

Fiji Sugarcane Rainfall Outlook For March, April & May 2025 and April to June 2025 **Experimental**

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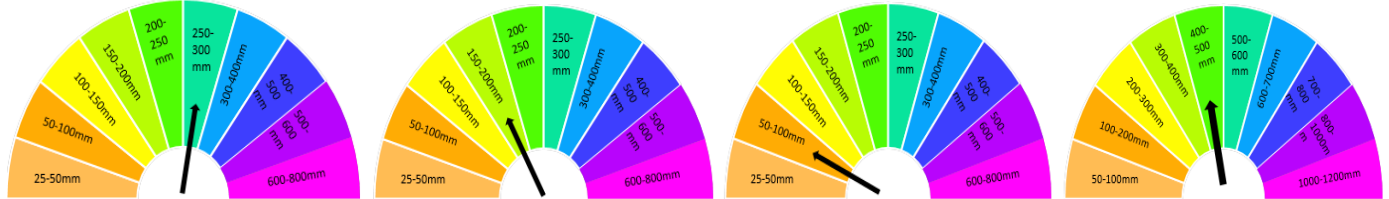
Volume 3

Issue: 2

Issued: March 18, 2025

Next issue: March 31, 2025

Key Messages



March 2025

April 2025

May 2025

April to June 2025

English

WEATHER OUTLOOK

The Fiji Meteorological Services forecasts high rainfall (250mm - 400mm) across sugarcane-growing regions in both Viti Levu and Vanua Levu for the upcoming month. Growers should remain cautious, as heavy rainfall can lead to waterlogging, increased weed growth and a higher risk of pests and diseases.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS FOR FARMERS

Land Preparation

- Continue with the second phase of land preparation for planting the new crop.
- Ensure proper drainage systems are in place to prevent waterlogging, which can delay planting and impact crop establishment.

Weed Management

- High rainfall increases weed infestation, which can compete with young cane for nutrients and moisture.
- Implement an integrated weed management approach, including:
 - * manual weeding for areas where chemical control is impractical.
 - * application of recommended weedicides, ensuring proper dosages and timing to maximize effectiveness while minimizing environmental impact.

Soil Management

- Conduct soil sampling in fallowed fields to determine fertility levels and nutrient requirements.
- Based on the soil test results, apply appropriate soil amendments, such as lime, to improve soil structure and pH balance.

Seed Cane Selection and Preparation

- Select high-quality and disease-free seedcane well in advance. Ensure that all planting materials are sourced from certified nurseries to reduce the risk of disease transmission.

Pest and Disease Control

- Armyworm infestations have been reported in certain regions. Keep headlands and field borders clean to minimize breeding sites.
- Monitor fields for early signs of pests and diseases and adopt preventive control measures to avoid crop losses.

Fertilizer Management

- Blended fertilizers should be secured in advance and stored under proper conditions to prevent degradation due to moisture exposure.
- Apply fertilizers at the recommended rates based on soil test results to optimize crop growth and minimize nutrient leaching due to heavy rainfall.

GENERAL ADVISORY

Farmers should closely monitor weather forecasts to plan their farm activities, particularly planting, fertilizer application, and weed control. Given that Fiji is still in its cyclone season, growers should take precautionary measures of securing farm equipment.

For further technical assistance, please contact SRIF at 8921839.

Hindi Version**MAUSAM PURVANUMAN**

Nadi mausami daftar ka anuman hai ki agle mahine Viti Levu aur Vanua Levu ke ganna ugaane waale kshetron mein 250mm - 400mm tak varsha hogi. Kisano ko saavdhan rehna chahiye, kyunki bhari varsha ke karan jal-jamav, jhaadiyan badhne aur keeton evam rog ke sankraman ka khatra badh sakta hai.

KISANO KE LIYE SUJHAVIT KARYE**Bhoomi Taiyari**

- Naye fasal ke ropan ke liye bhoomi tayyari ke doosre charan ko jaari rakhein.
- Jal-jamav rokne ke liye uchit nikasi pranali banaayein, jo fasal ke vikas ko prabhavit hone se bacha sake.

