

Fiji Sugarcane Rainfall Outlook For June, July & August and July to September 2023

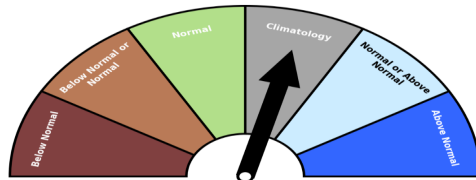
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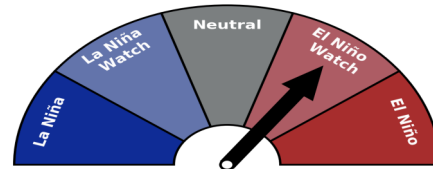
Next issue: June 30, 2023

Key Messages



Climatology

Rainfall Outlook



El Niño Watch

ENSO Outlook

English

- There is low rainfall prediction for the sugarcane belt areas provided by the Fiji Meteorological Services.
- Advisory is to harvest green cane first in areas not easily accessible during the rainy days and send to the mill.
- Place fertilizer order (blend C) for ratoon cane in advance and should be stored properly. Split application is recommended at 6-10 weeks and 20-24 weeks after harvesting.
- Farmer's should retain trash to conserve moisture. Trash will also help to reduce growth of weeds. Minimum tillage should be adopted to prevent loss of any remaining moisture.
- **Please do not burn cane** selected for harvesting **and trash** after harvesting has completed.
- Consult your sector farm advisors regarding soil sampling in any plots, varieties to plant, availability of clean seedcane to be used during the replanting window and availability of government funds for Cane Planting grant as per 2022/2023 budget allocation.
- For farmers who will plant in the replanting window, place order for blend A, blend B and lime based on the soil results received from SRIF through Sector Farm Advisors.
- Drainage around the plot's set aside for planting during Sept/Oct should be cleaned so that it is accessible for machinery.
- Farmers who wish to plant cane need to plan their work in order to get good germination.
- Farms on rolling and steep slopes should practice soil conservation measures such as planting on contours and establishing vetiver hedges to minimize soil erosion.
- For further advice, please contact SRIF on 8921839.

Hindi

- Fiji mausami daftar ne anumaan lagaya hai kee ganne ke kshetron ke liye kam varsha hone kee sambhaavana hai.
- Kisanon ko salaah dee jati hai ki barasaat ke dinon mein aasaanee se pravesh nahin hone vaale kshetron mein pahale hare ganne kee kataee karen aur mill bhejen.
- Blend C fertilizer ke liye ordar den. Kataee ke baad 6-10 saptaah aur 20-24 saptaah mein split application karne ke salah dee jaatee hai.
- Fasal katne ke baad kisanon ko jhure ganne ki patiya jalaana nahi chaahiye jisse kee kheto mein nami bani

rahe. Jhure ganne ki patiya ghaas niyantran mein madadt karti hai. Kisee bhee shesh namee ke nukasaan ko rokane ke liye kam se kam jutaee kare.

- Kataee ke liye chune gae ganne ko na jalaen aur kataee pooree hone ke baad kachara na phenke.
- 2022/2023 ke budget ke anusaar, mittee pareekshan kiya jaana chaahie, paudhon ka pareekshan kiya jaana chaahiye, beej kee upalabdhata aur ganna bonne ke liye sarakaaree dhan kee upalabdhata ke baare mein apane kshetr ke Farm Advisors se salah leh.
- Sector Farm Advisors ke maadhyam se SRIF se prapt mittee ke parinaamon ke aadhaar par Blend A, Blend B aur lime ke liye ordar den.
- September aur October mein beej bonne ke liye nirdhaarit jameen ke chaaron or naale ko saaph kiya jaana chaahie taaki bhoomi kee taiyaaree aur ganna bowai ho sake.
- Jo kisaan ganna bona chaahate hain unhen ache ankuran praapt karane ke liye apane kaary kee yojana baanaenee hogee.
- Jo khet chadhai par hai, waha paudhe lagaana chaahie taki mittee ko bhaene se roka ja sake.
- Aur salaah ke liye 8921839 par SRIF ko sampark kare.

