	51 869	60 124	86
Groundnuts	315 339	426 806	74
Sunflower	12 806	31 102	41
Sugar bean	18 370	26 779	69
Sweet potato	14 772	42 840	34

4.5 Categorization of Districts by Crop Condition

4.5.1 Table 10 below shows the various districts classified by their crop condition

Table 10: Categorization of Districts by Crop Condition

Good	Poor
Bikita	Beit- Bridge
Bindura	Bubi
Binga	Buhera
Bulilima	Chikomba
Chegutu	Chimanimani
Chivi	Chipinge
Gokwe North	Chiredzi
Gokwe South	Gwanda
Goromonzi	Gweru
Guruve	Hwedza
Gutu	Kariba
Hurungwe	Lupane
Insiza	Matobo
Makonde	Mberengwa
Makoni	Mbire
Mangwe	Mt Darwin
Marondera	Mudzi
Masvingo	Mutare
Mazowe	Mutoko
Murehwa	Muzarabani
Mutasa	Mwenezi
Mvuma	Ngezi
Nkayi	Rushinga
Nyanga	Sanyati
Seke	Shurugwi
Shamva	Tsholotsho
Umguza	UMP-Uzumba
Zaka	Umzingwane
Zvimba	Zvishavane

5. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

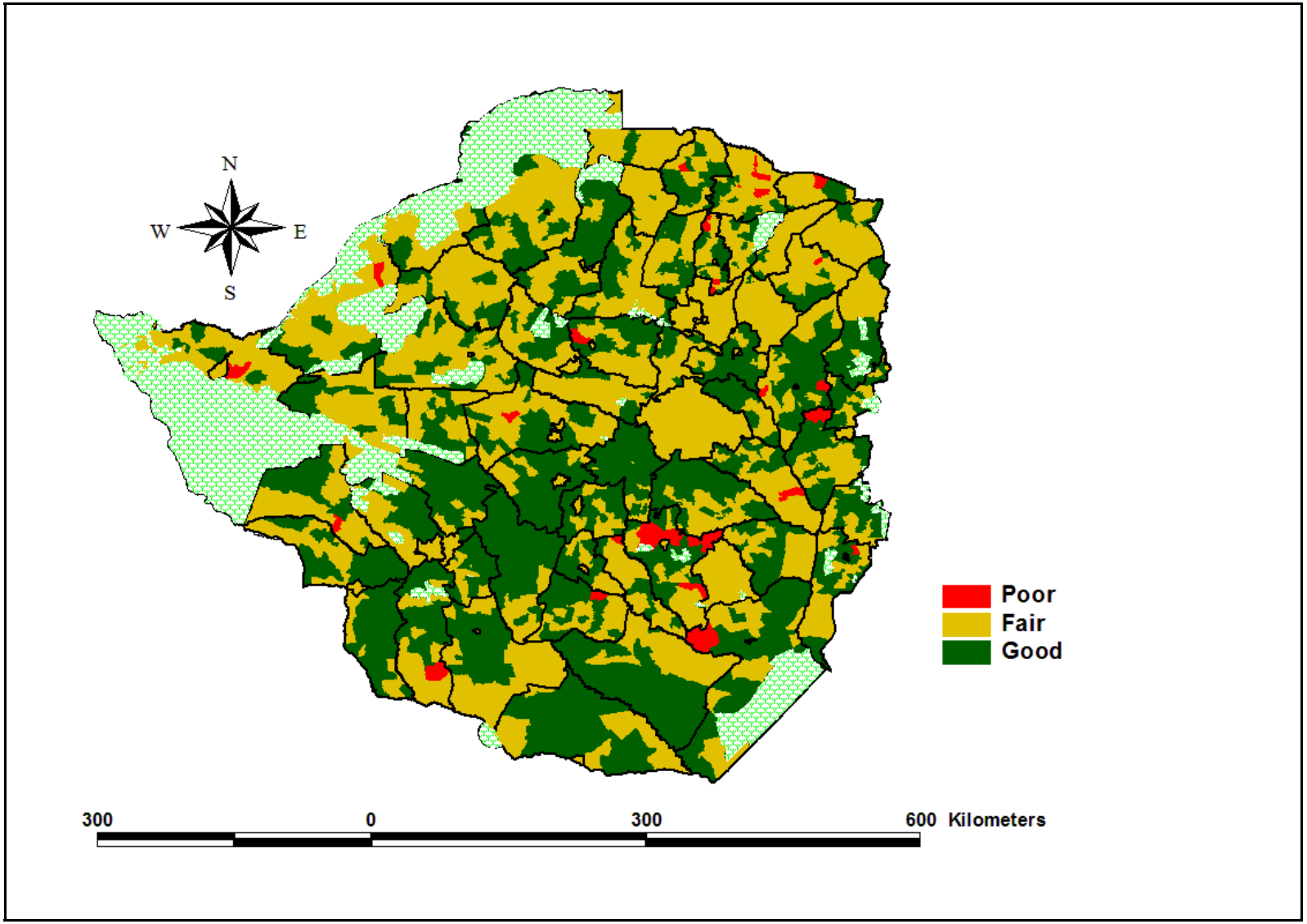
5.1 Livestock Condition

5.1.1 All classes of livestock were in fair condition in most communal areas and in good condition in Old Resettlement, A1, A2, Small Scale and Large Commercial farming areas.

5.1.2 However, livestock condition in isolated areas was poor which may be attributed to poor animal husbandry practices and overgrazing.

