

Fiji Sugarcane Rainfall Outlook For October, November & December and November 2024 to January 2025 **Experimental**

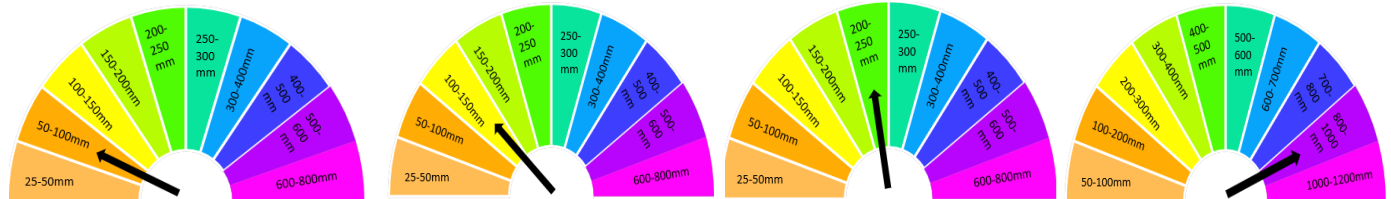
Volume 2

Issue: 09

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Next issue: October 31, 2024

Key Messages



October 2024

November 2024

December 2024

November to January 2025

English

- Farmers with land already prepared should plan their planting at the earliest.
- Assured supplemental irrigation during planting is necessary for adequate germination in time.
- For pest and disease related matters, it is advised to treat the setts with insecticide to prevent possible termite infestation. If cane weevil borer is noticed in more than 10% of newly sprouted ratoons, take up the insecticide spray. Billet traps can be placed to trap the adults.
- SRIF fertilizer recommendations should be followed and liming carried out at recommended rates if soil pH is low.
- SRIF certified seedcane to be used for planting.
- For canes already harvested, fertilizers should be ordered. Split application practiced on all plant and ratoon crops before the end of the year so that it can be taken up by the plants progressively.
- In harvested fields, practice trash conservation to mitigate the current dry conditions.
- Look-out for gaps in the field. Carryout gap filling either planting of stalks, seedlings or simply carrying out “tum-tum”.
- Farmers should keep listening to forecasts and avoid mechanical inter row cultivation (ripper, tiller etc.) during prolonged dry period to avoid moisture loss and only to conduct once rain is forecasted or after it is received.
- Maintain field hygiene to avoid pest and disease build-up.
- Farmers planning to plant next year should take green manuring initiatives and plant legumes (e.g. urd, moong, cowpea, beans etc.) in the fallow land. SRIF technology transfer officers and FSC farm advisors can be contacted for more information on 8921839.

Hindi Version

- Jin kisaanon ke paas pahale se hee jameen taiyaar hai, unhen jald se jald apane ropan kee yojana banaane chaahiye.
- Samay par paryaapt ankuran ke liye ropan ke dauraan sunishchit poorwak sinchae zaroori hai.
- Keet aur rog sambandhee maamalon ke liye, sambhaavit deemak sankraman ko rokane ke liye khet ko keetanaashak se upachaarit karane kee salaah dee jaatee hai. Yadi 10% se adhik nae ankurit pedon mein keet dekhaye toh keetanaashak ka chhidakaav karen. Keet ko phansaane ke liye jaal lagaye ja sakate hain.
- Yadi mittee ka pH kam hai to SRIF siphaarishon ka paalan kiya jaana chaahiye aur anushansit choona lagaaya jaana chaahiye.
- Ropan ke liye SRIF pramaanit beej ka upayog kiya ja sakta hai.
- Pahale se kaate gae ganne ke liye, fertilizer ka ordar diya jaana chaahiye. Varsh ke anth se pahale sabhee paudhon aur phasalon par vibhaajit prayog ka abhyaas kiya jaata hai taaki paudhon dvaara isse grahan kiya ja sake.
- Kataee vaale kheton mein, vartamaan ke jhure paristhitiyon ko kam karane ke liye kachara sanrakshan ka abhyaas karen.
- Kheton mein kamiyon par nazar rakhen. Jaghe ko bharane ke liye paudhe lagaye ya bas "tam-tam" ka istamaal karen.
- Kisaanon ko mauasam ke poorvaanumaanon ko sunate rahana chaahiye aur namee kee haani se bachane ke liye lambe samay tak jhure ke avadhi ke dauraan ripper, tiler aadi ke istamaal se bachana chaahiye aur keval baarish ke poorvaanumaan hone par ya usake praapt hone ke baad hee khetee karanee chaahiye.
- Keeton aur beemaariyon se bachane ke liye khet ko saaf rakhen.
- Agale varsh ropan kee yojana bana rahe kisaanon ko haree khaad kee pahal karanee chaahiye aur paratee bhoomi mein urd, moong, bodha, aadi lagaanee chaahiye. Adhik jaanakaaree ke liye SRIF aur FSC salaahakaaron se 8921839 par sampark kiya ja sakata hai.