Ghaas Niyantaran

- Adhik varsha se jhaadiyan badh sakti hain, jo ganne se poshak tatvon ke liye pratiyogita karti hain.
- Sammlit ghaas niyantran vidhi ka upayog karein:
 - * Haathon se ghaas nikalna jahaan chemical upayog sambhav na ho.
 - * Sujhavit davai ka sahi matra aur sahi samay par chhidkaav karein, taaki unka asar adhik ho aur paryavaran par prabhav kam pade.

Mitti Prabandhan

- Jote kshetron mein mitti ka namuna lekar uski urvarakta aur poshak tatvon ki avashyakta jaanch karein.
- Mitti ki jaanch ke adhar par uchit mitti sudharak, jaise ki chuna, ka upayog karein, jo mitti ki sanrachna aur pH santulan sudharne mein madad karega.

Beej Ganna Chayan aur Taiyari

- Beej ke liye uchit gunvatta waale, rog-mukt ganna ka chayan pehle se hi karein. Sabhi ropan samagri pramanit jagha se hi lein, taaki rog sankraman ka khatra kam ho.

Keet evam Rog Niyantaran

- Kuchh kshetron mein Armyworm sankraman dekha gaya hai. Sirhane aur kheton ke kinaare saaf rakhein, taaki inko kam kiya ja sake.
- Kheton mein rog evam keeton ke lakshan dekhne par turant niyantran upay apnaayein, taaki fasal ka nukhsan na ho.

Urvarak Prabandhan

- Mishrit urvarak pehle se hi prapt karein aur unhe sahi sthaan par rakhein, taaki nami ke sampark se ve kharab na ho.
- Mitti ki jaanch ke adhar par sujhavit matra mein urvarak ka upayog karein, taaki fasal ki vridhhi sudhar ho aur bhari varsha ke karan poshak tatvon ka bahav kam ho.

SAMANYA SALAH

Kisano ko mausam purvanuman ka dhyan se anusar apni kheti sambandhi gatavidhiyon jaise ki ropan, urvarak upayog evam ghaas niyantran ki yojna banani chahiye. Kyunki Fiji abhi bhi apne toofan ke mausam mein hai, isliye kisano ko apne kheti ke upkaran surakshit rakhne ki savdhani leni chahiye. Kisi bhi takniki madad ke liye, kripya SRIF se 8921839 par sampark karein.

I Taukei Version**DRAKI NAMAKI**

E namaki me na rawa ni levu na uca (rauta ni 200mm-400mm) na levu ni uca me na laurai e na noda ya-lava ni tei dovu, e Viti Levu kei Vanua Levu, e na vula ka tu mai. Ni sa vakasalataki na dau teitei, me na qarauni vinaka na vanua ni teitei, me vaka ni na rawa ni luvu na I teitei, ka levu na manumanu ka dau vakadewa na mate e na laurai, ke sega ni samaki vinaka na I teitei.

I VAKASALA VEI IRA NA DAU TEITEI***Vakarautaki ni Qele***

- Kena gauna me qaravi kina na I karua ni wasewase ni kena vakarautaki na vanua ni teitei
- Me qarauni vinaka na I teitei, me na tarova na kena luvu, me na vaka ni na rawa ni na vakabera na teitei, ka na rawa tale ga ni vakaleqa na tubu ni tei.

Qarauni ni Tubu ni Co ca

- Na bi ni uca eda vakila toka oqo, e rawa ni vakatotolotaka na tubu ni co ca, ka rawa ni mai veisisiv-itaka kei na I tei ni dovu, na kakana bulabula kei na wai.
- Ni sa vakasalataki mo ni vakacuruma na I walewale ni qarauni ni tubu ni co ca, ka oka kina na;
 - * Werewere, e na vanua ka sega ni rawa ni vakayagataki kina na wainimate.
 - * Vakayagataki ni wainimate ni co ca e na kena I vakarau e lavaki me vakayagataki, kei na kena gauna me vakayagataki kina, me rawa ni tubu bulabula na I tei ka lailai na kena vakacaca e na I teitei.

