



Agromet Advisory Bulletin for Ernakulam District

(Valid from 17.04.2024 to 21.04.2024)

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	17.04.2024	18.04. 2024	19.04.2024	20.04. 2024	21.04.2024
Rainfall (mm)	0.3	1	2	5	2
Maximum temperature (°C)	38	38	36	36	36
Minimum temperature (°C)	26	26	26	25	25
Maximum Relative Humidity (%)	81	81	81	81	81
Minimum Relative Humidity (%)	59	59	59	59	59
Wind speed (kmph)	4	4	4	6	4
Wind direction (deg)	250	250	320	270	250
Total cloud cover (octa)	8	8	8	8	8

Weather summary / Alert: Maximum temperatures are very likely to be around 38 °C in Ernakulum district on 16th & 17th April 2024.

SMS: As per the forecast of IMD, there is a chance of light rainfall in isolated places of the district. 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
Rice (Pokkali)	Management	By April 15, farmers will complete the prawn cultivation and initiate the activities for pokkali rice cultivation by strengthening the outer bunds and setting sluices after draining the pokkali field.
Puncha rice (Milky stage)	Management	Ensure water availability in paddy fields. This is especially important in late sown paddy fields.
Turmeric	Planting	On receipt of pre-monsoon showers, prepare beds of size 3 m x 1.2 m with a spacing of 40 cm between beds in already tilled land. 160 Kg organic manure, 600 g rajphos and 200g MOP to be given as basal dose for one cent. Whole or split mother rhizomes are used for planting. Mulch the crop immediately after planting.
Vegetables	Sucking pests	Spraying of <i>Leccanicilium leccani</i> 20 g per litre at weekly intervals to be done from the initial stage of infestation. Higher population of the pests can be suppressed by spraying Neem based insecticides or Dimethoate 30 EC (1.5 ml per litre) or Thiamethoxam 20 WG (2g per 10 litre). The spray fluid should be directed towards either side of leaves. In the case of mealy bugs, white flies etc., spraying of soap solution to be done before the application of chemicals to dissolve the waxy covering.

Animal Husbandry: - Allow the animal to graze early in the morning or in the evening to avoid direct sunlight. It is better to allow the graze by evening hours. As the atmospheric temperature is increasing, give more cold water for cattle. Give grasses and straw during early morning and evening hours. And also protect them from direct sunlight.