I Taukei Version

- Ni sa kerei na dau teitei, ka sa vakarau tu na nomuni qele, moni sa tekivu navuca rawa yani oqo na gauna ni nomuni teitei.
- Ke rawa ni vakayagataki tale ga na misini e na kena vakadrodroi ni wai ki na I teitei, se irrigation, e na gauna ni teitei, me rawa ni vukea na kena kadre na I tei e na kena gauna donu.
- E na vuku ni manumanu lalai kei na mate dauveitauvi, ni sa vakasalataki mo ni vakayagataka na ke-na wainimate me na rawa ni tarova na kena teteva na I teitei. Ni sa vakasalataki tale ga mo ni vakayagataka na I sui ni manumanu lalai, ke sa laurai ni sivia na tini na pasede (10%) na I tei e sa takavi ira na 'cane weevil borer'. E rawa ni vakayagataki na 'billet trap' me vakalailaitaki kina na manumanu ka sa ra matua.
- Sa kerei mo ni vakamuraia vinaka na I vakasala me baleta na kena vakayagataki na I vakabulabula ni qele kei na 'liming', e na kena vakayagataki e na kena gauna donu, kevaka e laurai ni lailai na 'pH'

ni nomuni qele.

- Ni sa kerei na dau teitei, me vakayagatki ga na I tei ni dovu ka ratou sa vakadinadinataka oti mai na Tabana ni SRIF.
- E na so na vanua ka sa ta oti na kena dovu, sa na rawa ni tekivu otataki tale ga na kena I vakabulabula ni qele. Ni sa vakasalataki me vidai rua na kena vakayagataki na I vakabulabula ni qele, ni bera ni da yacova yani na mua ni yabaki, e na dovu se qai tei, kei na kena ka ra sa tubu tiko, me na rawa ni vukea ka qarauni me na curuma vinaka na I tei na I vakabulabula ni qele.
- E na gauna ni ta dovu, ni sa kerei mo ni maroroya na benu, me rawa ni vakalailaitaka na mamaca ni dela ni qele, vakabibi e na gauna ni draki mamaca eda donumaka tiko oqo.
- Me dau laurai vinaka na veivanua laqa e na loma ni teitei. E rawa ni vakayagataki na veivanua laqa oqo e na kena tei kina e so na veimataqali I tei, sore ni kau, se caka kina na mataqali walewale ni teitei ka yacana na “tum-tum”.
- E na gauna ni draki mamaca e da donumaka tiko oqo, ko ni kerei na dau teitei, mo ni vakarogoca na I tukutuku ni draki ka dau kacivaki mai, ka vakalailaitaki tale ga na kena vakayagataki na misini ni teitei, me vaka na kena cuki na qele, me na rawa ni vakalailaitaka na yali ni suasua (moisture) ka se bau tiko rawa e na loma ni qele. Ka na daumaka me na qai vakayacori ni sa tau oti na uca, se ni sa kacivaki, ni namaki na tau ni uca.
- Ni sa kerei me na samaki vinaka tale tiko ga na I teitei, me na rawa ni tarova na kena tiko kina na manumanu lalai se takava na mate dauveiveitauvi.
- Ni sa kerei na dau teitei, ka ko ni navunavuci mo ni teitei e na I tekivu ni yabaki ka tu mai, mo ni taurivaka na mataqali vakabulabula ni qele bulabula, me vaka na teivaki ni ‘legumes’, me vaka na urd, moong, cowpea, beans, kei na so tale, e na vanua lala.
- E rawa tale ga ni ko ni veitaratara kei iratou na Tabana ni SRIF technology transfer officers, kei na FSC farm advisors, ke tu tale e so na nomuni vakatataro, e na naba ni talevoni na 8921839.

