



## Agromet Advisory Bulletin for Ernakulam District

(Valid from 13.04.2024 to 17.04.2024)

Prepared by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Kerala Agricultural University, COA, Vellanikkara based on the medium range weather forecast of India Meteorological Department (IMD), New Delhi

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### A. Medium range weather forecast of IMD for next five days

| Weather parameters            | 13.04.2024 | 14.04. 2024 | 15.04.2024 | 16.04. 2024 | 17.04.2024 |
|-------------------------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|
| Rainfall (mm)                 | 3          | 2           | 0.1        | 0.2         | 0.2        |
| Maximum temperature (°C )     | 33         | 33          | 33         | 33          | 33         |
| Minimum temperature (°C )     | 29         | 27          | 27         | 27          | 27         |
| Maximum Relative Humidity (%) | 79         | 79          | 79         | 79          | 79         |
| Minimum Relative Humidity (%) | 69         | 69          | 69         | 69          | 69         |
| Wind speed (kmph)             | 2          | 4           | 4          | 4           | 4          |
| Wind direction (deg)          | 290        | 270         | 270        | 270         | 270        |
| Total cloud cover (octa)      | 8          | 8           | 7          | 7           | 7          |

**Weather summary / Alert:** SMS: As per the forecast of IMD, there is a chance of light rainfall in isolated places of the district. Above normal rainfall is expected in Kerala.

### B. Agrometeorological Advisories for crop protection & management

#### C. General and Agrometeorological Advisories for Ernakulum District (RRS Vyttila)

The following are immediate steps to be followed to protect people, plants, and birds from the summer heat. Drink plenty of clean water from time to time to prevent dehydration. Avoid going out in hot weather to get rid of sunburn while going. Try to use a hat or an umbrella to prevent direct sunlight. Since dry and hot weather is prevailed, crops can be irrigated to ensure adequate soil moisture. Crops should not be irrigated during strong sunlight. Drip irrigation can reduce water loss to some extent.

| Crop                      | Pest/ Disease | Crop/ Animal Advisory   |
|---------------------------|---------------|---|
| Puncha rice (Dough stage) | Rice bug      | There is a chance of rice bug attack in paddy. To control, spray Malathion 2 ml per litre of water. Pesticides application should be done either before 9 am or after 3 pm. Otherwise, the pesticide application will adversely affect the pollination  |
| Coconut                   | -             | Since air temperature is increasing, it is a desirable practice to bury fresh or dried coconut husk around the palm to conserve soil moisture. The husk can be buried either in linear trenches taken 3 meter away from the trunk between rows of palms or in circular trenches taken around the palm at a distance of 2 meter from the trunk. The trenches may be of 0.5 meter width and depth. The husks are to be placed in layers with concave surface facing upwards and covered with soil. The beneficial effect of husk burial will last for about 5 to 7 years. Instead of husk, coir pith can be buried @ 25 kg/palm/year. |
| Vegetables                | Sucking Pest  | As the hot weather conditions may increase the infestation of thrips, aphids, and whiteflies on the crops, spray at the top and bottom of the leaves with 2% strength neem oil garlic emulsion on every two weeks.  |

**Animal Husbandry:** - During cloudy condition, avoid bathing the cow and washing the cattle shed, otherwise more heat will be build up. Provide proper air circulation using fans in cattle shed. Assure increased ventilation in the cattle shed. Ensure sufficient supply of clean drinking water to the animals.