5.1.3 Figure 6 below shows livestock condition across provinces.

Figure 6: Cattle condition



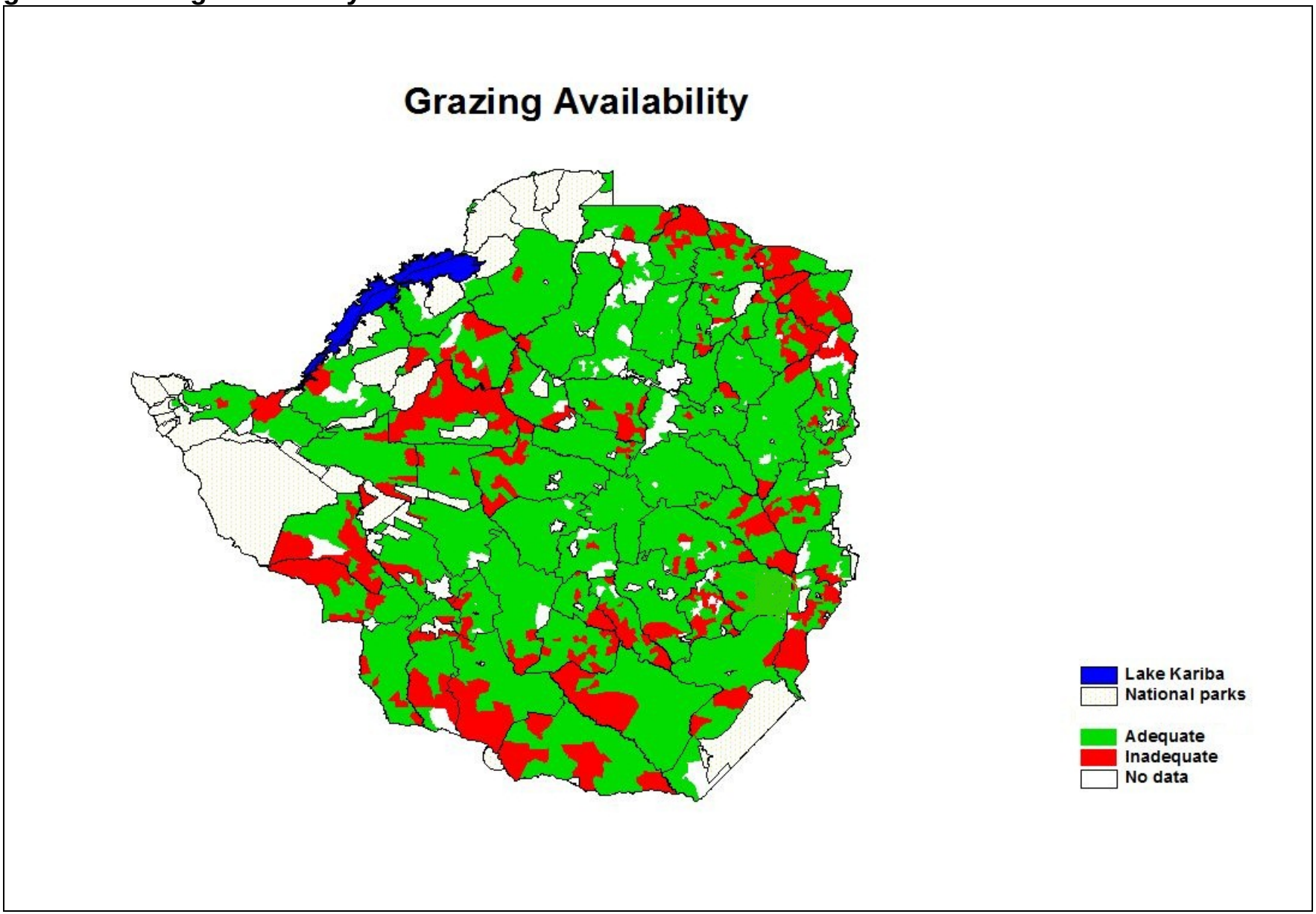
5.2 Grazing Availability

5.2.1 Most areas in the country had adequate grazing to sustain grazing animals up to the next season if the rains persisted from the time of assessment. (Figure 7)

5.2.2 However, southern, south eastern and north eastern parts of the country such as the Matabeleland North and South, the Zambezi valley, Save Valley and parts of Midlands had inadequate grazing which may not sustain the grazing animals throughout the season.

