

Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture
Santoshnagar, Hyderabad – 500 059

Rainfall situation and Crop Contingency Plans in different parts of the country (as on 5th August 2011)

The southwest monsoon rainfall is 6% deficit than the normal on the entry basis for the period 1st June 2011 to 04th August 2011. Out of the 36 meteorological sub divisions 10 met sub divisions received deficit rainfall, 22 sub divisions received normal rainfall where as 4 met sub divisions received in excess than the normal rainfall. The rainfall is 22% deficit in the state of Orissa, 38% in Gujarat region, 6 % in Bihar, 33% deficit in Haryana and 26% in the state of Punjab.

If the rainfall pattern is studied on micro (district) scale, scanty rainfall is received in Monghyr (-84%) district of Bihar, Mewat (-71%) and Rohtak (-79%) districts of Haryana, Dahod (-62%) of Gujarat, Barnala (-61%), Mansa Nawanshaha (-73%) and Muktsar (-64%) districts of Punjab.

Weather outlook up to 10th August 2011

Widespread rain/thundershowers would occur along west coast and central India. Fairly widespread rain/thundershowers would occur over western Himalayan region, Uttar Pradesh, east India, north-eastern states and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Scattered rain/thundershowers would occur over remaining parts of the country except west Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu where it may be isolated. Isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall would occur over Konkan & Goa, coastal Karnataka, UP and MP during next 48 hours. Isolated heavy rainfall would occur over Vidarbha and Chhattisgarh during next 24 hours. Fairly widespread rainfall would occur over many parts of the country except parts of northwest and interior peninsular India where it would be isolated to scattered.

Odisha

The state as a whole is having a rainfall deficit of 22%. If rainfall does not occur for a week weeding, gap filling with same age seedlings may be taken up in direct seeded rice. In maize, cotton, sesame weeding and hoeing may be done and top dressing to be taken up only under moisture adequacy. If adequate rain occurs in a week top dressing with 35 kg urea/ha may be taken up in the direct seeded rice. Adopt SRI method in medium lands and in case of 40-45 days aged seedling are used. Plant 4 to 5 seedling per hill and apply 10% extra nitrogen as basal. In groundnut crop at 3 to 4 week stage apply 100 kg gypsum per ha after hoeing and weeding.

Bihar

The state as a whole is having a rainfall deficit of 6% only. However, in some districts of South Bihar drought situation has set in and paddy transplanting could be completed over 20 – 25% of the area only. In north Bihar except Vaishail district, satisfactory area (60-80%) is covered under paddy.

In Vaishail district, if drought continues for the next 10-15 days then rain occurs after short duration rice varieties (*Saket 4, Prabhat, Saroj, Richhariya*) or *urd* (T-9, Navin, Pant Urd, Urd 19) and *arhar* (Bahar, NA-1) may be sown.

In upland areas of Saharsha district maize and *urd* can be sown. In Munger, Lakhisarai and Shekpora districts, if situation remains grim during the coming fortnight and revives thereafter sowing of rice short duration varieties (*Saket 4, Prabhat, Saroj, Richhariya*) *urd* (T-75, T-9) and *arhar* (*Malviya-13*) may be sown. Toria can be sown in the last week of August. In Aurangabad, Nawada and Bhojpur districts, sowing of *urd* (T-9, Navin) and *arhar* (NA-1, M-13) is advised. In Bhojpur district *bajra* and hybrid sorghum can be preferred as alternate crops.

Gujrat

The state as a whole is having a rainfall deficit of 38%. The net sown area is about 78%. The net sown area under different crops is 61, 63, 72 and 92 % for cereals, pulses, oil seeds and other crops, respectively. By and large the condition of the crops already sown is satisfactory as the distribution of the rainfall is fairly good.

The rainfall is deficit in some districts wherein the following contingency measures are suggested. In Anand, Kheda, Dahod, Bharuch, Tapi, Narmada and Panchmahal districts of Gujarat if sufficient rain occurs during 1st fortnight of August *moong* bean (K-851, GM-1, GM-4 for Anand, Kheda and GM-4 for other districts); fodder maize (African tall), sesame (Purva-1 for all districts except Anand); tobacco (Anand-119, GT-4 and GT-7 for Anand & Kheda and Anand-2 for Dahod) and pigeon pea (BDN- 2 for all districts except Narmada) may be sown.

Haryana

The state as a whole is having a rainfall deficit of 33%. In Western Haryana, where no crops are sown so far, it is advised to sow short duration *moong* (c.v. *Bharpai* or *Satya*) or short duration *bajra* varieties (HHB-67/HHB-197) with an increased seed rate by 10% on the receipt of at least of 25 mm of rainfall. In the standing crops inter-cultivation with wheel hand hoe may be done and in *bajra* every third row may be removed and used as a fodder. In cotton crop, spray 2% urea solution in severe moisture stress conditions.

In the eastern zone of Haryana, sugarcane may be irrigated at 8-10 day interval in alternate furrows. Correction measures for iron deficiencies may be resorted to. In paddy areas short duration / basmati varieties only to be preferred and soil moisture at saturation may be maintained but not flooding. Planting with 55 day aged seedlings for mid duration

varieties may be taken up at closer spacing. Foliar application of nitrogen and zinc sulphate is advocated.

Punjab

The state as a whole is having a rainfall deficit of 26%. The situation is not alarming as in Punjab nearly 96% area is under assured irrigation conditions. Sowing of all the major kharif season crops, i.e., Rice, cotton, maize, pulses (moong, arhar) has been accomplished. Apply light irrigation to crops (cotton, maize and pulses) to tide over water stress.