Qarauni ni Qele ni Teitei

- Ni sa vakasalataki mo ni sabolotaka na nomuni qele ka sega ni teivaki tu, me na rawa ni vukeyi kemuni mo ni kila na bulabula ni qele, ka vaka tale ga kina, na levu ni vakabulabula ni qele e na gadrevi me vukeya e na gauna ni teitei.
- Mai na kena sabolotaka na nomuni qele, e na rawa tale ga moni kila na veika tale e so e gadrevi me vakayagataki e na qele, me na rawa ni vakavinakataka na I tuvaki ni qele ni bera na teitei, kei na gauna ni teitei, me vakataka na kena vakayagataki na “lime”, me vakabulabulataka na qele.

Digitaki ni Tei ni Qele kei na kena Vakarautaki

- Ni sa vakasalataki mo ni tekivu digia rawa na I tei ni dovu vinaka. Qarauni me taurivaki mai na I yaya ni teitei mai vei ira ka ra vakaivola e na kena soli na I tei ni dovu, me na rawa ni vakalailaitaka na kena dewa na mate ni dovu.

Tarovi ni mate kei na Manumanu ka dau vakadewa na Mate

- E so na I tukutuku ni mate na ‘Armyworm’, e sa taurivaki e na so na yasa ni vanua ni tei dovu. Ni sa vakasalataki me samaki na ulu ni teitei, ka vaka talega kina na tutuna ruarua, me na rawa ni tarova se vakalailaitaka na kena vakavale/susu kina na manumanu.
- Ni sa kerei mo ni yadrava na nomuni teitei, me baleta na I vakatakilakila ni mate dau veitauvi ni dovu, kei na manumanu ka dau vakadewa na mate, me na rawa ni solia vei kemuni na I vakatakilakila ni gauna mo ni vakacuruma kina e so na I walewale, me na rawa ni vakalailaitaka na kena vakacaca e na I teitei.

Vakayagataki ni Vakabulabula ni Qele

- Kerei me voli rawa ka maroroi tu na I vakabulabula ni qele, ka maroroi vinaka tale ga, me tarova na kena suasua.
- Ni sa vakasalataki me vakayagataki vakamatau na I vakabulabula ni qele, e na kena I vakarau ka lavaki yani vei kemuni, me na rawa ni vakalevutaka na tubu ni tei, ka vakalailaitaka tale ga

na kena sisi e na gauna ni tau ni uca.

I VAKASALA RARABA

E na gauna ni vakavakarau se navunavuci ni teitei, ni sa vakasalataki mo ni vakatu daliga vei iratou na Tabana Ni Draki, vakabibi e na gauna ni teitei, gauna ni vakayagataki ni vakabulabula ni qele, ka vaka tale ga kina e na gauna ni yadravi ni tubu ni co ca.

Ni sa vakasalataki tale ga mo ni maroroya vinaka na nomuni yaya ni teitei, me vaka e da se tiko e na vula ni cagilaba.

Ke tu tale e so nomuni vakatataro, ni qai rawa ni veitaratara kei iratou na Tabana Ni SRIF, e na 8921839.

