



# Fiji Sugarcane Rainfall Outlook For February 2025, March 2026, April 2026 and March to May 2026

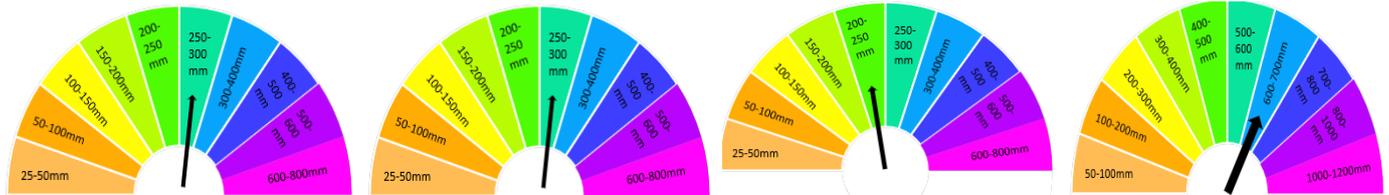
Volume 4

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## Key Messages



February 2025

March 2026

April 2026

March to May 2026

## English

### WEATHER FORECAST

The Fiji Meteorological Services predicts between 200 - 300mm of rainfall in the sugarcane growing areas, influenced by the ongoing La Niña event. Dobuilevu has a forecast of around 300 - 400mm of rain.

Region/Group	Expected Rainfall (mm)
Lomawai	200-250
Olosara, Cuvu, Malolo to Drasa, Tagitagi, Penang	250-300
Lovu, Rarawai, Mota, Koronubu, Navatu, Vatukoula, Tavua, Dobuilevu, Vanua Levu sugarcane areas	300-400

### RECOMMENDED ACTIONS FOR FARMERS

#### 1. Land Preparation

- Proceed with land preparation in areas expecting moderate to high rainfall to take advantage of improved soil moisture.
- In regions with lower rainfall, delay planting if conditions remain dry to avoid poor germination.
- In high-rainfall zones (especially Dobuilevu), delay planting until conditions stabilize to avoid the risk of seed cane rotting and poor germination.

#### 2. Crop Protection

- Ensure fields have effective, well-maintained drainage systems to remove excess water quickly and prevent waterlogging or flooding during periods of heavy rain.
- Intensify scouting for pests (e.g., plant hoppers, borers) and diseases (e.g., rusts, galls, streaks, root rots) during prolonged wet conditions, as high moisture increases vulnerability.
- Apply targeted Integrated Pest and Disease Management (IPM) measures promptly upon detection.
- Sanitize all tools (knives, forks, spades, hoes, etc.) between blocks to avoid spreading diseases.
- Maintain clean fields by controlling weeds to limit pest habitats and nutrient competition under wetter conditions.

### 3. Soil and Nutrient Management

- Conduct soil tests in accessible fallowed fields to determine nutrient status and guide accurate fertilizer decisions.
- Apply lime where soil tests indicate a need to correct pH and improve soil structure.
- On rolling or steep land, strengthen soil conservation practices (contour planting, vetiver hedges) to minimize erosion risk from anticipated heavy rainfall.

### 4. Seed Cane Selection and Planting

- Use certified, disease-free seed cane for planting to ensure healthy crop establishment.
- Check fields for gaps and perform gap filling to maintain uniform crop stands.
- Delay planting in high-rainfall areas until conditions improve.

### GENERAL ADVISORY

- Report any unusual pest sightings or challenges to SRIF at 8921839 for prompt advice and support.
- Remain vigilant throughout the cyclone season—follow all advisories, warnings, and evacuation guidance issued by authorities.
- Contact SRIF for guidance on managing crops and inputs under rainfall conditions.

### *Hindi Version*

#### MAUSAM POORVAANUMAAN

Fiji Mausami Daftar ne La Niña ghatana ke prabhaav se ganna bonne wale kshetron mein 200-300 mm baarish ka anumaan lagaaya hai. Dobuilevu mein lagabhag 300-400 mm baarish ka poorvaanumaan lagaaya gaya hai.

