

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

Rainfall situation and Crop Contingency Plans in different parts of the country (as on 13th August 2011)

The southwest monsoon rainfall is 3% deficit than the normal on the entry basis for the period 1st June 2011 to 13th August 2011. Out of the 36 meteorological sub divisions 5 met sub divisions received deficit rainfall, 26 sub divisions received normal rainfall where as 5 met sub divisions received excess rainfall.

When the district level rainfall pattern is considered some districts of Odisha, Haryana and Gujarat are still under deficient / scanty category.

Main feature of weather forecast up to 17th August 2011

Fairly widespread rainfall would occur over Haryana & Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, West Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, northeastern states, Coastal Andhra Pradesh and west coast. Scattered rainfall would occur over remaining parts of the country outside peninsular India.

West Bengal

Due to intense rainfall in West Bengal and Jharkhand and release of water from the dams in the region flood situation has intensified in West Bengal. Over six lakh four hundred hectares of agricultural land was affected in 14 districts of West Bengal. All vegetable crops, beetle-vine (especially in South 24 Parganas) and banana are affected. In many places, Aman rice is also affected by flooding. Farmers are advised to wait for draining out of flood water from the field. In case of *Kharif* rice, transplant 3-4 seedlings per hill after draining out the water. Apply recommended nitrogen fertilizer in two splits.

Himachal Pradesh

State as a whole is having rainfall deficit of 12 % as on 14th August. However, since last friday, wide spread heavy rainfall occurred in the State. This heavy rainfall disrupted road and rail transport in many places. Heaviest rainfall of 342 mm/day was reported at Maranda, Una district (Highest rainfall in previous record was 323 mm/day in 1988) and at palampur (225 mm/day). This caused flooding in seasonal rivers and inundated the crop fields of rice, maize, vegetables etc. Pong and Govinda Sagar dams are likely to touch the danger levels. At the moment, they are 30 feet below danger mark.

The temperatures were sharply dipped because of first snowfall at Dhauladhar and Lahaul valley. Low temperature due to this snowfall may affect crop growth in mid and high

hill areas. Vegetable crops have been already affected. Lodging in maize (tassling stage) has been reported from Una, Kangra, Bilaspur and Harimipur districts due to heavy rainfall. Farmers are advised to drain the excess water from the maize field but retain the runoff water in rainfed rice fields.

Punjab

State as a whole is having rainfall deficit of 14 % as on 14th August. Excess rainfall was reported in some districts of Punjab State. However, there was no report on crop damages especially on major crops like rice, maize and cotton. Farmers are advised to drain out the excess water and keep the fields free of inundation. Sucking pest incidence was observed in cotton but it is under control and as such no control measures are suggested at this stage.