5.2.3 Although stock feeds were generally available, the majority of smallholder farmers could not afford them.

Figure 7: Grazing Availability

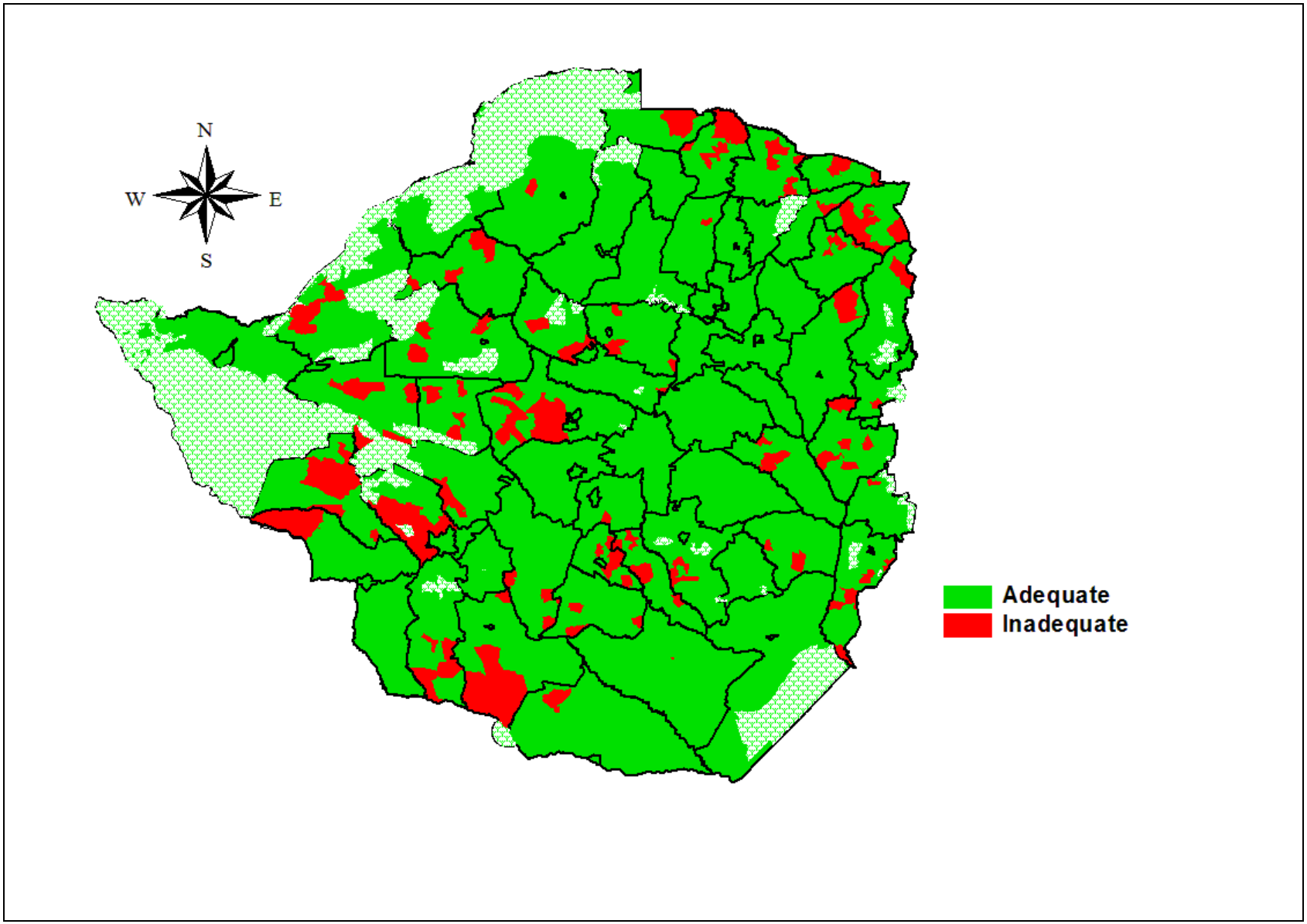


5.3 Water Availability

5.3.1 Water for livestock was available across all provinces from both open and underground sources such as streams, rivers, dams and boreholes.

5.3.2 In areas such as Mudzi, Mbire, Mangwe and parts of Matabeleland North, water for livestock was inadequate to sustain livestock up to the next season.

Figure 8: Water Availability



5.4 Dipping

5.4.1 Generally dipping chemicals were available and adequate in most parts of the country.

5.4.2 Dipping in most areas was adequate (once a week) except in isolated areas in parts of Midlands and Matabeleland North where dipping was not consistent (figure 9).

5.4.3 In areas where dipping was inadequate, the major reasons were organizational challenges in coordinating dipping sessions.