Ganna kshetr	Expected Rainfall (mm)
Olosara se Malolo tak, jisamen Nadi aur Lautoka bhee shaamil hain	200-250
Navo se Penang tak, Vanua Levu mein ganne wale kshetron mein	250-300
Dobuilevu	300-400

#### KISAANON KE LIYE ANUSHANSIT KAARYAVAAHIYAAN

##### 1. Bhoomi kee Taiyaaree

- Madhyam se adhik varsha kee sambhaavana vaale kshetron mein behatar mittee kee namee ka laabh uthaane ke liye bhoomi kee taiyaaree shuroo karen.
- Kam varsha vaale kshetron mein, yadi paristhitiyaan shushk banee rahatee hain to ankuran mein kamee se bachane ke liye buvaee mein deree karen.
- Adhik varsha vaale kshetron (visheshakar Dobuilevu) mein, beej ke sadane aur ankuran mein kamee ke jokhim se bachane ke liye paristhitiyaan sthir hone tak buvaee mein deree karen.

##### 2. Phasal Sanrakshan

- Sunishchit karen ki kheton mein prabhaavee aur vyavasthit jal nikaasee pranaalee ho taaki atirikt paanee jaldee nikal jae aur bhaaree baarish ke dauraan jalabharaav ya baadh ko roka ja sake.
- Lambe samay tak baarish ke mausam mein keeton (jaise, plant hoppers, borers) aur rogon (jaise, rust, galls, streaks, root rots) kee nigaraanee tej karen, kyonki adhik namee se keeton ka khatara badh jaata hai.
- Keeton ka pata chalte hee lakshit ekeekrt keet evan rog prabandhan upaay turant laagoo karen.
- Rogon ke prasaar se bachane ke liye pratyek khet ke upayog ke baad sabhee aujaaron (churi, fork, spades, kudari aadi) ko keetaanurahit karen.
- Baarish ke mausam mein keeton ke aavaas aur poshak tatvon kee pratispardha ko seemit karane ke

liye ghass ko niyantrit karake kheton ko saaph rakhen.

### 3. Mittee evan Poshak tatv Prabandhan

- Paratee kheton mein mittee pareekshan karake poshak tatvon kee sthiti ka nirdhaaran karen aur ur-varak sambandhee nirnay lene mein maargadarshan praapt karen.
- Jahaan mittee pareekshan se pH ko santulit karane aur mittee sanrachana mein sudhaar karane kee aavashyakata prateet ho, vahaan choona daalen.
- Dhalaanadaar ya khadee bhoomi par, sambhaavit bhaaree varsha se hone vaale kataav ke jokhim ko kam karane ke liye mittee sanrakshan upaayon (paridhi ropan, vetiver) ko istemaal karen.

### 4. Beej Ganna chayan aur Ropan

- Svasth phasal kee sthaapana sunishchit karane ke liye pramaanit, rogamukt beej ganna hee boen.
- Kheton mein khaalee jagahon kee jaanch karen aur ek samaan phasal banae rakhane ke liye khaalee jagahon ko bharen.
- Adhik varsha vaale kshetron mein mausam mein sudhaar hone tak ropan mein deree karen.

### SAAMAANY SALAAH

- Kisee bhee asaamaany keet ke dikhane ya kisee bhee samasya kee soochana 8921839 par SRIF ko den taaki aapako turant salaah aur sahaayata mil sake.
- Toofan ke mausam ke dauraan satark rahen—adhikaariyon dvaara jaaree sabhee salaah, chetaavaniyon aur nikaasee nirdeshon ka paalan karen.
- Baarish kee sthiti mein phasalon aur any sansaadhanon ke prabandhan ke liye SRIF se sampark karen.

