

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

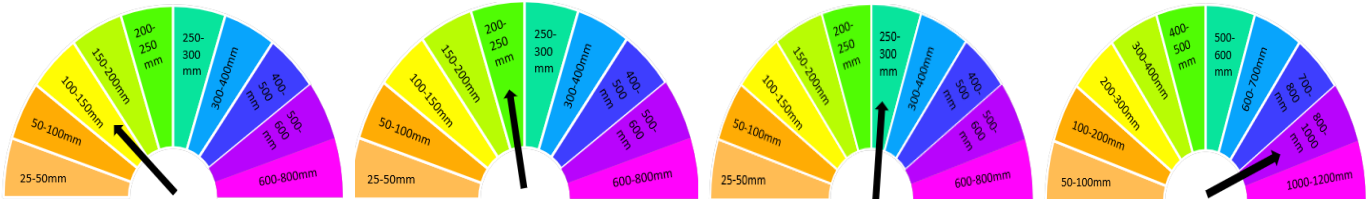
Volume 2

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Next issue: November 29, 2024

Key Messages



November 2024

December 2024

January 2025

December to February 2025

English

- The forecast by the Fiji Meteorological Services for November is at least 100mm of rainfall for both Viti Levu and Vanua Levu.
- Since crushing has finished at all mills, fertilizers must be ordered and side dressed as well as applied in splits on all plant and ratoon crops before the end of the year so that it can be taken up by the plants progressively.
- Growers are to monitor weed growth and control them using an integrated weed management approach, i.e. manual weeding followed by weedicide application (using recommended herbicides). The best time to apply herbicide is when the weeds are 2-3 leaf stage.
- Fields should also be maintained weed-free to avoid outbreaks of pests and diseases.
- In freshly harvested ratoons, the stubbles may be sprayed with insecticides if the harvested crop had shown more than 10% cane weevil borer attack.
- Growers are to source certified seed material only and to contact their sector farm advisors (FA) for available certified seedcane.
- Termite monitoring in fields closer to forests or houses infested with termites in Drasa, Lovu, and Lautoka, is necessary. This can be carried out by placing SRIF-termite traps. In areas prone to termite infestation, raising well-nourished crops, maintenance of field hygiene to reduce rodent attacks, and raising a boundary or border crop is important. Weak crops in fields closer to forest areas are more susceptible to termite infestation. Avoid stand over crops near the newly planted paddocks, as the former serve as inoculum for the pest.
- The field and main drains in and around the farms should be kept clean to allow easy drainage of excess water from the fields in order to avoid water logging conditions. Cane growing in water-logged environment will undergo stress, with irregular internode length, decrease in stalk height and weight and tiller production, causing a loss in yield.
- Growers are advised to adhere to the weather forecast in making plans for farm activities like planting, fertilization and weed control since forecast for 1-2 tropical cyclones has been highlighted.

- For further information, please contact SRIF on 8921839.