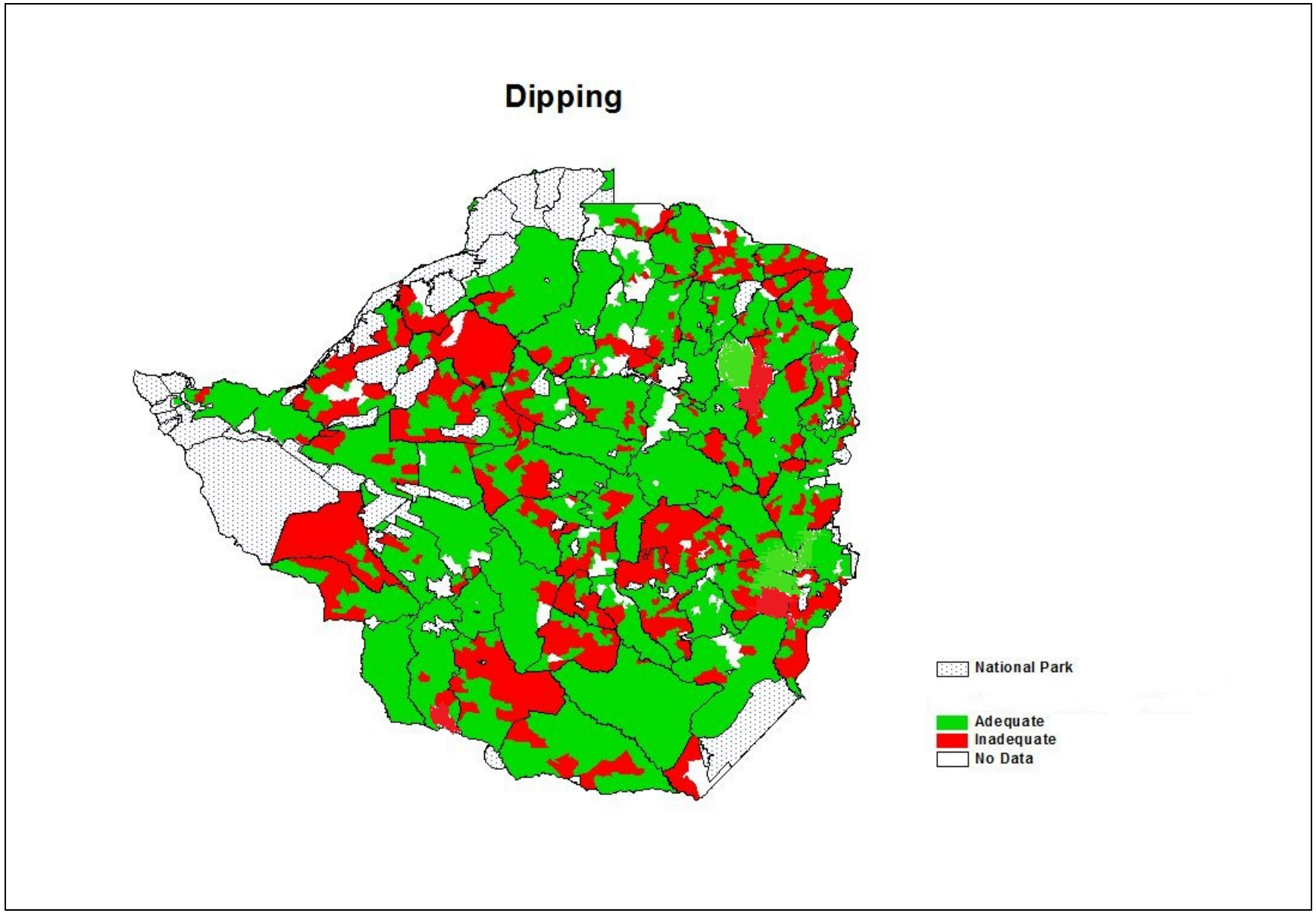
5.4.4 Other reasons for inadequate dipping include

