



Fiji Sugarcane Rainfall Outlook For March, April & May 2024 and April to June 2024 **Experimental**

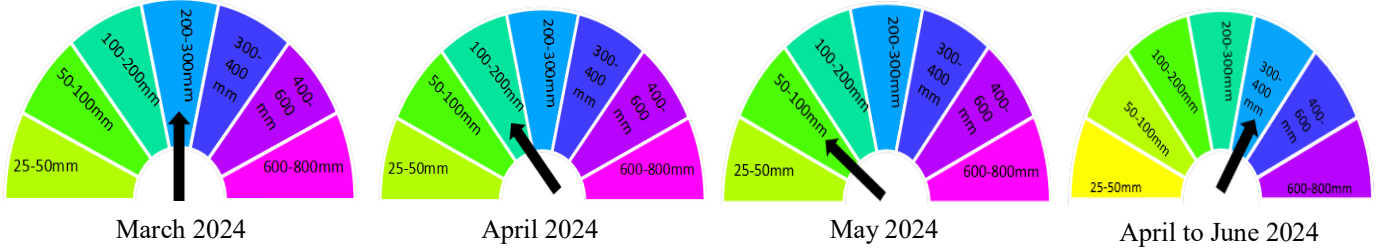
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Key Messages



English

- Commence with second set of land preparation for planting of new crop.
- Incorporate green manure into soil for farms sowed with green manure crops.
- Current amount of rainfall which has been received has increased weed infestation. Therefore, integrated weed management is needed which should contain manual and chemical control at this stage of cane.
- Soil sampling activity to be carried out in fields fallowed for planting.
- Seed cane to be selected in advance and approved before start of planting.
- Since it is a rainy season, growers are advised to keep headland clean to avoid pest like armyworm infestation on sugarcane.
- Keep drains clean and free from weeds so that fields have proper drainage. Waterlogging conditions will kill sugarcane crop by creating water stress in plant causing stunted growth.
- Blend A fertilizer to be purchased and stored for timely application.
- Growers are advised to adhere to the weather forecast in making plans for farm activities like planting, fertilization and weed control since forecast for 2-3 tropical cyclones has been highlighted.
- For further advice, please contact SRIF on 8921839.

Hindi

- Nae phasal bone ke liye bhoomi ke doosare set kee taiyaaree shuroo karen.
- Phasalon kee buaee vaale kheton kee mittee mein khaad milaen.
- Vartamaan mein jitane varsha huee hai uss se ghaas ka prakop badh gaya hai. Is liye, ekeekrt ghaas prabandhan kee zaroorat hai jis mein manual aur chemical niyantran shaamil hona chaahiye.

- Ganna ropan ke liye khaalee pade kheton mein mittee ka namoona lene kee gatividhi kee jani chaahiye.
- Ganne ke beej ka chayan pahale se kiya jaana chaahiye aur ropan shuroo hone se pahale anumodit kiya jaana chaahiye.
- Jabki yah barsaat ka mausam hai, is liye kisaanon ko ganne par armyworm jaise kitano se bachane ke liye medh ko saaph rakhane kee salaah dee jaatee hai.
- Naaliyon ko saaph aur ghaas se mukt rakhen taaki kheton mein uchit jal nikaasee ho sake. Jalabha-raav kee sthiti ganne kee phasal ko nasht kar degee, jis se paudhe mein paanee ka tanaav paida hoga, aur ganne ka vikaas ruk jayega.
- Samaye par prayog ke liye kisaanon ko Blend A fertilizer khareed kar rakh lena chaahiye.
- Kisaanon ko salaah dee jaatee hai kee ve ropan, urvarak aur ghaas niyantran jaisi gatividhiyon ki yojana banaate samaye mausam ke poorvaanumaan ka paalan karen kyonki doh se teen toofan ke poorvaanumaan par prakaash daala gaya hai.
- Aur salaah ke liye 8921839 par SRIF ko sampark karen.