### *I- Taukei Version*

#### **DRAKI E NAMAKI**

E ratou vakasalataka tiko na Tabana ni Draki ni rawa ni namaki me rauta ni 200 - 300mm na levu ni uca e tau e na noda veiyalava ni tei dovu, ka rawa ni vu mai e na mataqali draki ka vakatokai na La Niña ka tiko oqo e na noda wasa Pasivika. Ia, e Dobuilevu e namaki me na rauta e 300 - 400mm na levu ni uca e na rawa ni tau kina.

Yalava ni tei dovu cava	Levu ni uca ka rawa ni namaki (mm)
Lomawai	200-250
Olosara, Cuvu, Malolo to Drasa, Tagitagi, Penang	250-300
Lovu, Rarawai, Mota, Koronubu, Navatu, Vatukoula, Tavua, Dobuilevu, Vanua Levu sugarcane areas	300-400

### **VAKASALA KI VEI KEMUNI NA DAUTEITEI**

#### 1. Vakarautaki ni Qele

- Rawa ni tomani tiko na vakarautaki ni qele me tei e na veivanua ka namaki me na tau kina na uca, me vakayagataki na tuvaki vinaka ni qele
- E na veivanua ka se sega so ni vakilai kina na tau ni uca, ni sa kerei me vakaberaberataki tale mada na teivaki ni dovu, me rawa ni tarova na tubu gogo ni tei ni dovu.

- Ia, e na veivanua ka sa vakilai vakalevu kina na tau ni uca (me vakataki Doboilevu), sa kerei me vakaberabera taki tale vakalailai na teivaki ni qele, me rawa ni tarovi na kena rawa ni vuca na I tei ka rawa tale ga ni vuna na tubu gogo ni I tei.
2. Taqomaki/ Qarauni ni I Teitei
- Kerei me na qarauni na veivakata lalai se veivanua me drodro kina na wai (unclogged) e na gauna ni tau ni uca eda donumaka tiko oqo, me na rawa ni tarova na kena rawa ni luvu na I teitei e na gauna ni tau ni uca.
  - Qarauni me yadravi matua n I tei ni dovu e na gauna ni draki suasua e na kena rawa ni basika e so na I vakatakilakila ni mate me vaka na 'rusts', 'galls' kei na 'streaks' se manumanu ka rawa ni vakadewa na mate me vakataka na 'plant hoppers' kei na 'borers', me na rawa ni vakalailaitaka na kena rawa ni tauvimate na I tei.
  - Dodonu mo ni tu vakarau tale ga e na kena vakayagataki na I walewale matau ni kena wali na mate se manumanu ka rawa ni vakadewa na mate e na veiloga ni dovu, e na gauna e sa tekivu laurai kina na kena veivakatakilakila e so.
  - Me qarauni me savasava ni yaya ni teitei, me vaka na I sele, mataiva, I sivi, kei na so tale, e na gauna ni veitosoyaki me na tarova na kena rawa ni dewa na mate, mai na dua na tiki ni qele ki na dua tale.
  - Qarauni na I teitei me savasava, ka qarauni na tubu ni co ca me vukea na kena vakalailaitaki na kena rawa ni basika na manumanu ka rawa ni vakavu tauvimate se vakadewa na mate ka vakalailaitaka tale ga na kena rawa ni rau veisugusugutaka na I vakabulabula ni qele, na I tei ni dovu kei na co ca, e na draki e da donumaka tiko oqo.
3. I Valavala ni Vakayagataki ni Qele kei na Vakabulabula ni Qele
- Ni bera ni teivaki na qele ka lala dede tu, ni sa vakasalataki mo ni kauta na nomuni qele me sabolotaki/ vakadikevi mai vei iratou na kena dau, me na rawa ni laurai na I vakatagede ni bulabula ni qele kei na vakarau ni vakabulabula ni qele me vakayagataki.
  - Me vakavinakataki na tuvaki ni nomuni qele (soil pH), rawa ni ko ni vakayagataka na 'lime', ka na vakatautaki na kena I vakarau, e na I nodratou macala ni vakadidike na kena dau, me baleta na nomuni qele.
  - Ki vei kemuni na teitei tiko e na vanua veibaba, ni sa vakasalataki mo ni vakayagataka na I walewale ni teitei matau, me vaka na kena tei na co na 'vetiver grass', me na rawa ni vakalailaitaka na kena rawa ni sisi na qele e na gauna ni tau ni uca eda sa vakanamata tiko kina oqo.
4. Digitaki ni I tei ni Dovu kei na kena Tei
- Ni vakayagataka na I tei ni dovu ka sa dikevi ka vakaivolataki oti, ka sega tale ga ni tauvimate, me na rawa ni vukea na tubu bulabula ni nomuni I tei.
  - Vakadikevi na I teitei, laurai na veivanua ka se lala koto, ka teivaki mai, me rawa ni taucoko tiko na vanua sa teivaki mai
  - Ni sa kerei me vakaberabera taki tale vakalailai na teitei e na veivanua ka sa vakilai vakalevu tiko kina na uca, me yacova na gauna e sa na daumaka kina na teitei.