5.4.4.1 Dysfunctional dip tanks

5.4.4.2 Water supply problems

5.4.4.3 High staff turn-over (dip attendants) some dip tanks remain without dip attendants for extended periods.

Figure 9. Cattle Dipping



5.5 Draft Power

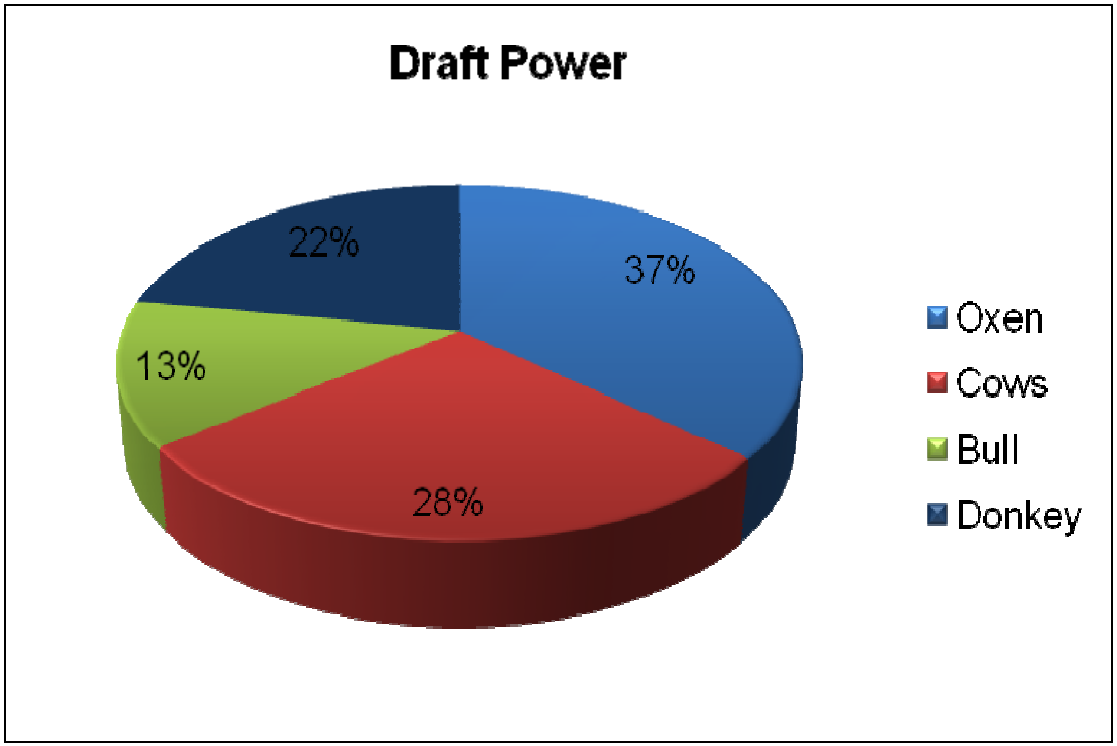
5.5.1 Generally, animals provided draft power for most households in communal areas **(66%).**