I-Taukei

- Ko ni sa kerei na dau teitei mo ni sa tekivu vakarautaka yani na nomuni qele e na kena I karua ni wasewase ni teitei.
- Ni sa vakasalataki na dau teitei, mo ni teivaka vakalevu na kau ka vukea na bulabula ni qele, me vaka ni na rawa ni vukea vakalevu na tubu bulabula ni I tei.
- Ko ni sa vakasalataki mo ni taurivaka na veimataqali walewale ni vakayagataki ni qele ka na rawa ni vakalailaitaka na tubu ni co ca, me vaka ni laurai ni tubu totolo sara tiko na co e na mataqali draki ka da vakila tiko e na vica na siga sa oti.
- Ni sa vakasalataki me sabolotaki na qele ka na vakayacori kina na teitei.
- Sa gadrevi me na digitaki rawa ka vakadeitaki na I tei ni dovu me na teivaki e na nomuni teitei, e na gauna ni tei dovu.
- Ko ni sa vakasalataki na dau tei dovu, me na samaki vinaka tiko na loga ni dovu, me na rawa ni tarova na kena teteva mai na nomuni vei loga ni dovu na mataqali manumanu lalai ka vakatokai na 'armyworm'.
- E gadrevi tale ga me na dau samaki vinaka na I vaka ta ni wai lalai me na rawa ni tarova na kena tubu na dovu na vanua suasua, me vaka ni na rawa ni laki vakavuna na tubu gogo ni dovu.
- Sa kerei mo ni sa tekivu volia ka maroroya na I vakabulabula ni qele, na 'Blend A'.
- E na nomuni navunavuci ka tuvatuva ka na dau teitei e na teivaki ni nomuni qele, vakayagataki ni vakabulabula ni qele kei na kena qarauni na tubu ni co ca, ko ni sa kerei mo ni vakarorogo ki na I tukutuku ni draki, me vaka ni ratou a kacivaka toka na Tabana Ni Draki, ni namaki me na 2-3 na cagilaba me na tara na noda vanua.

- Ke tu e so na nomuni vakatataro, ko ni rawa ni veitaratara vei iratou na tabana ni 'SRIF', e na 8921839.

Climate Outlook

- El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is currently in an El Niño state.
- For March 2024, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **100-200mm** of rainfall from Sigatoka to Nadi, while there is high chance of receiving at least **200-300mm** of rainfall in Rakiraki and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu.
- During April 2024, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **50-100mm** of rainfall from Sigatoka to Tavua, while there is high chance of receiving at least **100-200mm** of rainfall in Rakiraki and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu.
- For May 2024, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **10-25mm** of rainfall from Lomawai to Tagitagi, a high chance of receiving at least **25-50mm** of rainfall in Olosara, Cuvu, Tavua, and Vatukoula, a high chance of receiving **50-100mm** of rainfall in Penang and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu, and a high chance of receiving **100-200mm** in Dobuilevu.
- During April to June 2024 period, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **200-300mm** of rainfall from Sigatoka to Tavua, **300-400mm** of rainfall in Penang, as well as most parts of the sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu, and there is also a high chance of receiving **400-600mm** of rainfall in Dobuilevu and Vunimoli (Vanua Levu).
- The current El Niño event have passed its peak, with likely chances for it to continue through the March to May 2024 period. A transition to an ENSO-neutral state is likely during April to June 2024.
- Fiji is currently in its wet/ tropical cyclone season, therefore, even though forecasts suggest likely chances of suppressed rainfall, any development closer to our region is likely to result in increased rainfall.

