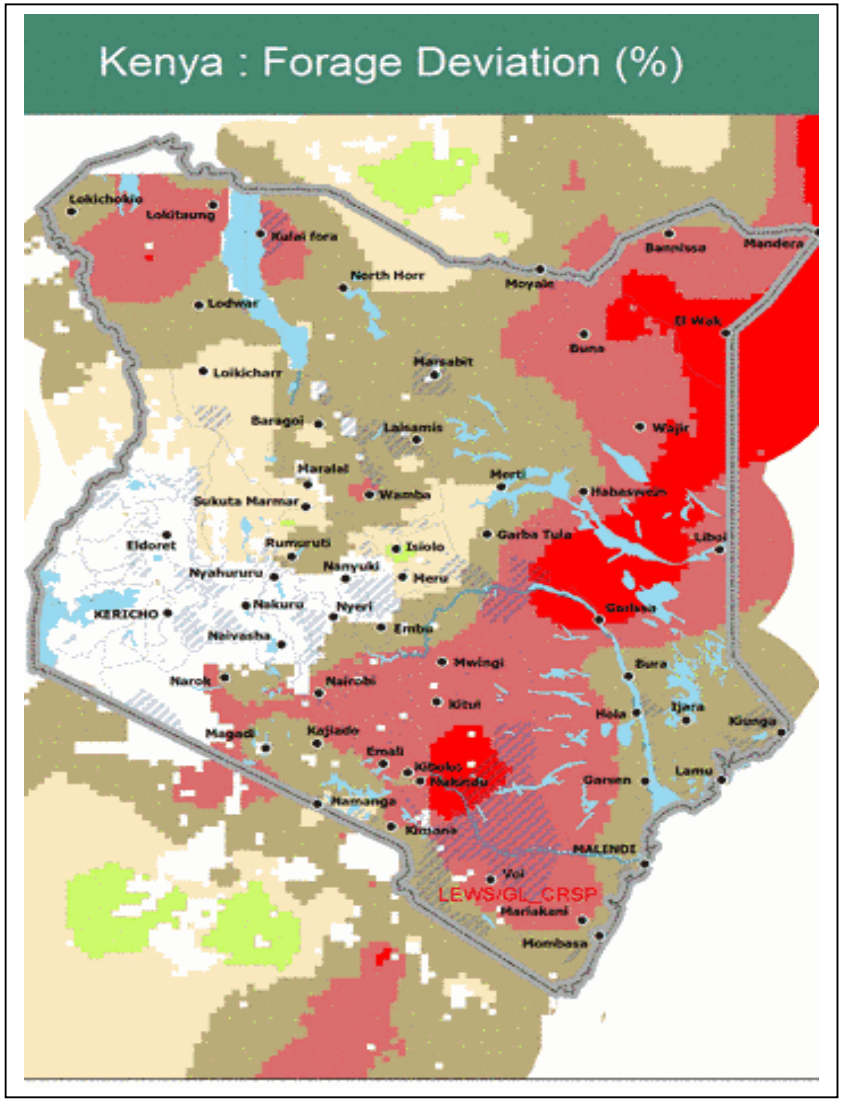
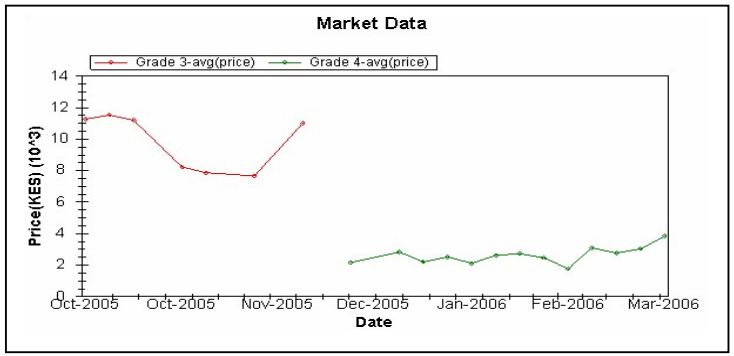
Livestock Information Network and Knowledge System
Kenya Situation Report-March 2006



Status:
The pastoral arid and semi arid areas still have drought conditions running with the major hotspots occurring in Mandera, Wajir, Garissa and Makueni districts. In the rest of the rangelands in North Eastern and south eastern Kenya (Narok and Taita-taveta districts) as well as Turkana and parts of Marsabit districts, conditions are not good as well due to general failure of November/December 2005 rains. The long rains have not started in most of these areas, but most parts of Kajiado have received some rains and forage conditions have improved in the past 2 weeks.

Trend:
The forage situation is continuing to rapidly deteriorate in many parts of pastoral areas. The specific areas that will deteriorate further include the southern lowlands (Makueni, Kitui and Mwingi districts) and north western Turkana. The 60-d forecasts by the LEWS team indicate marked improvement in forage conditions in the remaining rangelands in the next two months.

Livestock prices:
Poor animal condition continues to attract low prices of animals in the primary and secondary markets. Cattle are most affected. The trend analysis given here is for Wajir market over the last six months. It shows deteriorating animal condition to the extent that the better grades 2 and 3 are no longer available and the market has been dominated by poor grade 4 animals for the last 3 months.



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