#### **I VAKASALA RARABA**

- Ke laurai e so na I vakatakilakila ni manumanu ka rawa ni vakadewa se vakavuna na tauvimate ni dovu, ni sa kerei mo ni veitaratara kei iratou na Tabana ni SRIF e na 8921839.
- Me vaka ni da se tiko e na gauna ni vula I cagilaba, ni sa kerei mo ni vakatudaliga tiko ki na nodratou vakasala na Tabana ni Draki, ka muria na veivakasala e so ka dau lavaki mai.
- E na vuku ni veiveisau ni draki e da na vakila tiko, ni sa kerei mo ni veitaratara kei iratou na Tabana Ni SRIF, me ratou rawa ni vakasalataki kemuni e na duidui ni tei me teivaki.

## Climate Outlook

- The February 2026 outlook shows a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **200-250mm** of rainfall from Olosara to Malolo, including Nadi and Lautoka, **250-300mm** from Navo to Penang and across the sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu, while there is a high chance of receiving **300-400mm** in Dobeilevu.
- For March 2026, there is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **200-250mm** of rainfall from Olosara to Penang, **250-300mm** in Meigunyah, Natova, Mota, Koronubu, Navatu, Vatukoula, Tavua and across the sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu, while there is a high chance of receiving **300-400mm** in Dobeilevu.
- The outlook for March 2026 shows a 75% chance of receiving at least **100-150mm** of rainfall from Olosara to Tagitagi, **150-200mm** in Vatukoula, Tavua and Penang, while there is a high chance of receiving at least **200-250mm** of rainfall in Dobeilevu and across Vanua Levu.
- Outlook for the March to May 2026 period shows a 75% chance of receiving at least **400-500mm** of rainfall from Cuvu to Malolo, **500-600mm** in Olosara, Nadi, Navo, Meigunyah, Navatu, Tavua, Lovu, Lautoka, Drasa, Rarawai, Mota, Koronubu, Navatu, and Tagitagi, **600-700 mm** in Vatukoula, Penang, Seaqaqa, Waiqele, Labasa, Batinikama, Vunivutu and Wainikoro, while there is a high chance of receiving at least **700-800mm** of rainfall in Dobeilevu and Vunimoli. .
- A La Niña event is currently underway, however, it is expected to be short-lived, with a shift to EN-SO-neutral conditions likely during the first quarter of 2026.
- Fiji has entered the tropical cyclone season, which began on 1<sup>st</sup> November and will continue until 30<sup>th</sup> April.
- During the cyclone season, Fiji may experience one to two tropical cyclones, with at least one system having the potential to intensify into a severe tropical cyclone (Category 3–5).
- There is an equal likelihood of tropical cyclones affecting any area within the Fiji Group.
- Tropical disturbances or depressions that fail to reach cyclone strength can still produce strong winds or gusts, widespread heavy rainfall, landslides, and flooding, as observed in past events.
- All communities are strongly advised to remain vigilant and prepared throughout the tropical cyclone season, and to closely follow all advisories and warnings that are issued.