Rainfall Outlook: March 2024

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
March 2024

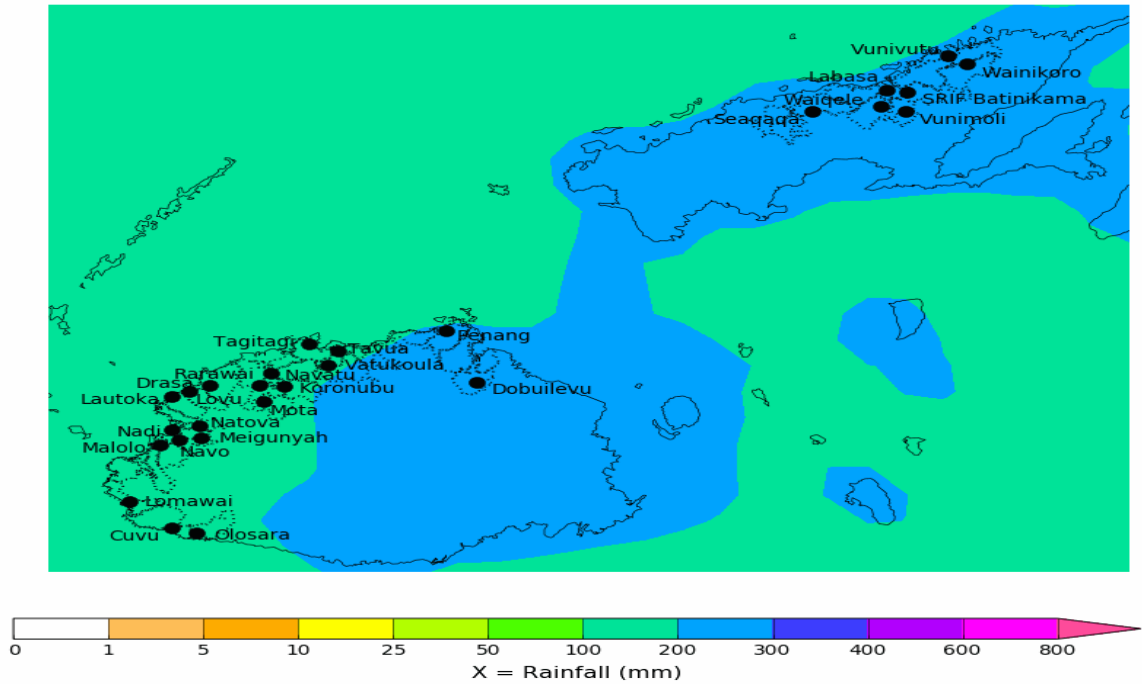


Figure 1: High (75%) chance of receiving at least 100-200mm of rainfall from Sigatoka to Nadi, while there is high chance of receiving at least 200-300mm of rainfall in Rakiraki and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu. The confidence in the outlook is moderate to good.

