

ICAR-Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture
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Status of monsoon and agromet advisories/ contingency plans for some deficit/excess rainfall areas

The southwest monsoon (SWM) has covered the entire country on 26 June. During 1-28 June, the country as a whole received 176.5 mm rainfall, which is 19% more than the normal (148 mm). The region-wise SWM rainfall status is: East and Northeast India (2% excess), Northwest India (25% excess), Central India (31% excess) and South peninsula (26% excess). Out of 36 meteorological sub divisions in the country, only four are facing deficit rainfall condition; 17 are facing normal rainfall condition and 15 with excess rainfall condition. The following is the amount of rainfall received during 1-28 June and contingency measures that are to be followed for the crops/cropping systems in the states mentioned.

Kerala

Kerala received 539.5 mm rainfall (10% deficit compared to the normal). The *Viruppu* paddy is in tillering stage in many of the places. Major varieties sown are Uma, Jyothi and Ponmani.

- Paddy: Due to intermittent rain there is a chance of leaf folder and stem borer attack in paddy. To control them, use trichogramma cards @ 2 cc per acre.
- Rubber: Pink disease can be controlled by chiselling out the affected bark and apply Bordeaux paste.

Karnataka

South interior Karnataka (127 mm) received 68% excess rainfall; North interior Karnataka (88 mm) and coastal Karnataka (703 mm) received 8 and 10% deficit rainfall, respectively.

a) South Karnataka

- Pigeonpea: TTB-7, BRG-1 and Hyd-3c @ 15 kg/ha and treat the seeds with rhizobium culture @ 500 gm/ha before sowing. Spacing of 60 cm x 23 cm is recommended.
- Groundnut: Bunch type varieties, JL-24 and TMV-2 (use 125 kg seeds/ha). Recommended spacing is 30cm (Row) x 10 cm (Plant).

Maharashtra

Vidarbha (253 mm), Konkan (778 mm) and Madhya Maharashtra (176 mm) regions received surplus rainfall (66%, 25% and 34% excess rainfall respectively, compared to normal), while Marathwada (118 mm) received 11% deficit rainfall.

a) Marathwada

- Continue sowing of *kharif* cotton, soybean, sunflower, sorghum etc after current spells of heavy rains.
- For sowing of cotton use spacing of 120 x 45 cm and a seed rate of 2.5 to 3.0 kg/ha
- Provide adequate drainage for vegetables and orchards in view of likely heavy rainfall.

b) Madhya Maharashtra

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

Odisha

The state received 221 mm rainfall (12% excess) so far.

- Select rice varieties maturing at least 10 to 15 days earlier than the recommended rice varieties for medium and low land types. Go for 100-110 days varieties such as Sahabhagi, Khandagiri in medium land. Select varieties such as Lalat, Prijat, Surendra, Kharavela for medium-low land conditions. Select varieties such as Swarna, Mahanadi, Prachi, Ramachandi, Indravati, Jagabandhu and scented varieties like Kalajeera, Pimpudibas, Gangabal for very low and patta land situation.
- SRI method of rice cultivation can be taken up in irrigated medium lands, for which only 10 to 12 days is required for raising seedlings.
- Vegetables such as cowpea, cluster bean, radish, cauliflower, chilli, brinjal and tomato can be cultivated.

Chhattisgarh

The state received 245 mm rainfall (50% excess) so far.

- Recommended rice varieties for blast sensitive regions: Mahsuri, Maheshwari
- Recommended rice variety for blight sensitive regions: Bamleshwari

Jharkhand

The state received 176 mm rainfall (8% deficit) so far.

- Rice: For direct seeding of rice, select short duration varieties like Birsa Dhan - 108, Birsa Vikas Dhan 109 & 110, Vandana etc.
- The recommended inter cropping of this region is as follows: pigeonpea + groundnut/rice/black gram : Between the 2 rows of pigeonpea (75 cm between row & 20

- 25 cm between plant) 2 rows of groundnut /rice /black gram. pigeonpea + maize : 1 row pigeonpea and 1 row maize (75 cm between row).

Bihar

109 mm rainfall was received so far in the state, which is 24% deficit.

- Sowing of *kharif* maize (Suwaan, Devki Shaktimaan-1, Shaktimaan-2 for North Bihar) can be undertaken.
- *Kharif* onion: AgriFound Dark Red (ADR), N-53, Bhima super, Arka kalyan are the recommended varieties. Maintain a seed rate of 8-10 kg per hectare

Uttar Pradesh

Western UP received 58.5 mm (1% excess) and Eastern UP received 55.1 mm (40% deficit) so far.

Western UP

- Paddy: Sowing Medium duration rice such as Narendra dhan-359, Malviya dhan-36, Narendra dhan-2064, Narendra dhan -2026, or Hybrid varieties as Arize-6444, 6201, PHB-71, KRH-2 , PRH-10 and JKRH-401 can be completed.
- Maize: Hybrid Ganga-11, Sartaj, HQPM-5, Pro-316, Bio-9681, Y-1402, HQPM-8 and Composite variety Prabhat can be sown with a seed rate of 18-20 kg/ha.

Jammu & Kashmir

The state received 58.2 mm rainfall so far (80% excess).

- Maize : Cultivars Vivek-25, HM-5 and HQPM-1 are recommended with a seed rate of 20-30 kg/ha where sufficient soil moisture is available in the field.

Rajasthan

West Rajasthan received 50.6 mm (91% excess) and Eastern Rajasthan received 82.4 mm (61% excess) so far.

- Sowing of maize can be undertaken. Recommended varieties are Him - 129, Aravali Makka, PEHM-1, PEHM- 2, Pratap Makka-1, Pratap Makka-3, Pratap Makka-5
- Sowing of soybean can also be taken up. Recommended varieties are: JS-335, MACS-13, PK - 472, MACS-58, PS -16, JS - 71 - 05, Pratap Soya-1

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.