## Rainfall Outlook: February 2026

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:  
February 2026

Data source: ACCESS-S2  
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 10/01/2026  
Issued: 12/01/2026

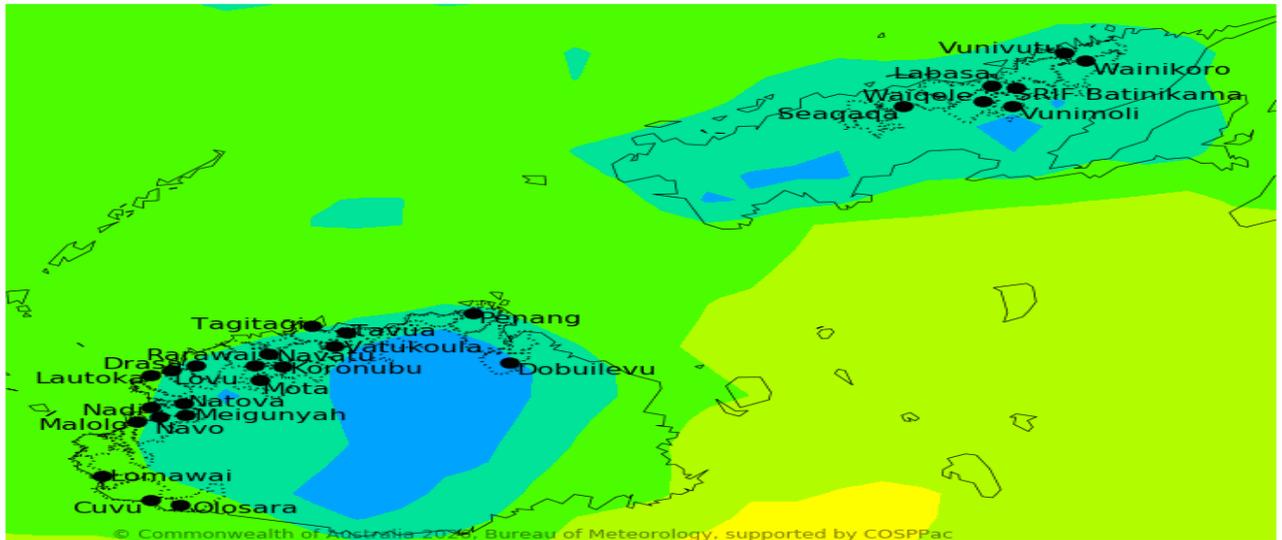


Figure 1: High (75%) chance of receiving at least 200-250mm of rainfall from Olosara to Malolo, including Nadi and Lautoka, 250-300mm from Navo to Penang and across the sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu, while there is a high chance of receiving 300-400mm in Dobuilevu. The confidence in the outlook is Moderate to high

## Rainfall Outlook: March 2026

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:  
March 2026

Data source: ACCESS-S2  
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 10/01/2026  
Issued: 12/01/2026