5.5.2 Indications are that about **28%** of the households used cows and **13%** used bulls for draft power.

5.5.3 The use of cows and bulls as draft power negatively affects reproductive performance of the national herd

5.5.4 Contribution of livestock to draft power is shown in figure 10:

Fig 10: Contribution of livestock to draft power



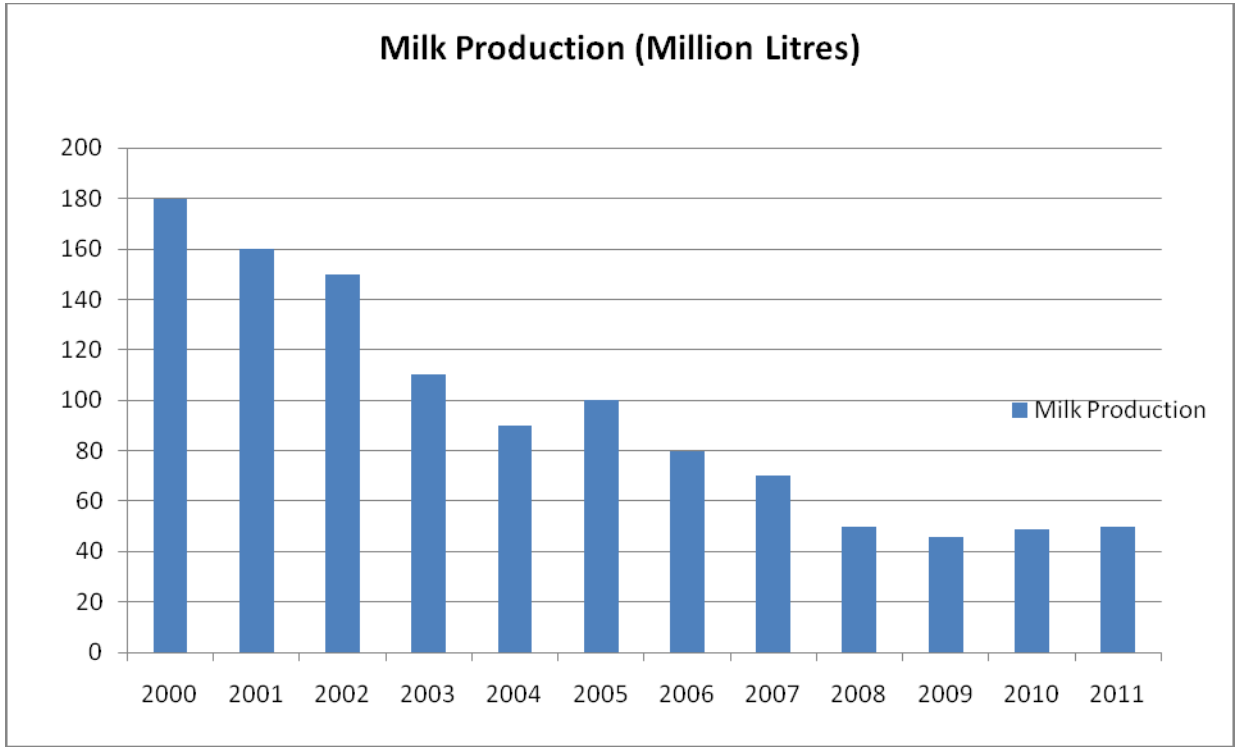
5.6 Dairy Situation

5.6.1 Milk production increased by 2% from **49 million litres** in 2010 to **50 million litres** in 2011(figure 11).

5.6.2 Annual national market demand is **96** million litres of milk.

5.6.3 Availability of capital for stock purchases, infrastructure improvement and development continues to be a big challenge for the dairy sector.

Figure 11: Milk production trends from 2000 to 2011



5.7 Calving rates

5.7.1 The national average calving rate has remained around 45%.

5.7.2 Matabeleland North and South recorded improvements in calving rates while drops were recorded in Mashonaland East and Mashonaland Central.

Table 11: **Calving rates 2010/2011 in comparison to 2011/2012**

Province	**Calving Rate (%)**	
	2010/2011	**2011/2012**
Manicaland	42	41
Mashonaland Central	46	42
Mashonaland East	51	48
Mashonaland West	44	44
Masvingo	44	48
Matabeleland North	44	50
Matabeleland South	39	43
Midlands	46	45
National Average	**45**	**45**

5.8 Kidding and Lambing Rate

5.8.1 Kidding rate for goats was **112%** which is below the national target of **120%**.

5.8.2 Lambing rate was at **47%,** compared to a national target rate of **100%.**

5.8.3 The low kidding and lambing rates are related to poor management practices.