Climate Outlook

- ENSO status continues to be neutral. A weak La Niña likely to develop during January to March period with borderline La Niña like conditions likely to persist through February to April 2025 period.
- During March 2025, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **250-300mm** of rainfall from Sigatoka to Penang and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu, while there is a high chance of receiving at least **300-400mm** of rainfall in Dabuilevu.
- During April 2025, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **100-150mm** of rainfall from Sigatoka to Tavua, **200-250mm** of rainfall in Dabuilevu and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu, while there is a high chance of receiving at least **150-200mm** of rainfall in Vatukoula and Penang.
- For May 2025, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **50-100mm** of rainfall from Olosara to Penang, while there is a high chance of receiving at least **100-150mm** of rainfall in Dabuilevu and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu.
- During April to June 2025 period, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **300-400mm** of rainfall from Olosara to Tagitagi, **400-500mm** in Mota, Koronubu, Vatukoula, Tavua, Penang, Seaqaqa and Labasa, **500-600mm** of rainfall in sugarcane belt areas in Waiqele, Vunimoli, Batinikama, Wainikoro and Vunivutu, while there is a high chance of receiving at least **600-700mm** in Dabuilevu.
- Fiji is in its tropical cyclone season, with any development of low pressure systems, tropical disturbance, or depression forming nearby could lead to increased rainfall.
- All communities should remain alert and prepared throughout the tropical cyclone season and take heed of all advisories and warnings issued.

Rainfall Outlook: March 2025

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
March 2025

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 15/02/2025
Issued: 17/02/2025

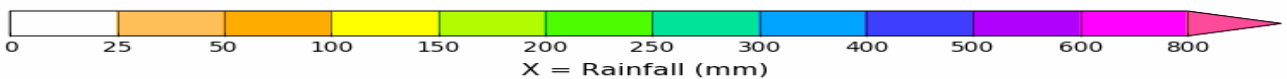
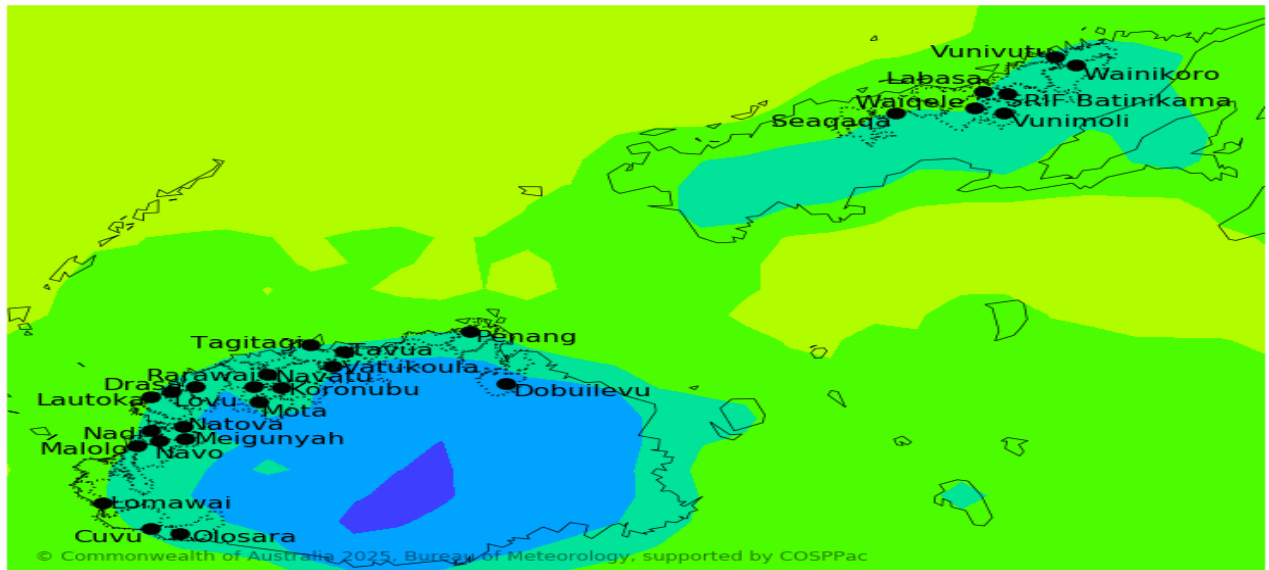


Figure 1: High (75%) chance of receiving at least 250-300mm of rainfall from Sigatoka to Penang and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu, while there is a high chance of receiving at least 300-400mm of rainfall in Dabuilevu. The confidence in the outlook is good to high.