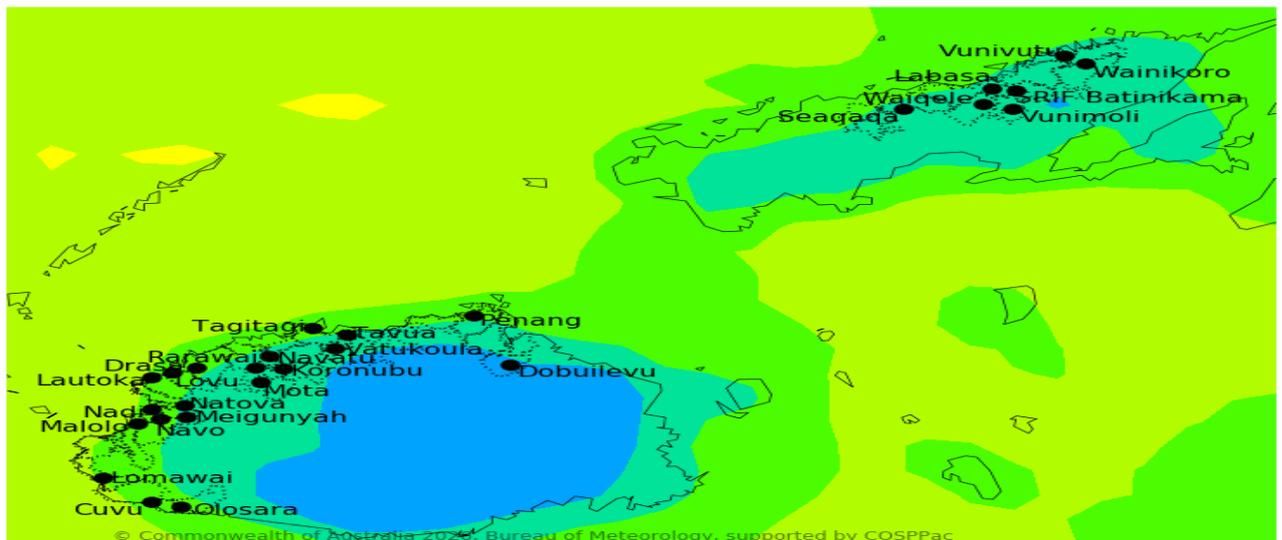


Figure 2: High (75%) chance of receiving at least 200-250mm of rainfall from Olosara to Penang, 250-300mm in Meigunyah, Natova, Mota, Koronubu, Navatu, Vatukoula Tavua and across the sugarcane belt areas in Vanua Levu, while there is a high chance of receiving 300-400mm in Dobuilevu. The confidence in the outlook is good to high.

## Rainfall Outlook: April 2026

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:  
April 2026

Data source: ACCESS-S2  
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 10/01/2026  
Issued: 12/01/2026