Climate Outlook

- El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is currently neutral, with a transition to borderline La Niña state likely during October to December 2024. However, these La Niña conditions are predicted to be weak.
- For October 2024, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **50-100mm** of rainfall from Olosara to Penang, while there is high chance of receiving at least **100-150mm** of rainfall in Dobuilevu and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu.
- During November 2024, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **50-100mm** of rainfall in Cuvu and Lomawai, **100-150mm** in Olosara and from Malolo to Penang, while there is high chance of receiving at least **150-200mm** of rainfall in Dobuilevu and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu.
- For December 2024, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **150-200mm** of rainfall from Olosara to Tagitagi, **200-250mm** in Mota, Koronubu, Navatu, Tavua, Vatukoula and Penang, while there is high chance of receiving at least **250-300mm** of rainfall in Dobuilevu and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu.
- During November 2024 to January 2025 period, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **600-700mm** of rainfall from Olosara to Tagitagi, **700-800mm** in Meigunyah, Natova, Mota, Koronubu, Navatu, Vatukoula, Tavua and Penang, while there is high chance of receiving at least **800-1000mm** in Dobuilevu and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu.
- As we are now still in the Dry Season, variable rainfall is expected across the sugarcane belt areas. Northern Viti Levu and parts of the Northern Division are likely to receive some rain, while the rest of the areas are likely to experience low rainfall. However, as the country transitions to borderline La Niña conditions, there is potential for *above average* rainfall, as we slowly move into the Wet Season. La Niña typically increases rainfall in Fiji, especially during the wet season.

Rainfall Outlook: October 2024

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
October 2024

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 14/09/2024
Issued: 16/09/2024

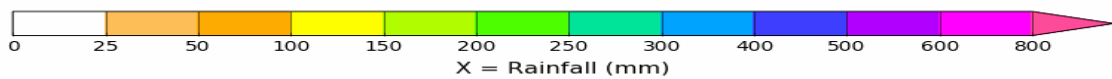
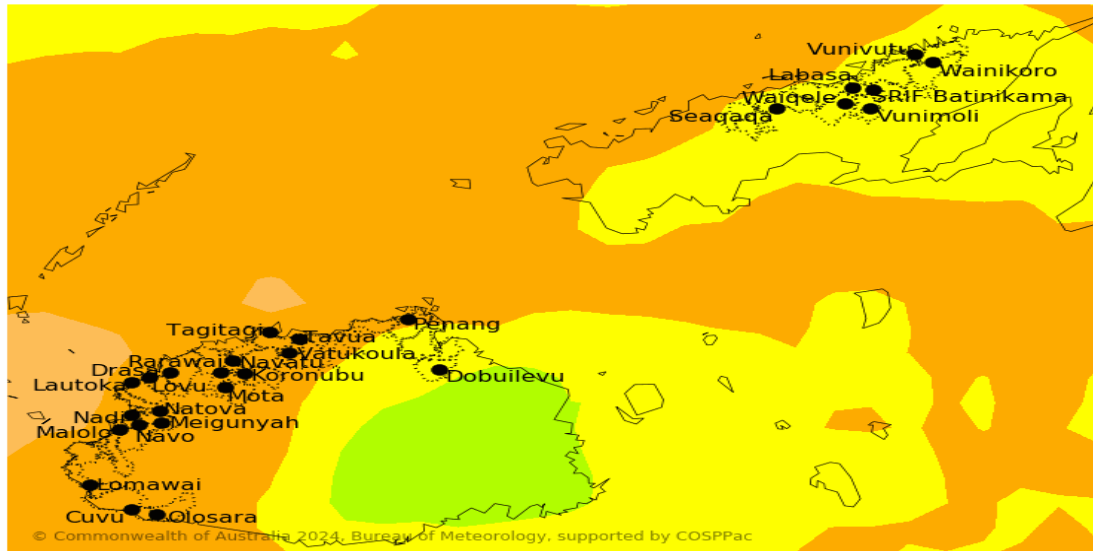


Figure 1: High (75%) chance of receiving at least 50-100mm of rainfall from Olosara to Penang, while there is high chance of receiving at least 100-150mm of rainfall in Dobailevu and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu. The confidence in the outlook is low to moderate.