Hindi Version

- November ke liye Fiji mausami daftar ka poorvaanumaan Viti Levu aur Vanua Levu dono ke liye kam se kam 100 mm varsha ka hai.
- Sabhee milon mein perae samaapt ho chukee hai, isaliye fertilizer ka ordar diya jaana chaahiye aur unhen varsh ke anth se pahale sabhee paudhon aur phasalon par vibhaajit roop mein lagaaya jaana chaahiye taaki paudhon dvaara isse grahan kiya ja sake.
- Kissanon ko ghash vrddhi kee nigaraanee karanee hai aur ek ekeekrt ghash prabandhan drshtikon ka upayog karke unhen niyantrit karana hai, yaanee manual niraee ke baad ghash ki davai ka prayog (anushansit davai ka upayog karana). Davai lagaane ka sabase achha samay vah hai jab ghash 2-3 pattee avastha mein hon.
- Keeton aur beemaariyon ke prakop se bachane ke liye kheton ko ghash mukt bhee rakhana chaahiye.
- Taajee kaatee gae phasal mein yadi katee huee phasal par 10% se adhik cane weevil borer ka hamala hua ho toh daalon par keetanaashakon ka chhidakaav kiya ja sakata hai.
- Kissanon ko keval pramaanit beej praapt karanee hai aur upalabdh pramaanit beej ganna ke liye apne kshetr ke Farm Advisors (FA) se sampark karana chaahiye.
- Drasa, Lovu aur Lautoka ke jangalon ya deemakon se prabhaavit gharon ke kareeb ke kheton mein deemak kee nigaraanee aavashyak hai. Ise SRIF-deemak jaal lagaakar kiya ja sakata hai. Deemak sankraman kee sambhaavana vaale kshetron mein, achchhee tarah se poshit phasalen ugaana, chuhe ke hamalon ko kam karane ke liye khet kee svachchhata banae rakhana aur seema ya seema vaalee phasal ugaana mahatvapooran hai. Jangal kshetron ke najadeek ke kheton mein kamajor phasalen deemak ke sankraman ke prati adhik sanvedanasheel hotee hain. Naye ropan kiye gae medon ke paas phasalen bonne se bachene, kyonki pahale vaale paudhe keet ko badhawa dete hain.
- Jal jamaav kee sthiti se bachane ke liye kheton se atirikt paanee kee aasaan nikaasee kee anumati dene ke liye kheton aur usake aasapaas ke mukhy naalon ko saaph rakha jaana chaahiye. Jal-jamaav vaale vaataavaran mein ganna ugaane se tanaav ka saamana karana padega, aniyamit intarnod lambaee ke saath, danthal kee oonchaee aur vajan mein kamee aur tilar utpaadan mein kamee aaegee, jisase upaj mein kamee aaegee.
- Kissanon ko salaah dee jaatee hai ki ve ropan, urvarak aur ghash niyantran jaisee krshi gatavidhiyon kee yojana banaate samaye mausam ke poorvaanumaan ka paalan karen kyonki 1-2 toophaan ke poorvaanumaan par prakaaash daala gaya hai.
- Aur salaah ke liye 8921839 par SRIF ko sampark karein.

I Taukei Version

- E na draki e namaki e na noda yalava ni tei dovu e na vula ko Noveba, namaki me na rawa ni rauta e 100mm na levu ni uca e tau e na veisiteseni ka ra toka e na noda yalava ni tei dovu, Viti.
- Ni sa vakasalataki me sa tekivu otataki na I vakabulabula ni qele, me vaka ni da se qai vakanadakuya na vula ni musu dovu. E kerei tale ga me na vidai rua na kena vakayagataki na I vakabulabula ni qele, e na kena ka se qai tubu ka vaka tale ga kina e na I tei ni dovu ka ra sa tubu vata tiko mai kei na dovu sa musu oti, ni bera ni cava na yabaki, me na rawa ni vakayagataka vakamalua tiko na I tei, nai vakabulabula ni qele.
- Ni sa kerei na dautei dovu, mo ni vakayagataka na veiwalewale ni teitei me na rawa ni vakaberabera-taka na tubu ni co ca, me vaka na werewere kei na vakayagataki ni wainimate ni co ca. E gauna vina-ka tale ga me vakayagataki na wai nimate ni co ca, e na gauna e sa tekivu ya rua se tolu kina na drau ni co ca.
- Ni sa vakasalatki me na qarauni na I teitei me na vakalailaitaki na tubu ni co ca, me na rawa ni tarova na kena susu kina na veimataqali manumanu lalai ka na rawa ni vakavuna na dewa ni veimataqali mate e na dovu.
- Ke sa laurai me sivia e 10% na dovu e sa tauva na manumanu na 'weevil borer', ni sa vakasalataki me na tekivu vakayagataki na wainimate ni manumanu lalai.
- Ni sa kerei na dau teitei, mo ni taurivaka mai vakatabakidua na I tei ni dovu, ka taro vakasala mai vei ira nomuni dau ni vakasala e na nomuni vei 'sector offices', me baleta na I tei ni dovu vakaivolataki.
- E gadrevi me na yadravi na I teitei ka ra voleka ki na vanua ka dau levu kina na 'termite', me va-kataki Drasa, Lovu kei Lautoka. E rawa ni vakayacori na cakacaka oqo, e na kena vakayagataki na dai ni 'termite' se 'SRIF termite traps'. E na veivanua eso, e dau levu kina na 'termite', e rawa ni vakasavasavataki tiko na I teitei, me tarova na kena rawa ni susugi kina na kalavo lelevu, qarauni me bulabula vinaka na I tei, ka bibi sara na teivaki ni kau me I yalayala ni teitei se teivaki me balavu na I yalayala ni teitei. E rawarawa na nodra lakova na 'termite' na kau ka ra tubu malumalumu. Kerei me na qarauni tale ga me kakua na kau me vakaruguta yani na I teitei, me vaka ni ra na rawa vukea na kena dewa na veimataqali mate e na I teitei.
- Sa kerei me na samaki vinaka tiko na I teitei kei na kena veivakata, me na rawa ni veivuke na kena drodro vinaka na wai e na gauna ni suasua, ka tarova tale ga na kena tubu na dovu e na vanua lolobo. Era sega ni dau tubu vinaka na dovu tubu e na vanua lolobo, era dau tubu gogo, duidui na balavu ni dovu, ka lailai tale ga na suka e dau rawa mai na dovu.
- Ni sa kerei na dau teitei mo ni vakarogoca na I vakasala ka dau soli mai vei iratou na Tabana Ni Dra-ki, e na gauna ni nomuni navunavuci me baleta na teitei, vakayagataki ni vakabulabula ni qele, kei na so tale, me vaka ni ratou sa solia tiko na I vakaro ni na rawa ni tarai keda e rauta ni dua ki na rua na I wiliwili ni cagilaba me na tara na noda vanua e na gauna ni cagilaba oqo.
- Ke tu tale e so nomuni vakatataro, kerei mo ni qai veitaratara kei iratou na SRIF e na 8921839.