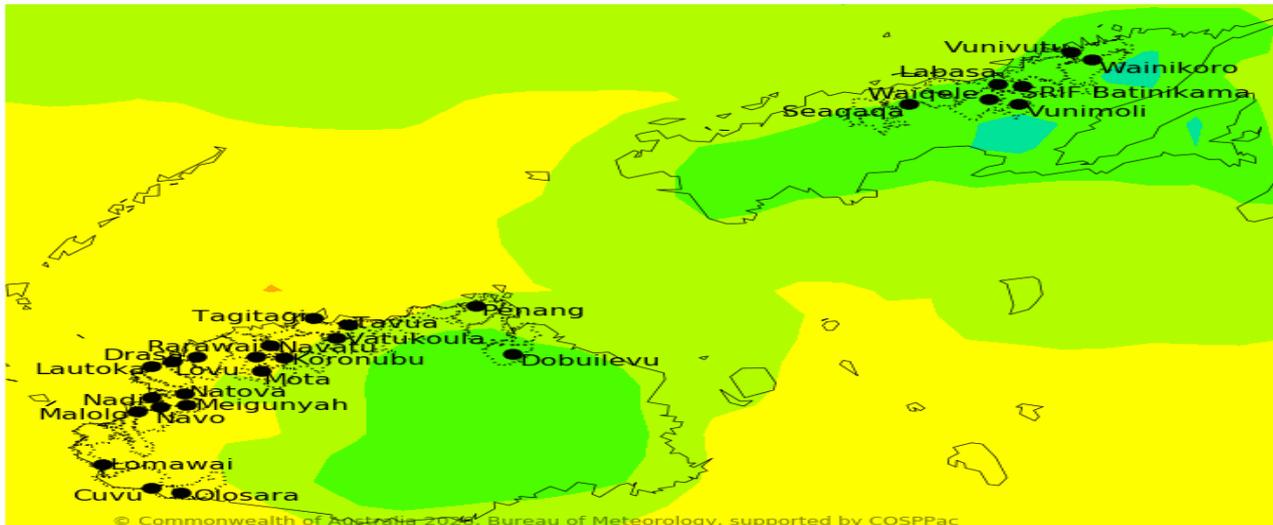


Figure 3: There is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least 100-150mm of rainfall from Olosara to Tagitagi, 150-200mm in Vatukoula, Tavua and Penang, while there is a high chance of receiving at least 200-250mm of rainfall in Doubuilevu and across Vanua Levu. The confidence in the outlook is good to high.

## Rainfall Outlook: March to May 2026

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:  
March to May 2026

Data source: ACCESS-S2  
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 10/01/2026  
Issued: 12/01/2026

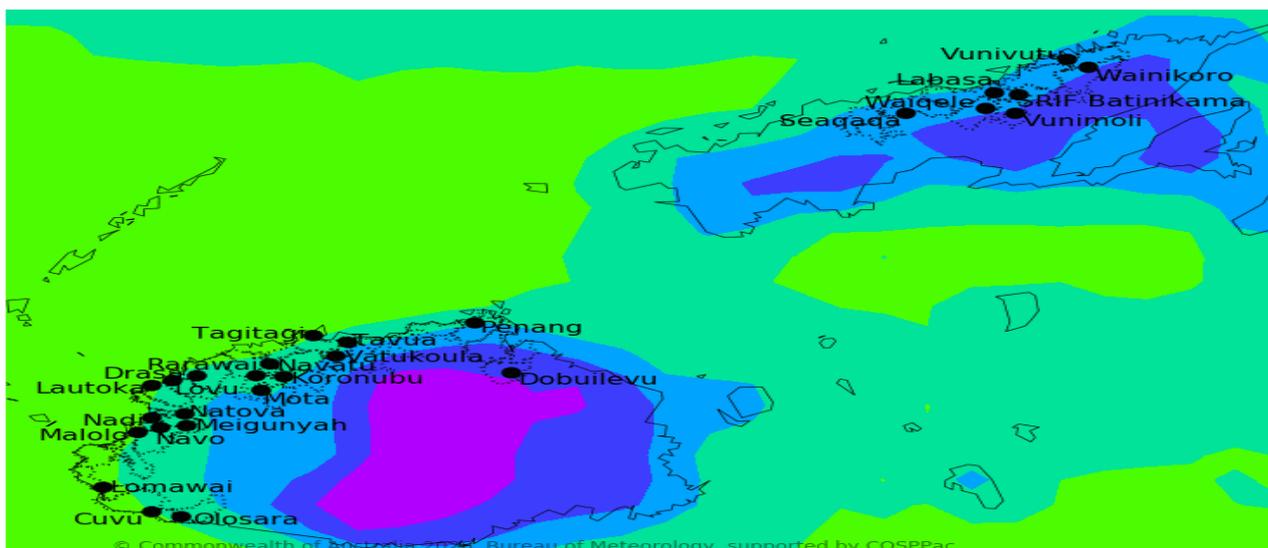


Figure 4: There is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least 400-500mm of rainfall from Cuvu to Malolo, 500-600mm in Olosara, Nadi, Navo, Meigunyah, Navatu, Tavua, Lovu, Lautoka, Drasa, Rarawai, Mota, Koronubu, Navatu, and Tagitagi, 600-700 mm in Vatukoula, Penang, Seagaqa, Waiqeje, Labasa, Batinikama, Vunivutu and Wainikoro, while there is a high chance of receiving at least 700-800mm of rainfall in Doubuilevu and Vunimoli. The confidence in the outlook is 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.