

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 it has set over Kerala on 5th June. It has further advanced in to Karnataka, Goa, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Odisha, West Bengal, parts of Gujarat, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. As on 22 June, the northern limit of south-west monsoon (SWM) is passing through Veraval, Surat, Ujjain, Narsinghpur, Raipur, Ranchi, Dumka and Darjeeling. Conditions are stated to be favourable for further advance of SWM in to some more parts of Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, entire during next 3-4 days. During 1-22 June, the country as a whole received 112 mm rainfall, which is 16% more than the normal (97 mm). The region-wise SWM rainfall status is: East and Northeast India (3% excess), Northwest India (7% deficit, monsoon has not set in so far), Central India (32% excess) and South peninsula (30% excess).

The following is the amount of rainfall received during 1-22 June and contingency measures that are to be followed for the crops/cropping systems in the states mentioned.

Kerala

Kerala received 426.5 mm rainfall and it is 40% deficit compared to the normal. The Viruppu paddy is in tillering stage in many of the places of Kerala. Major varieties of rice sown is Uma, Jyothi and Ponmani.

- Paddy: Weather conditions favor the incidence of leaf folder and stem borer attack. Use trichogramma cards @ 2CC per acre. Cut the card in to small pieces and fix in different locations of the paddy field. Replace the cards within every two weeks. If the attack is severe, apply Quinalphos (2ml per one litre of water) or cartap hydrochloride (25g per one hectare).
- Rubber: Prophylactic spraying against fungal diseases like tapping panel diseases
- Banana: Provide propping for protection against heavy wind.

Karnataka

South interior Karnataka (114 mm) received excess rainfall; North interior Karnataka (65.4 mm) and coastal Karnataka (465 mm) received normal rainfall.

a) North Karnataka

- Sowing of green gram, sunflower, maize, Bt. cotton, pigeonpea, pearl millet, sesamum and groundnut (bunch type) may be taken up as rainfall is predicted for next three days.
- Following intercropping systems can be adopted in light and medium black soils for efficient use of soil and water resources. Pearl millet + Groundnut (bunch) in 2:4 row proportion; Pearl millet + Pigeonpea in 2:1 row proportion; Groundnut (bunch) +

Pigeonpea in 3:1 or 4:2 row proportion, Pigeonpea + sesamum in 1:2 or 2:4 row proportion.

- Vaccinate livestock against Foot and Mouth disease (FMD vaccination), Black Quarter disease and Haemorrhagic Septicaemia.

b) South Karnataka

- Use recommended varieties of crops for the particular zone. Pigeonpea : TTB -7, BRG - 01, BRG- 02, HYD -3C; Fingermillet :GPU- 28, MR -01, 02 and 06, KMR-301. Seeds are available in ATIC centre and National Seed Project (NSP), GKVK, Bangalore.

Maharashtra

Vidarbha (62 mm), Marathwada (65 mm) and Madhya Maharashtra (52 mm) regions received surplus rainfall (59%, 26% and 2% excess rainfall respectively, compared to normal), while Konkan region received 125 mm rainfall (36% deficit).

a) Konkan region

- Rice: Prepare raised beds of 1.2 x 10 m dimension for nursery in uplands.
- Fishery: Indent for fish seed at District Fisheries Department Office

b) Vidarbha

- Onset of monsoon was declared on 14 June in the region. Normal sowing window of all major crops are : cotton (15th June to 30th June), soybean (3rd week of June to 15th July), sorghum (25th June to 10th July), pigeonpea (last week of June to first week of July) and short duration pulses (last week of June). Hence, no change of crops and varieties are suggested.

c) Madhya Maharashtra

- Kharif sorghum: Use recommended varieties like SPV-462, 475, 946, SSV-84 and Phule amruta.
- Pearl millet: Use hybrids like Shradha (IHRBH-8609) Saburi (IHIBH-8924) and improved varieties like WCC-75, ICTP-8203.
- Sunflower: Use recommended varieties like EC-68414, Modern, SS-56, KBSH-11, SPSH-11.

Odisha

- Complete sowing of rice in low and medium lands.
- Sow pigeonpea, groundnut, cotton and maize in uplands
- For transplanted rice, raise the nurseries and ensure proper drainage

Andhra Pradesh

- Groundnut: Seed treatment: Seed treatment with Imidachloprid 2 ml+ Dithane M-45 @ 3 g/kg seed or seed treatment with *Trichoderma viridi* @ 8 g/kg of seed.
- Sugarcane: smut disease observed. To control spray propiconazole @ 1 ml/l twice at the time of ratooning and 30 days after ratooning.

- Sesame: sucking pests was observed. Spray dimethoate @ 2.0 ml/lit and seed treatment should be done with carbendazim @ 3g/kg of seed before sowing.

Gujarat

The recommended varieties of cotton and groundnut are:

- Cotton (Kapas): Ankur-651
- Groundnut: Gujarat Groundnut-5 (GG5)

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) and CRIDA (www.crida.in) for further details.