Climate Outlook

- El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is currently on a La Niña Watch, with a transition to La Niña state likely during November 2024 to January 2025. Weak La Niña conditions are likely to remain dominant until the January to March 2025.
- For November 2024, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **50-100mm** of rainfall from Olosara to Lomawai, **100-150mm** of rainfall from Malolo to Penang, Seaqaqa and Vunivutu, while there is high chance of receiving at least **150-200mm** of rainfall in Dobuilevu and across the rest of the sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu.
- During December 2024, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **150-200mm** of rainfall from Olosara to Tagitagi, **200-250mm** of rainfall in Mota, Koronubu, Rarawai, 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.
- For January 2025, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **200-250mm** of rainfall in Tagitagi and Penang, **250-300mm** of rainfall across remaining sugarcane belt areas in Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, while there is high chance of receiving at least **300-400mm** of rainfall in Dobuilevu.
- During December 2024 to February 2025 period, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **800-1000mm** of rainfall from Olosara to Penang and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu, while there is high chance of receiving at least **1000-1200mm** in Dobuilevu.
- Fiji is now heading towards its tropical cyclone season, which began on 1st November and continues until 30th April.
- Fiji is likely to be affected by one to two (1-2) tropical cyclones during the coming cyclone season, with one cyclone likely to reach severe category (Category 3-5).
- There is equal risk of tropical cyclones affecting any part of the Fiji Group.
- All communities should remain alert and prepared throughout the tropical cyclone season and take heed of all advisories issued.

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: 12/10/2024
Issued: 14/10/2024

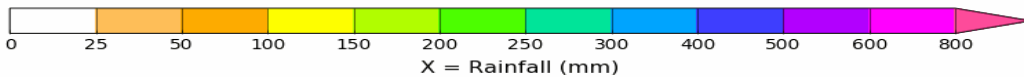
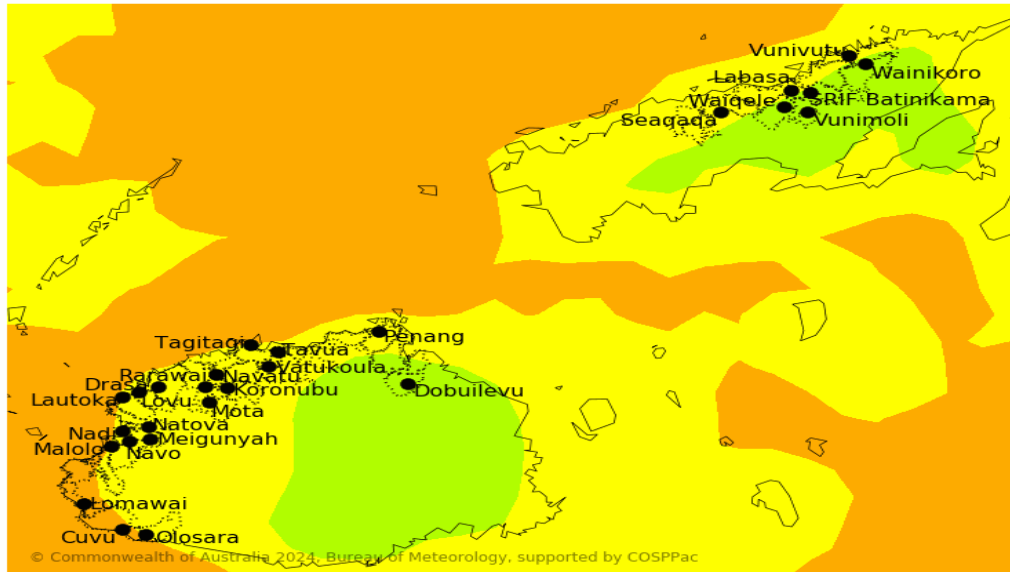


