

Agromet Advisory Bulletin for Thoothukudi district

(From 23rd November to 27th November)

(Issued jointly by AAS Unit, Agricultural Research Station, Kovilpatti, Tamil Nadu
Agricultural University & India Meteorological Department)

Significant past weather data for the preceding week (18.11.16- 22.11.16)

Rainfall (mm)	9.2
Maximum Temperature (°C)	28- 31
Minimum Temperature (°C)	22- 25
Cloud cover (Octa)	5- 8
RH (%) at 07:00 hrs LMT	90- 97
RH (%) at 14:00 hrs LMT	81- 92
Wind speed (kmph)	8- 20
Wind direction (deg)	20- 70

Weather forecast until 08:30 hrs of 27.11.16

Parameters	Ensemble forecast				
	Day 1 23.11.16	Day 2 24.11.16	Day 3 25.11.16	Day 4 26.11.16	Day 5 27.11.16
Rainfall (mm)	7	0.5	0.5	0.5	5
Max. Temperature (°C)	29	29	29	29	29
Min. Temperature (°C)	24	24	24	24	24
Cloud cover (Octa)	6	6	6	6	6
Relative humidity (%)	86- 90	86- 90	86- 90	86- 90	86- 90
Wind (kmph) (dd)	15/ NE	15/ NE	15/ NE	15/ NE	15/ NE

NE- Northeast

Agromet advisories in relation to the anticipated weather having high cloud cover, light rainfall and high humidity

Crop/ Farming system	Stage / Activities	Advisories
Rainfed Crops	Vegetative stage	In order to reduce or minimize the evaporation loss and to restore the soil moisture, do hoeing, weeding and dust mulching in the cropped field. Since the rainfall is meager in the coming days, apply any organic/ crop residues or tree lopping in between the crop rows as mulch to restore the soil moisture.
Rainfed and Irrigated crops	Vegetative stage	Spray 2 per cent DAP or 1 per cent urea for increasing crop growth if the soil moisture is optimum under rainless days. In the prevailing weather condition, zinc deficiency is noticed in the rainfed as well as the irrigated crops, to rectify, foliar spray of 0.5% zinc sulphate until the disappearance of deficiency symptoms. The optimum soil moisture should be maintained while spraying in case of rainfed crops.

Sorghum, maize	Vegetative stage	As high cloud cover and high humidity is expected in the coming days, stem borer is observed in maize and sorghum. For controlling this pest spray carbaryl 50 WP 1 kg/ha is mixed with 500 l of water.
Cotton	Squaring stage	In the prevailing weather having high cloud cover and high humidity there is incidence of leaf hopper in cotton. For controlling this pest spray imidachloprid 200 SL @ 100 ml/ ha or Fipronil 5% SC @1500-2000 ml/ha.
Pulses	Vegetative stage	In the prevailing weather condition, tobacco caterpillar (<i>Spodoptera litura</i>) is observed in pulses, for controlling this pest, spray imidachloprid 17.8 SL @ 100- 125 ml/ ha or spray insecticides like chlorpyrifos 20 EC @1 lit/ha or neem oil @ 3%.
Chilli	Transplanting	The expected weather having high cloud cover and humidity is conducive for the incidence of thrips in chilli. The affected plants show symptoms of crinkling and upward curling of leaves and elongation of petiole. For controlling this pest spray imidachloprid 17.8 % SL @ 3 ml/ 10 l of water or dimethoate 30% EC@ 1 ml/ lit.
Rainfed Crops	Sowing (delayed onset of monsoon)	As light to moderate rainfall is received in some area in recent past may be sown with cumbu, horsegram, bengalgram, coriander, senna and panivaragu.
	Early vegetative stage	Thinning should be done in early sown crops in order to maintain of the plant population as well as soil moisture.
Tirunelveli and Thoothukudi districts		
Rice	Wetseeded Rice and Rice machine transplanting	Farmers are advised to take direct wetseeding and rice machine transplanting method to hasten the sowing/ transplanting in rice area.

SMS: Rain: 23-27.11.16: 7, 0.5, 0.5, 0.5& 5 mm respectively. Pulses-tobacco caterpillar (cut worm) - spray imidachloprid 17.8 SL @ 100- 125 ml/ ha or neem oil @ 3%.

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