I -Taukei

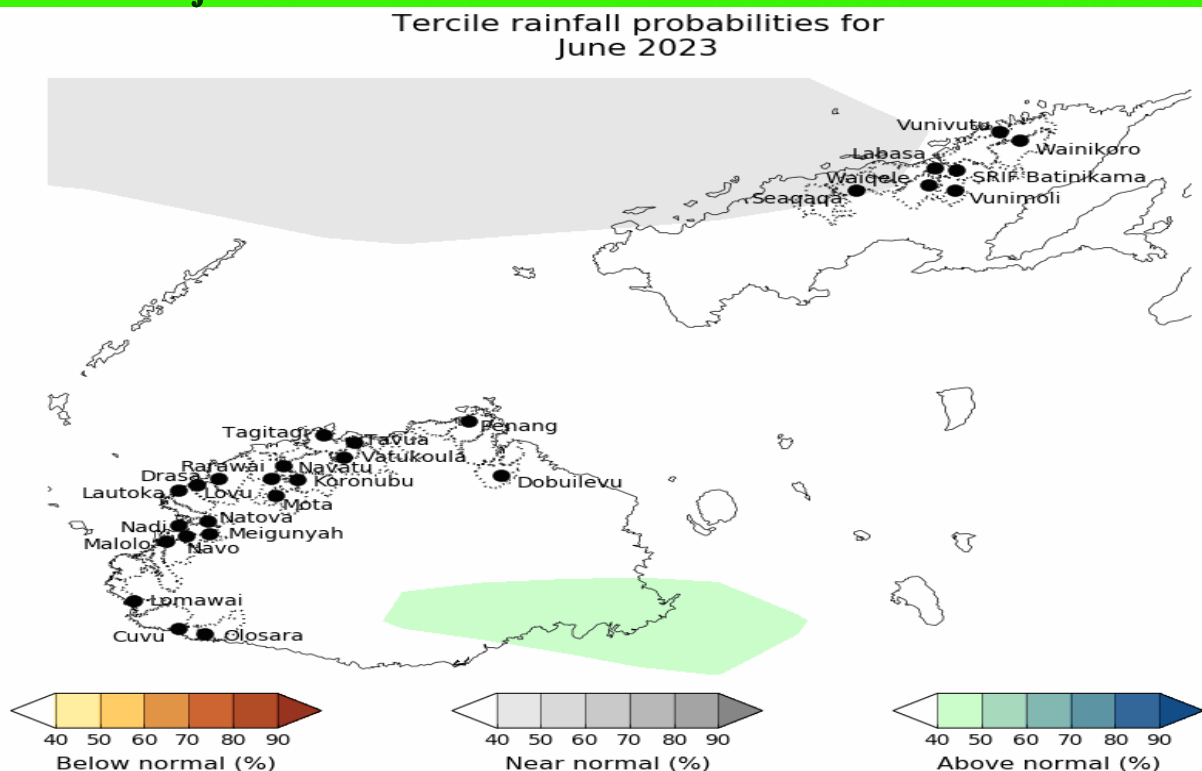
- E ratou sa vakasalataka tiko na Tabana Ni Draki ni na rawa ni namaki me na lailai na uca e tau e na veivanua ni tei dovu, e na vica na vula mai oqo.
- Ko ni sa vakasalataki na dau teitei, me musu rawa ka vakau ki na I qaqi ni dovu, na dovu drokadroka, vakabibi na kena ka ra tiko e na vanua ka dau dredre ni lakovi e na gauna ni tau ni uca.
- Sa kerei mo ni tekivu otataka rawa na nomuni I vakabulabula ni qele ni tei ni dovu ka wasea I rua na kena vakayagataki na I vakabulabula ni qele; dua e na 6-10 n macawa kei na dua tale e na 20- 24 na macawa.
- Ko ni sa vakasalataki na dau tei dovu, me kakua ni kama na benu ni dovu, ni na rawa ni maroroya tiko na suasua e na dela ni qele ka na rawa tale ga ni vakaberaberataka na tubu ni co ca. Me vakalailaitaki tale ga na veika e so ka vakayacori e na qele me vakalailaitaka na kena yali na wai ka bau vakasuasuataka toka na dela ni qele.
- Ko ni sa kerei na dau teitei me kakua ni kama na dovu ni bera ni musu, ka me kakua tale ga ni vakamai na benu ni dovu, ni musu oti na dovu.
- Ni sa vakasalataki mo ni veitaratara kei ira na dau ni vakasala e na vuku ni sabolotaki ni qele, mataqali I tei ni dovu me tei, ka vaka tale ga kina na veivuke ni matanitu ka tiko me baleta na tei dovu, e na yabaki vakailavo ni 2022/2023.
- Ki vei kemuni na dau tei dovu ko ni nanuma mo ni tei dovu e na gauna ni teitei ka tarava, ko ni sa vakasalataki mo ni tekivu otataka rawa na I vakabulabula ni qele na ‘Blend A, Blend B kei na lime’, ka vakatautaki e na I vakasala baleta na nomuni qele ka ratou solia mai na dau ni vakasala e na SRIF.
- Ko ni sa vakasalataki mo ni vagalalataka tiko na vanua me veitosoyaki kina na misini, e na kena samaki na I vakata lalai ka vagalalataka e na vula ko Seviteba kei na Okotova.
- Ki vei kemuni na dau teitei ka ko ni gadreva mo ni teitei, sa kerei mo ni tuvanaka vakamatau na nomuni gauna ni teitei me na rawa ni tubu vinaka na I tei.
- Ko ni sa vakasalataki na teitei tiko e na vanua baba se sega ni tautauvata, mo ni vakayagataka e so na I vakarau ni teitei ka na rawa ni maroroya se tarova na sisi ni qele, me vaka na kena teivaki na co ka yacana na ‘vetiver grass’.

- Ke tu tale e so nomuni vakatataro, ni qai qiri ga e na nodratou naba ni talevoni na SRIF, e na 8921839.