Figure 1: High (75%) chance of receiving at least 50-100mm of rainfall from Olosara to Lomawai, 100-150mm of rainfall from Malolo to Penang, Seagaqa and Vunivutu, while there is high chance of receiving at least 150-200mm of rainfall in Dobailevu and across the rest of the sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu. The confidence in the outlook is moderate to good.

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: 12/10/2024
Issued: 14/10/2024

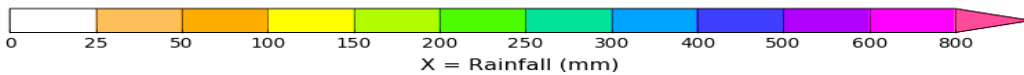
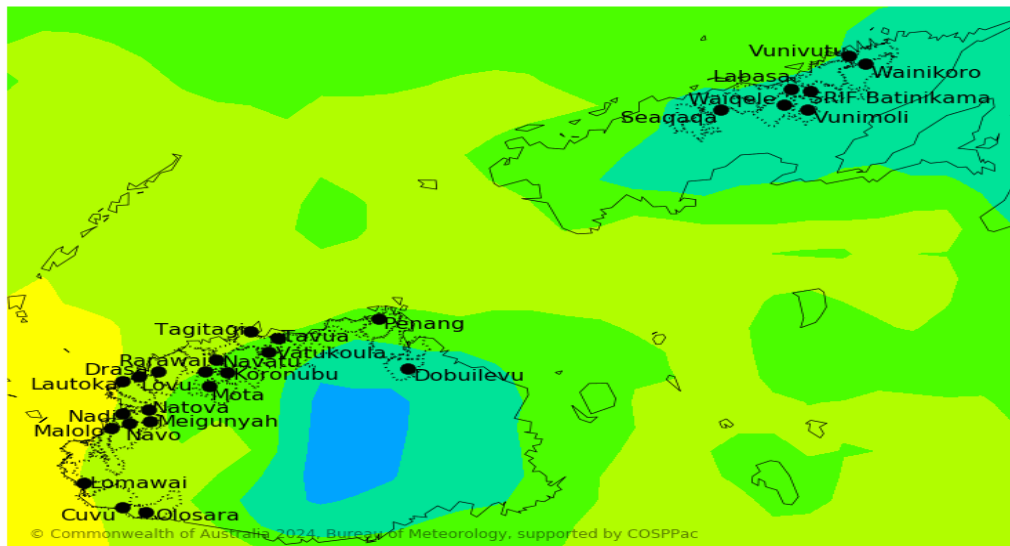


Figure 2: High (75%) chance of receiving at least 150-200mm of rainfall from Olosara to Tagitagi, 200-250mm of rainfall in Mota, Koronubu, Rarawai, Navatu, Tavua, Vatukoula and Penang, while there is high chance of receiving at least 250-300mm of rainfall in Dobailevu and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu. The confidence in the outlook is moderate.

Rainfall Outlook: January 2025

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
January 2025

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 12/10/2024
Issued: 14/10/2024