Rainfall Outlook: November 2024

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
November 2024

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 14/09/2024
Issued: 16/09/2024

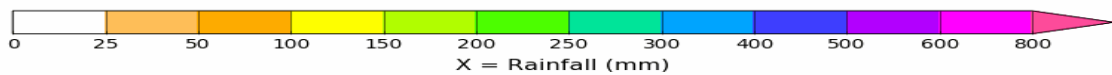
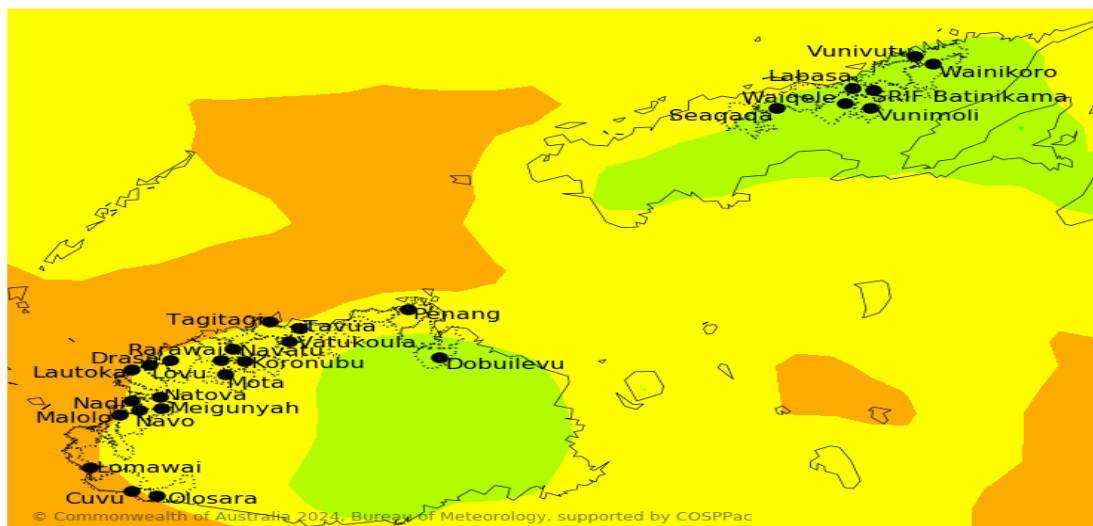


Figure 2: High (75%) chance of receiving at least 50-100mm of rainfall in Cuvu and Lomawai, 100-150mm in Olosara and from Malolo to Penang, while there is high chance of receiving at least 150-200mm of rainfall in Dobailevu and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu. The confidence in the outlook is low.

Rainfall Outlook: December 2024

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
December 2024

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 14/09/2024
Issued: 16/09/2024

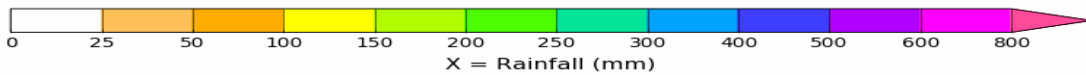
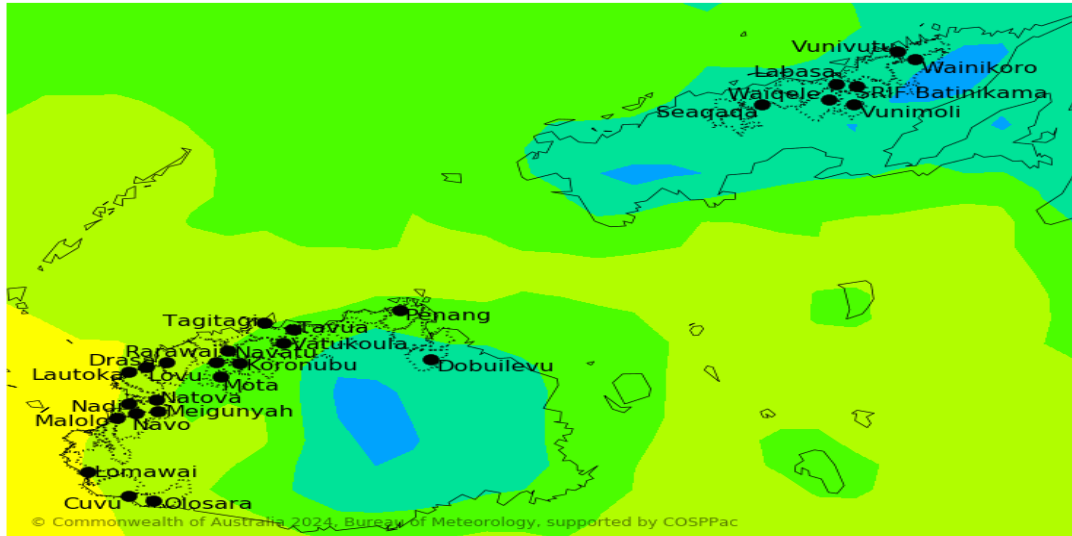