5.9 Broiler and Egg Production

5.9.1 Production of day old chicks increased by 40% from **37 million** in 2010/2011 season to **52 million** in 2011/2012.

5.9.2 Total value of broiler industry increased from **124 million** in 2010/ 2011 to **158 million** in 2011/2012 seasons. (both formal and informal).

5.9.3 Table egg production increased from 16.4million in 2010/ 2011 to **23.4 million** dozens in 2011/2012.

6. LIVESTOCK DISEASES PREVALENCE, PREVENTION AND CONTROL

6.1 Prevalence

6.1.1 There were reports of anthrax in all the provinces except Matabeleland South. All the outbreaks were controlled through vaccinations.

6.1.2 Outbreaks of foot and mouth occurred in Hwange, Binga, Mberengwa, Gokwe North and South districts. The outbreaks were controlled through movement restrictions and preventative vaccinations.

6.1.3 There was a major constraint in supplying the foot and mouth vaccine.

6.1.4 High mortalities due to Blackleg were recorded in Matabeleland South, Midlands and Masvingo. Control was through vaccinations with assistance from Farmer Organizations.

6.1.5 Outbreaks of Dermatophilosis (Senkobo) were reported in Mashonaland West, Mashonaland Central, Midlands and Matabeleland North.

6.1.6 Major tick-borne diseases were heart-water, anaplasmosis (gallsickness) and babesiosis (redwater).

6.1.7 Trypanosomiasis (transmitted by Tsetse fly) was mainly reported in Gokwe North and Hurungwe Districts.

6.1.8 Sporadic cases of rabies were reported throughout the country and vaccination of dogs was carried out in all provinces.