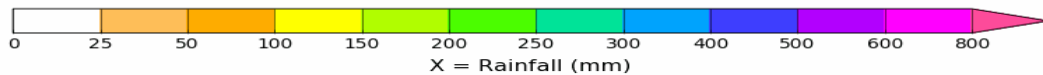
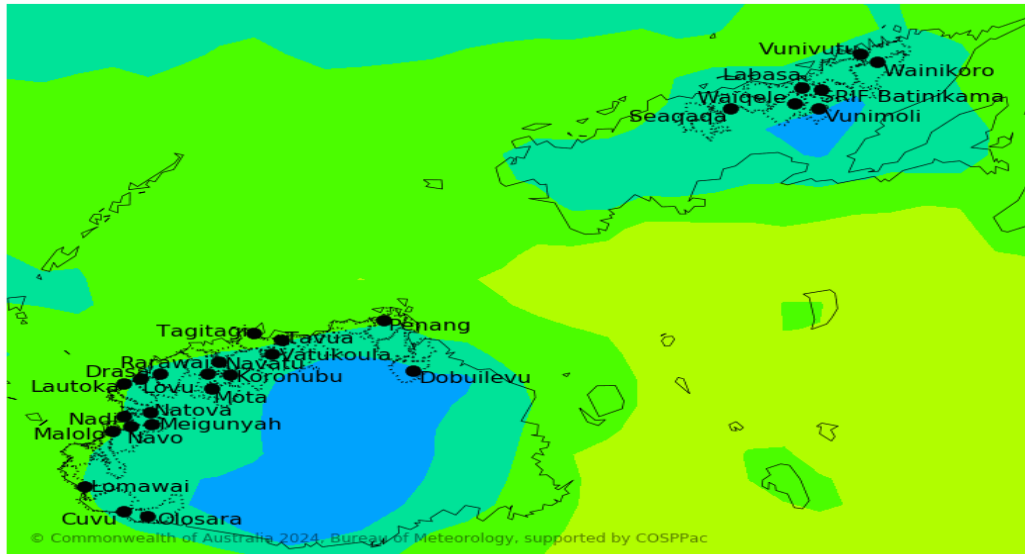


Figure 3: There is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least 200-250mm of rainfall in Tagitagi and Penang, 250-300mm of rainfall across remaining sugarcane belt areas in Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, while there is high chance of receiving at least 300-400mm of rainfall in Doboilevu. The confidence in the outlook is moderate.

Rainfall Outlook: December 2024 to February 2025

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
December 2024 to February 2025

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 12/10/2024
Issued: 14/10/2024

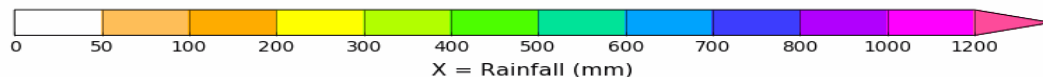
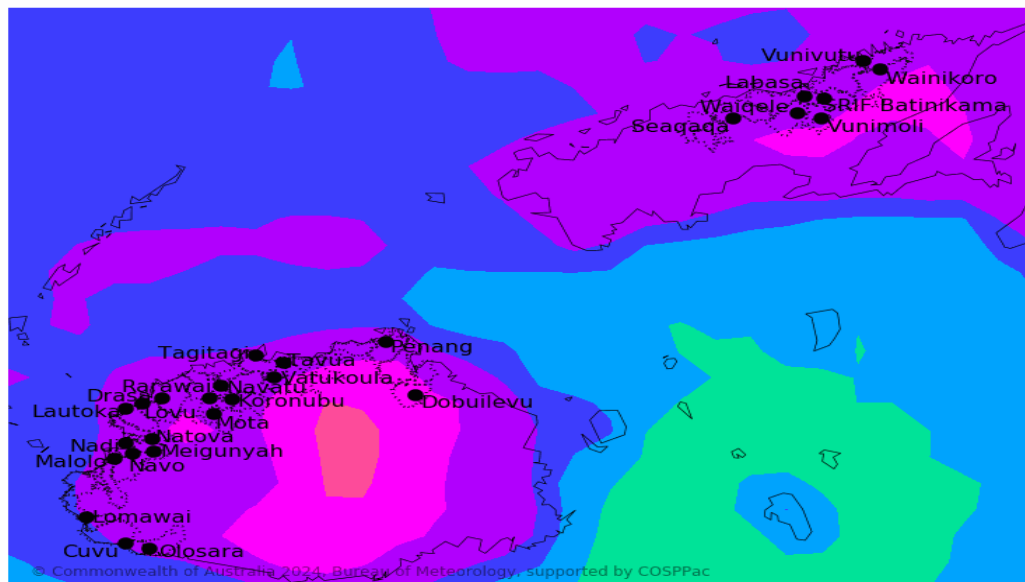


Figure 4: High (75%) chance of receiving at least 800-1000mm of rainfall from Olosara to Penang and across sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu, while there is high chance of receiving at least 1000-1200mm in Doboilevu. The confidence in the outlook is high to very high.

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.