Rainfall Outlook: April 2024

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
April 2024

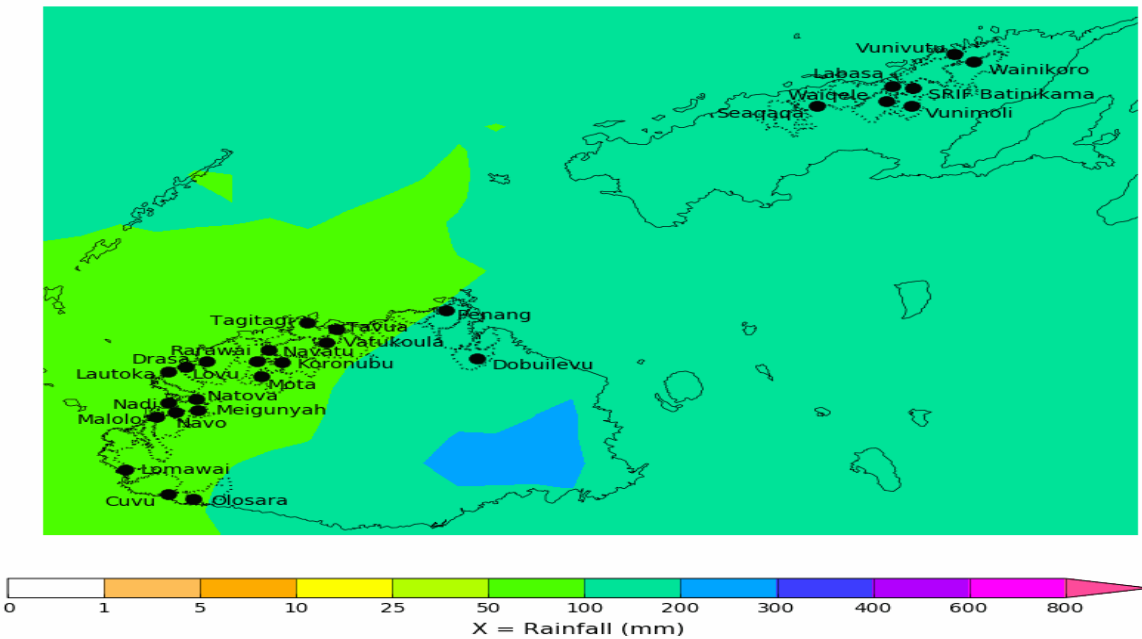


Figure 2: High (75%) chance of receiving at least 50-100mm of rainfall from Sigatoka to Tavua, while there is high chance of receiving at least 100-200mm of rainfall in Rakiraki and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu. The confidence in the outlook is moderate to good.

Rainfall Outlook: May 2024

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
May 2024

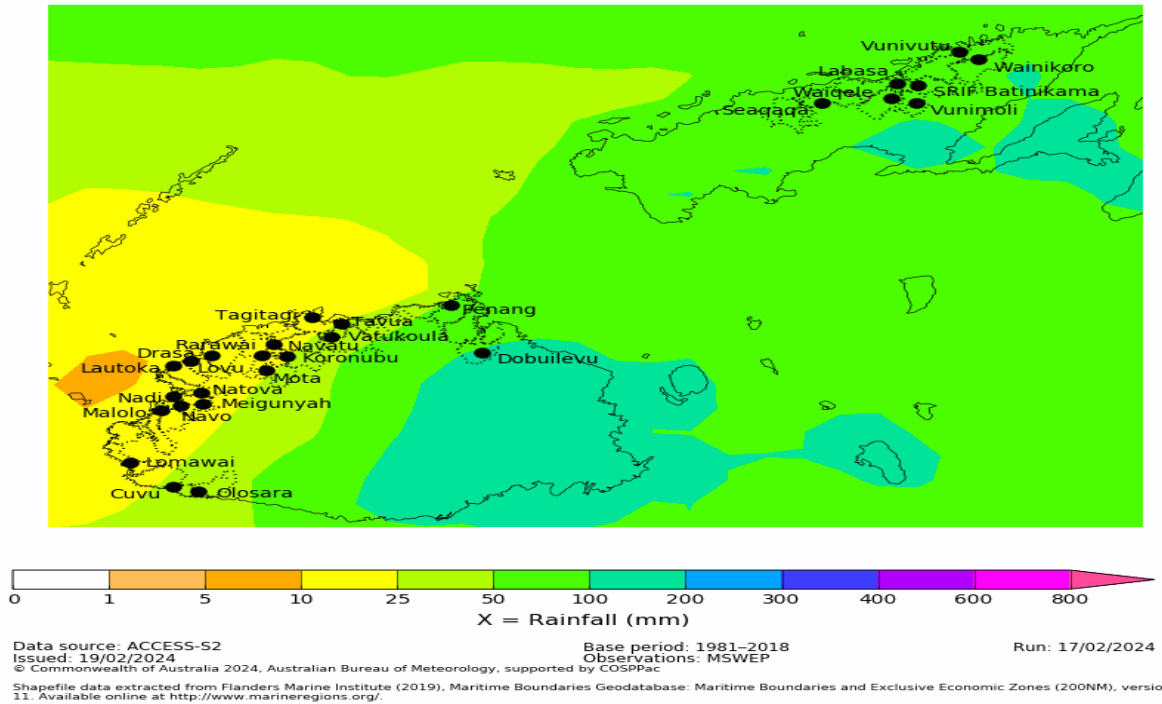


Figure 3: There is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least 10-25mm of rainfall from Lomawai to Tagitagi, a high chance of receiving at least 25-50mm of rainfall in Olosara, Cuvu, Tavua, and Vatukoula, a high chance of receiving 50-100mm of rainfall in Penang and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu, and a high chance of receiving 100-200mm in Dobuilevu. The confidence in the outlook is moderate.