Rainfall Outlook: April 2025

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
April 2025

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 15/02/2025
Issued: 17/02/2025

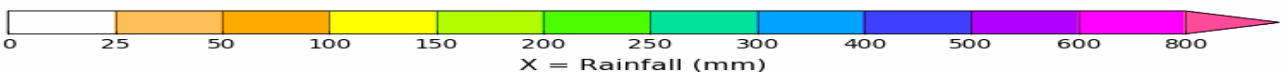
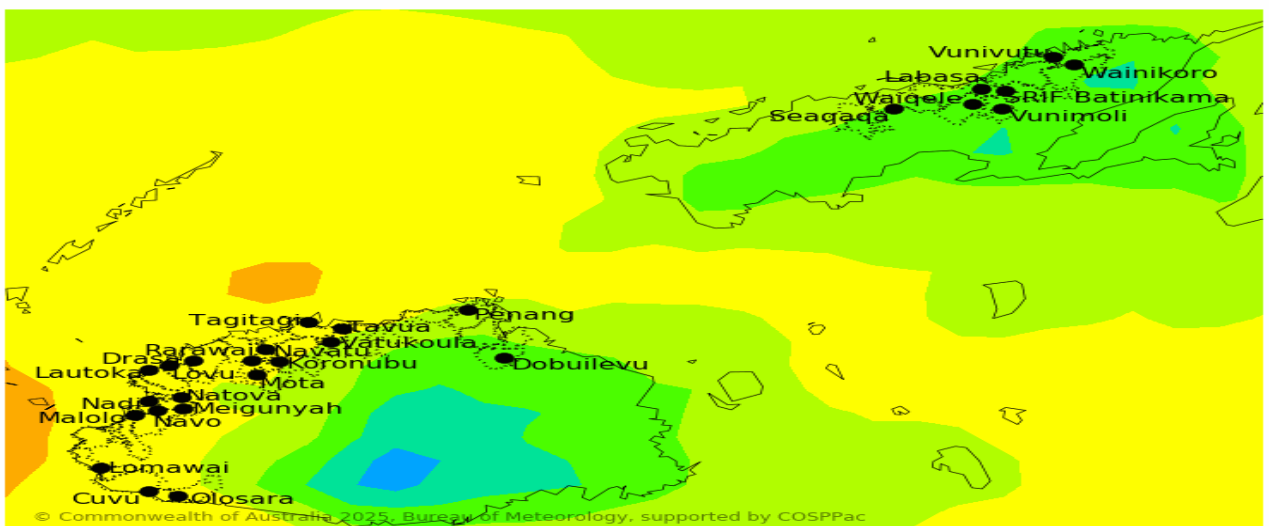


Figure 2: High (75%) chance of receiving at least 100-150mm of rainfall from Sigatoka to Tavua, 200-250mm of rainfall in Dabuilevu and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu, while there is a high chance of receiving at least 150-200mm of rainfall in Vatukoula and Penang. The confidence in the outlook is Moderate.

Rainfall Outlook: May 2025

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
May 2025

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 15/02/2025
Issued: 17/02/2025

