

**ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture**  
**Hyderabad**

**Status of monsoon and contingency plans for some deficit/excess rainfall areas**

Onset of South-West monsoon during 2015 was delayed by 4 days and has set in Kerala on 5<sup>th</sup> June. It has further advanced in to some parts of coastal and south interior Karnataka and Tamilnadu. The northern limit of monsoon on 8<sup>th</sup> June is passing through Mangalore, Mysore, Salem and Cuddalore. The latest IMD report says conditions are favourable for further advance of SWM in to some more parts of Karnataka, remaining parts of Tamilnadu, Rayalaseema and coastal Andhra Pradesh during next two days. During 1-7 June, country as a whole received 24 mm rainfall, which is equal to the normal rainfall of the country for the same period (~23.9 mm). The following contingency measures may be followed for the crops/cropping systems of the mentioned states.

**Kerala**

Dry seeding of *virippu* rice, wet seeding of rice variety Uma can be undertaken. Intercropping With the start of rainy season, there is chance of incidence of bud rot in coconut gardens. In areas where this disease is common, spray Bordeaux mixture (1%). Provide propping for bunched Nendran (banana) plants and take care to avoid water logging at the base of the plants.

**Karnataka**

The farmers are advised to procure good quality seeds of the following crops/crop varieties and fertilizers. Ragi: GPU- 28, MR -01, 02 and 06, KMR-301, Red gram : TTB -7, BRG -01, BRG-02, HYD -3C. Seeds are available in ATIC centre and National Seed Project (NSP), GKVK, Bangalore. Take up vaccination for animals affected with foot and mouth disease.

**Andhra Pradesh**

Land preparations can be taken up for *kharif* crops. sugarcane: Intercropping in sugarcane can be taken up. Apply 50 kg urea/acre for planted sugarcane and 100 kg urea/acre for ratoon crop by pocketing method. Summer ploughing can be undertaken for planting rainfed sugarcane.

**Tamilnadu**

Rice is in active tillering stage. As rainfall is expected in the coming days, apply nitrogen to rice using leaf colour chart. Brinjal is in flowering and fruiting stage - postpone irrigation as rainfall is forecasted. Provide propping for banana and sugarcane as high speed winds are expected.

## **Assam**

Farmers may take the advantage of current rainfall to complete the seedbed preparation for raising seedlings. Prepare nursery beds of 10 m length and 1.25 m breadth in leveled well-puddled soil. About 6-7 such beds will be required to transplant one bigha of land. Apply 20 kg FYM, 80 gm urea, 80 gm SSP and 40 gm MOP in each bed. Before sowing in nursery beds, the seeds should be soaked directly in either Mancozeb or Captan or Carbendazim @ half spoon/kg seed/lit of water for 24 hours. Requirement of seeds for transplanting one bigha of main field is 5 kg. In Papaya, complete the planting of seedlings in the main field. The recommended varieties are Coorg Honey Dew, Washington, Halflong, Ranchi etc. In fodder crops, rooted slips of crops like Hybrid Napier, Setaria and Guinea *etc.* may be planted due to sufficient moisture in the field. Go for vaccination against Foot & Mouth disease and other bacterial diseases in bovine population (cattle, goat, buffalo etc).

## **Maharashtra**

- **Konkan region**

Prepare rice beds at 1.2 x 10 m size for rice nursery on upland fields.

Mango: Harvest the mature mango fruits with the help on Nutan mango harvester at 80 to 85% maturity. Keep the harvested fruits in shade to prevent spongy tissue disease and from heat.

Fishery: Remove water from tanks and sundry.

- **Marathwada region**

Undertake sowing of irrigated cotton with assured irrigation.

Continue preparatory tillage for the sowing of green gram, black gram and red gram utilizing the pre monsoon showers.

## **Gujarat**

Land preparation for sowing of Kharif crops is recommended. Cotton : Farmers are advised for sowing of BT cotton (RCH 2).

*Note: The above is a general overview for the states. However, ICAR (CRIDA) has prepared district level contingency plans (covering all farming situations within the district) and placed in the websites of the Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperation, Government of India ([www.agricoop.nic.in](http://www.agricoop.nic.in)) and CRIDA ([www.crida.in](http://www.crida.in)) for further details.*