



Agromet Advisory Bulletin for Ernakulam District

(Valid from 27.03.2024 to 31.03.2024)

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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Dated 26.03.2024

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

Weather parameters	27.03.2024	28.03.2024	29.03.2024	30.03.2024	31.03.2024
Rainfall (mm)	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.3	0.2
Maximum temperature (°C)	37	37	37	37	37
Minimum temperature (°C)	27	27	27	27	27
Maximum Relative Humidity (%)	85	87	85	90	90
Minimum Relative Humidity (%)	70	72	70	75	70
Wind speed (kmph)	5	4	4	6	4
Wind direction (deg)	250	270	270	270	270
Total cloud cover (octa)	4	3	5	4	4

Weather summary / Alert: Maximum temperatures are very likely to be around 38 °C in Ernakulam district during 26.03.2024 to 30.03.2024.

SMS: As per the forecast of IMD, there is a chance of light rainfall in isolated places of the district. Below normal rainfall is expected in Kerala.

B. Agrometeorological Advisories for crop protection & management

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

The following are immediate steps to be followed to protect farmers, 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 (Panicle initiation stage)	-	High temperature may induce pollen sterility in late sown paddy. Keep Standing water in the field to avoid this.
Coconut & Arecanut	-	Since dry weather condition is prevailed, adequate irrigation should be provided to Coconut and Arecanut. Since air temperature is increasing, it is a desirable practice to bury fresh or dried coconut husk around the coconut palm to conserve soil moisture. It is desirable to apply lime (white colour) on the stem near the ground to protect from heat.
Tomato	Dropping of flowers	An increase in temperature results in the dropping of flowers in tomatoes. Tomatoes should be provided with minimal shade and deep irrigation.

Animal Husbandry: - Pets and domestic animals & birds should be provided with adequate fresh water and protection from the sun and heat. Adequate ventilation should be arranged in their living space. Do not let the cattle graze during hot weather. (CAAECCS, KVASU, Mannuthy).