Rainfall Outlook: April to June 2024

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
April to June 2024

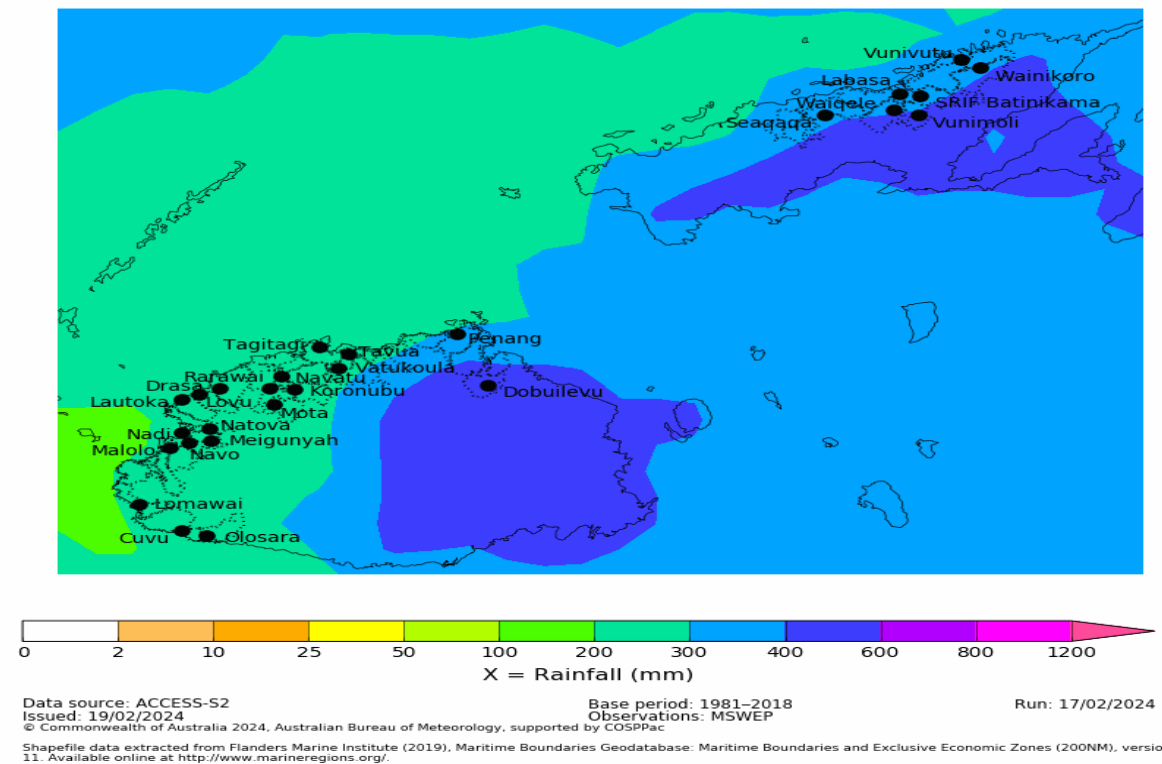


Figure 4: High (75%) chance of receiving at least 200-300mm of rainfall from Sigatoka to Tavua, while there is high chance of receiving at least 300-400mm of rainfall in Penang and most parts of the sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu, and there is a high chance of receiving 400-600mm of rainfall in Dobuilevu and Vunimoli. 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 phenomena, *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.