

Agromet Advisory Bulletin for Thoothukudi district

(From 18th April to 22nd April 2018)

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

Significant past weather data for the preceding week (13.04.2018 -16.04.2018)

Rainfall (mm)	25.6
Maximum Temperature (°C)	32-33
Minimum Temperature (°C)	23-27
Cloud cover (Octa)	4-5
RH at 08:30 hrs (%)	77-83
RH at 17:30 hrs (%)	72-77
Wind speed (kmph)	2-14
Wind direction (deg)	160-200

Weather forecast until 08:30 hrs of 22.04.2018

Parameters	Ensemble forecast				
	Day 1 18.04.18	Day 2 19.04.18	Day 3 20.04.18	Day 4 21.04.18	Day 5 22.04.18
Rainfall (mm)	0	0	0	0	0
Max. Temperature (°C)	34	34	36	36	36
Min. Temperature (°C)	28	28	27	27	27
Cloud cover (Octa)	4	4	4	4	4
Relative humidity (%)	70-80	70-80	65-80	65-80	65-80
Wind (kmph) (dd)	10/S	10/S	12/SE	12/SE	12/SE

S- South and SE - Southeast

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

Crop/ Ecosystem	Stage / Activities	Advisories
Chilli	Flowering to fruiting stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to conserve soil moisture dust mulch through manual hoeing and crop residue mulch in the inter-row space may be adopted. Fruit Rot / Die Back incidence in chilli is noticed. To control the disease spray Copper oxychloride 0.25% or Zineb 0.15%. Thrips incidence was noticed 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 litre of water or Dimethoate 30 % EC @1.0 ml/lit.

Temperature	Crops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farmers are advised to go for mulching to preserve the soil moisture for the crop growth.
	Animal Husbandry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In order to mitigate the effect of high temperature on animals provide adequate cool drinking water and green fodder and spray water on gunny bags surrounding the cattle shed. Vaccine for foot and mouth disease to the cattle is advised as prophylactic measure by utilizing the facility from nearby veterinary hospital.
Rainfall	Summer Ploughing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer ploughing is advised to improve the infiltration rate of soil as well as to control the weed growth by utilizing the unexpected rainfall during summer months.
	Green manure crop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise green manure crop by using unexpected rainfall during summer months.
General	Weather	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevailing high wind speed may damage the tall plantation. Farmers are advised to do propping for Banana. For irrigated crops, wind speed will increase evaporation loss. Hence, regular interval of irrigation may be given to avoid heat stress.
Banana	Bunch development stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use transparent polyethylene sleeves with 4% ventilation to cover the bunch immediately after opening of last hand to blemish free fruits with uniform size and quality. Prevailing weather condition is favorable for stem weevil incidence. Spraying of Monocrotophos 36 WSC @1 ml/ lit of water.
Rice	Milking stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevailing weather condition is favourable for leaf folder incidence. Farmers are advised to spray any one of the following insecticides, Phosalon 35 EC 1500 ml / ha or Phosphamidon 40 SL 1250ml/ ha.
	Harvest technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The right stage for harvesting is when about 80% panicles have 80 % ripened spike lets and their upper portion is straw colored. The grain contains about 20% of moisture.

- SMS: Rain: Nil. Animal husbandry- Provide cool drinking water and green fodder and spray water on gunny bags surrounding the cattle shed.

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