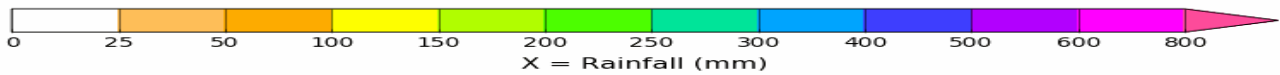
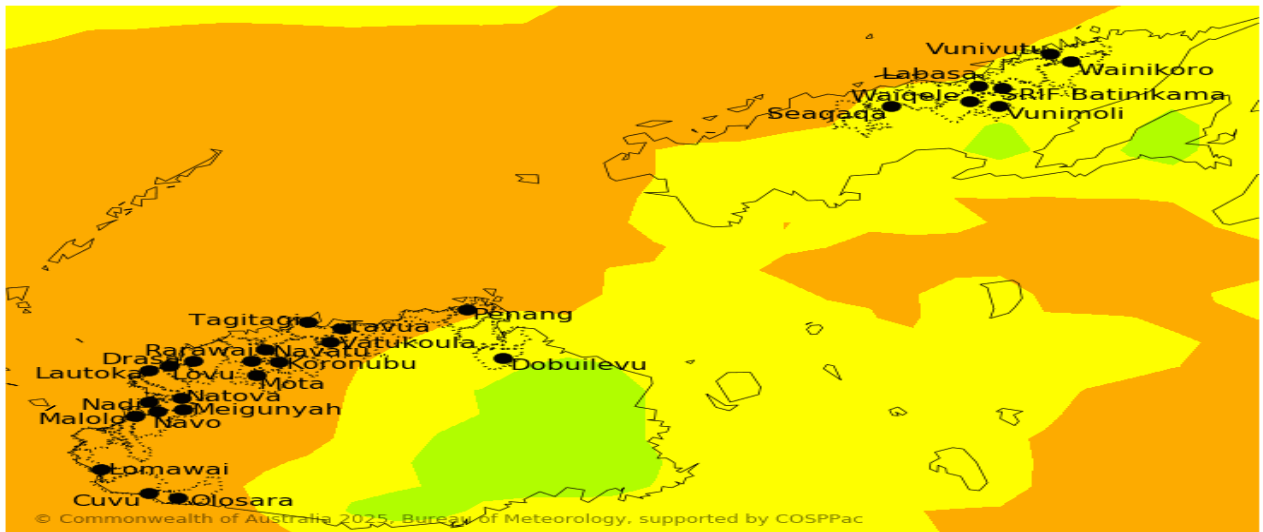


Figure 3: There is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least 50-100mm of rainfall from Olosara to Penang, while there is a high chance of receiving at least 100-150mm of rainfall in Dobuilevu and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu. The confidence in the outlook is Low to Moderate.

Rainfall Outlook: April to June 2025

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
April to June 2025

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 15/02/2025
Issued: 17/02/2025

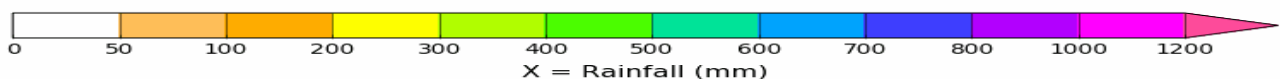
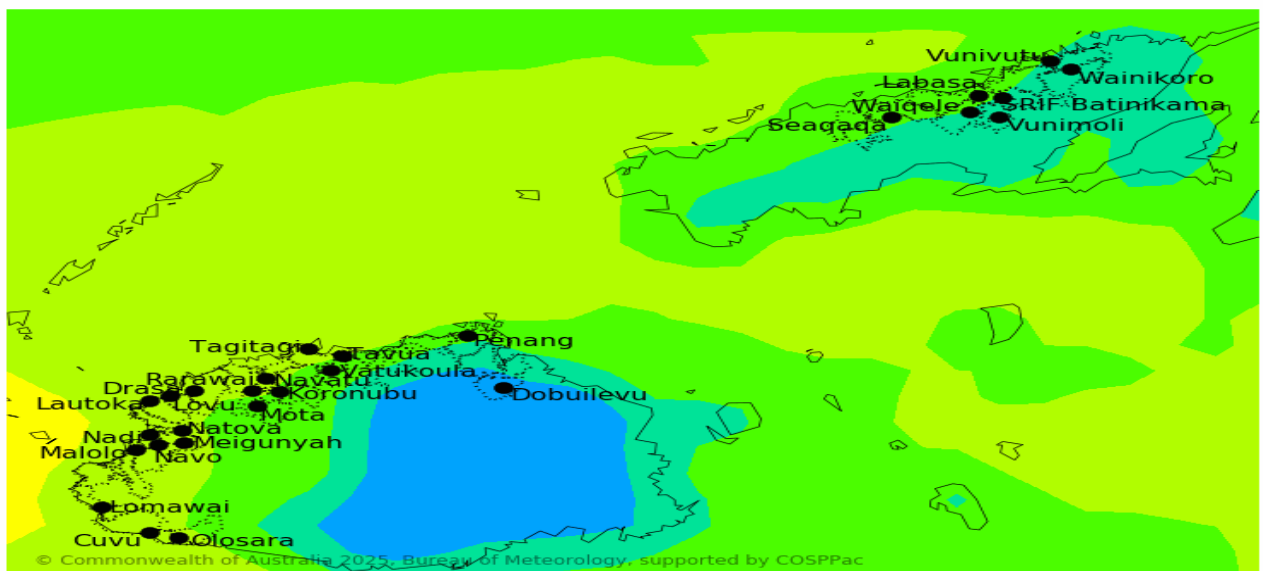