Figure 3: There is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least 150-200mm of rainfall from Olosara to Tagitagi, 200-250 mm in Mota, Koronubu, Navatu, Tavua, Vatukoula and Penang, while there is high chance of receiving at least 250-300mm of rainfall in Dobuilevu and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu. The confidence in the outlook is low to moderate.

Rainfall Outlook: November 2024 to January 2025

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
November 2024 to January 2025

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 14/09/2024
Issued: 16/09/2024

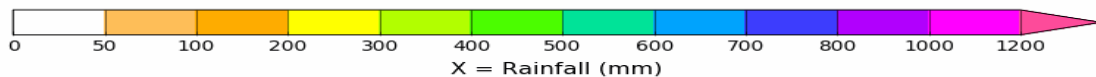
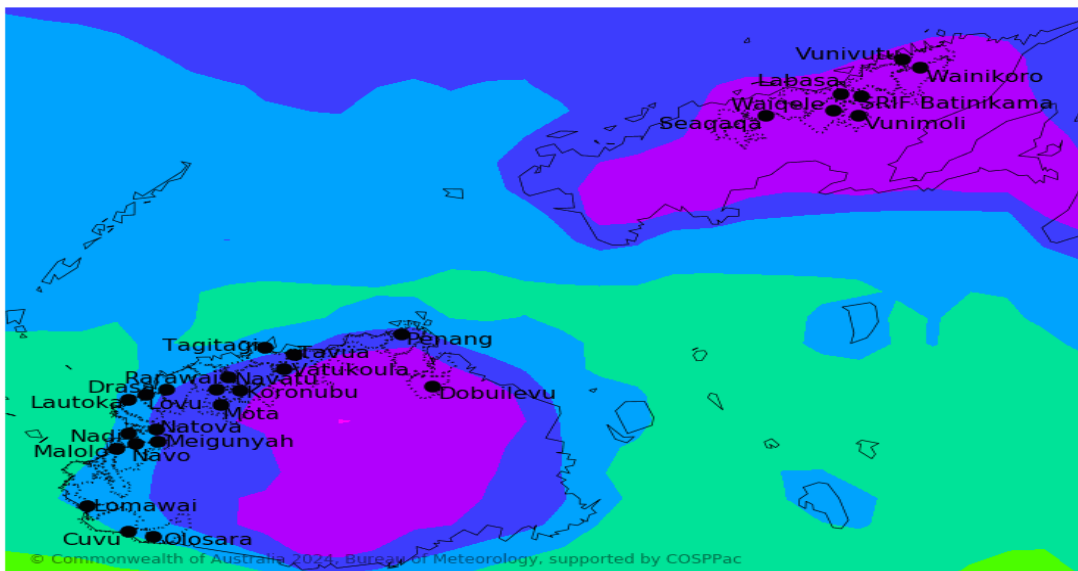


Figure 4: High (75%) chance of receiving at least 600-700mm of rainfall from Olosara to Tagitagi, 700-800mm in Meigunyah, Natova, Mota, Koronubu, Navatu, Vatukoula, Tavua and Penang, while there is high chance of receiving at least 800-1000mm in Dobuilevu and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu. The confidence in the outlook is moderate to good.

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.