6.1.9 Newcastle outbreaks were reported in Mashonaland East, Mashonaland West, Manicaland and Midlands between August and October 2011. Regular vaccination using the locally made I_2 vaccine significantly reduced occurrence of this disease.

6.1.10 Mange and heart-water were the two major small livestock diseases reported in all provinces.

6.2 Disease Prevention and Control

6.2.1 Results from the assessment reflect that 80% of the smallholder farming sector do not vaccinate small stock against economic diseases.

6.2.2 Development partners are engaged in the construction of small stock dip tanks as a way of controlling external parasites.

6.3 Cattle Mortality

6.3.1 Mortality decreased from 4.4% in 2010/2011 to 4.1% in 2011/2012.

6.3.2 Highest mortality recorded in Matabeleland North, Matabeleland South and Masvingo provinces

6.3.3 Cattle mortality by province is shown in Table 12 below.

Table 12: **Mortality of cattle for 2011/2012 season by Province**

Province	Cattle mortality (%)	
	2010/2011	**2011/2012**
Manicaland	4	3
Mashonaland Central	5	4
Mashonaland East	4	4
Mashonaland West	5	4
Masvingo	3	5
Matabeleland North	5	5
Matabeleland South	5	5
Midlands	4	3
National Average	**4.4**	**4.1**

6.4 Mortality in Small ruminants

6.4.1 Mortality rates for goats and sheep for 2011/2012 season were above the normal mortality of **5%** as shown in Table 13 below.

6.4.2 The high mortalities were attributed to chronic worm infestations, scabies and tick-borne diseases.

Table 13: Mortality of goats and sheep for 2011/2012 season

Province	Flock mortality (%) 2010/2011		Flock mortality (%) 2011/12	
	Goats	**Sheep**	**Goats**	**Sheep**
Manicaland	9.7	7.7	8.9	7.6
Mashonaland Central	7.2	7.6	7.0	7.7
Mashonaland East	9.0	7.9	8.9	7.5
Mashonaland West	8.9	5.9	8.3	6.0
Masvingo	9.0	3.7	8.4	3.8
Matabeleland North	8.3	4.3	9.1	4.6
Matabeleland South	4.0	4.0	4.4	4.1
Midlands	9.0	8.3	8.7	8.2
National Average	**8.1**	**6.2**	**8.0**	**6.1**

7. LIVESTOCK NUTRITION

7.1 The majority of farmers in smallholder sectors (Communal Area, A1, SSCA and OR) use crop residues as supplementary feeding of cattle.

7.2 **14%** of sampled households in the smallholder sector used home-made rations as supplementary feeding for sheep and goats while the rest do not supplement.

7.3 Unavailability of soyabean meal on the market led to increase in prices of stock feeds on the market.

7.3.1 This has affected the viability of livestock enterprises.

7.3.2 The worst affected are poultry and pig enterprises.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 The Grain Loan Scheme which is already in place should be intensified and extended to the next harvest of the season 2012/ 2013 as it is clear that the 30% crop write off is very high.

8.2 The winter wheat cropping facility should be effected immediately.

8.3 Irrigation resuscitation and rehabilitation should be given priority and funds availed immediately.

8.4 Electricity should be restored to all farming areas and no electricity cuts should be effected in the farming areas otherwise there is no need to even ask the farmers to plant a winter crop fully knowing that electricity will be cut.

8.5 A livestock saving fund should immediately be established to support livestock farmers with:

1. Water
2. Supplementary feeds
3. Vaccines and Medicines
4. Any other interventions in situation of a drought.

Signed
Honourable Senator Dr Joseph. M. Made (M.P.)

Minister of Agriculture, Mechanisation and Irrigation Development

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following government departments and institutions were involved in the First Round Crop and Livestock Assessment;

- **Department of Agricultural Technical and Extension Services (AGRITEX),**
- **Department of Livestock Production(LPD)**
- **Department of Economics and Markets**
- **Veterinary Field Services**
- **Meteorological Services Department,**

Annex 1: Area Planted to Maize By Sector By Provincial Districts

Annex 1: Area Planted to Other Crops By Provincial Districts