Figure 4: High (75%) chance of receiving at least 300-400mm of rainfall from Olosara to Tagitagi, 400-500mm in Mota, Koronubu, Vatukoula, Tavua, Penang, Seagaqa and Labasa, 500-600mm of rainfall in sugarcane belt areas in Waiqele, Vunimoli, Batinikama, Wainikoro and Vunivutu, while there is a high chance of receiving at least 600-700mm in Doubuilevu. The confidence in the outlook is Good to high.

Explanatory Notes

Fiji Sugarcane Rainfall Outlook

The Fiji Sugarcane Climate Outlook is a collaborative product of the Fiji Meteorological Service (FMS) and the Sugar Research Institute of Fiji (SRIF). It is produced to provide advisories to the farmers and other key sugar industry stakeholders. It aims to provide advanced warning on climate abnormalities for informed decision making. The product is issued on a monthly basis.

El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)

ENSO is the principal driver of the year-to-year variability of Fiji's climate. There are two extreme phases of this phenomenon, *El Niño* and *La Niña*.

El Niño or La Niña events usually recur after every 2 to 7 years. It normally develops during the period April to June, attains peak intensity between December to February and decays between the period April to June the following year. While most events last for a year, some have persisted for up to 2 years. It should be also noted that no two El Niño or La Niña events are exactly the same. Different events have different impacts, but most exhibit some common climate characteristics.

Usually there is a lag effect on Fiji's climate with ENSO events, that is, once an El Niño or La Niña event is established in the tropical Pacific, it may take 2-6 months before its impact is seen on Fiji. Similarly, once an event finish, it can take 2-6 months for climate to normalise.

El Niño events are associated with warming of the central and eastern tropical Pacific. El Niño events usually result in reduction of Fiji's rainfall. Often the whole of Fiji is affected in varying degrees and it is quite unusual for one part of the country to experience a prolonged dry spell, while the other is in a wet spell. The relationship and level of rainfall suppression is greater in the Dry Zone (sugarcane growing areas) than in the Wet Zone. It is the suppression of rainfall during the Cool/Dry Season (May to October) that is normally of most concern. Dry Season mean monthly rainfall in the Dry Zone ranges between 40mm and 90mm. A reduction in Cool/Dry Season rainfall in the Dry Zone results in little or no rainfall until the next Wet Season. While usually the strength of an ENSO event is proportional to its impact on Fiji, at times weak event can also have a significant impact.

La Niña events are associated with cooling of the central and eastern tropical Pacific. Usually La Niña results in wetter than normal conditions for Fiji, occasionally leading to flooding during the Warm/Wet Season (November to April).

When ENSO is neutral, that is, neither El Niño nor La Niña, it has little effect on global climate, meaning other climate influences are more likely to dominate.

Lag effects – means that there is a delay in the impacts of some aspect of climate due to influence of other factors that is acting slowly.

Disclaimer: The seasonal climate outlook provided in this document is presented for the sugar sector and should be used as a guide only. While FMS and SRIF takes all measures to provide accurate information and data, it does not guarantee 100% accuracy of the forecast presented in this outlook. Please enquire with FMS and SRIF for expert advice, clarifications and additional information as and when necessary. The user assumes all risk resulting directly or indirectly from the use of the climate prediction information.