Climate Outlook

- For June 2023, there is little guidance on the rainfall outlook for the sugarcane growing areas on both Viti Levu and Vanua Levu with *below normal*, *near normal* and *above normal* rainfall equally likely.
- During July 2023, *below normal* rainfall is likely across the sugarcane belts on Vanua Levu, while there is little guidance for sugarcane growing areas on Viti Levu with *below normal*, *near normal* and *above normal* rainfall equally likely.
- For August 2023, *near normal* rainfall is likely across the sugarcane belts on Vanua Levu, while there is little guidance on the rainfall outlook for the sugarcane growing areas on Viti Levu with *below normal*, *near normal* and *above normal* rainfall equally likely.
- During July to September 2023 period, *above normal* rainfall is likely across the sugarcane growing areas on Viti Levu, while there is little guidance on the rainfall outlook for the sugarcane growing areas on Vanua Levu with *below normal*, *near normal* and *above normal* rainfall equally likely.
- The Pacific Ocean is now leaning towards El Niño conditions, but the overall ENSO state remains neutral, that is neither La Niña nor El Niño.
- Climate models are favouring development of an El Niño event during the May to July 2023 season. Consequently, an El Niño watch is in place.
- Fiji usually experiences *below normal* rainfall during an El Niño event, but the influence of the past La Niña event may continue to have an impact on Fiji's climate for a few more months due to the lag in the atmosphere to oceanic changes.

Rainfall Outlook: June 2023



Data source: ACCESS-S2 Base period: 1981-2018 Run: 15/05/2023
 Issued: 17/05/2023
 © Commonwealth of Australia 2023, Australian Bureau of Meteorology, supported by COSPPac
 Shapefile data extracted from Flanders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (200NM), version 11. Available online at <http://www.marineregions.org/>.

Figure 1: There is little guidance on the rainfall outlook for the sugarcane growing areas on both Viti Levu and Vanua Levu with below normal, near normal and above normal rainfall equally likely. The confidence in the outlook is good.

Rainfall Outlook: July 2023

Tercile rainfall probabilities for July 2023

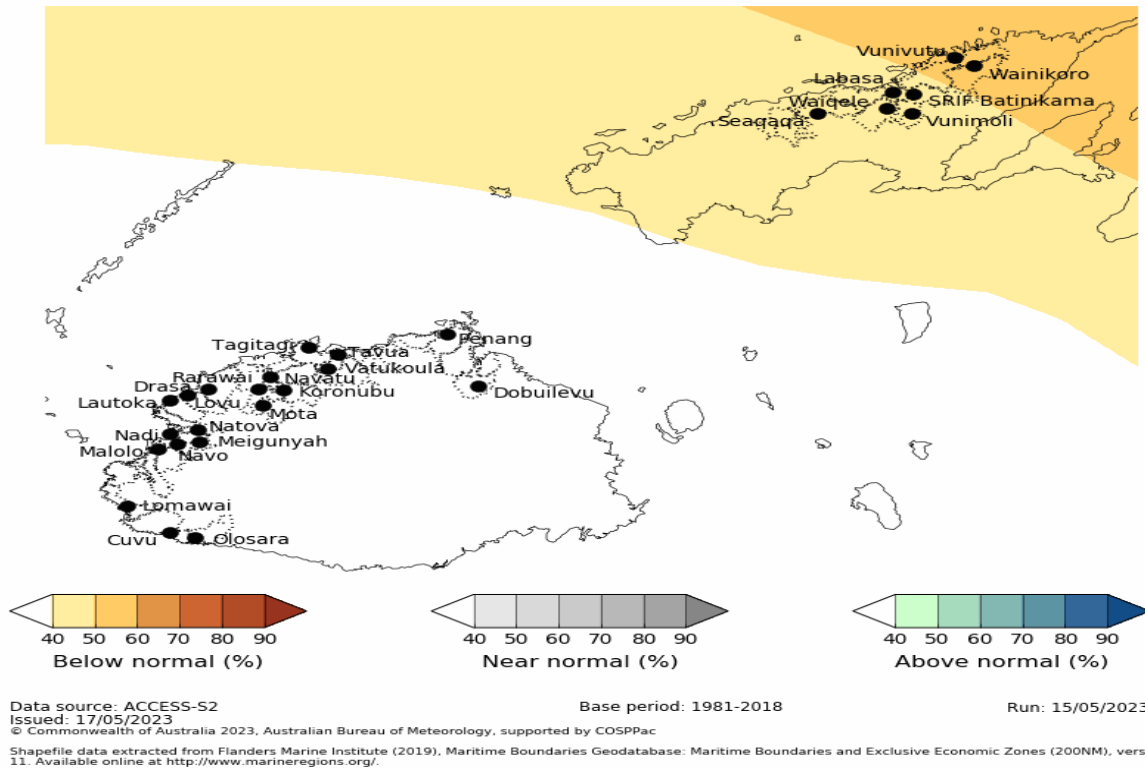


Figure 2: Below normal rainfall is likely across the sugarcane belts on Vanua Levu, while there is little guidance for sugarcane growing areas on Viti Levu with below normal, near normal and above normal rainfall equally likely. The confidence in the outlook is moderate or good.

Rainfall Outlook: August 2023

Tercile rainfall probabilities for August 2023

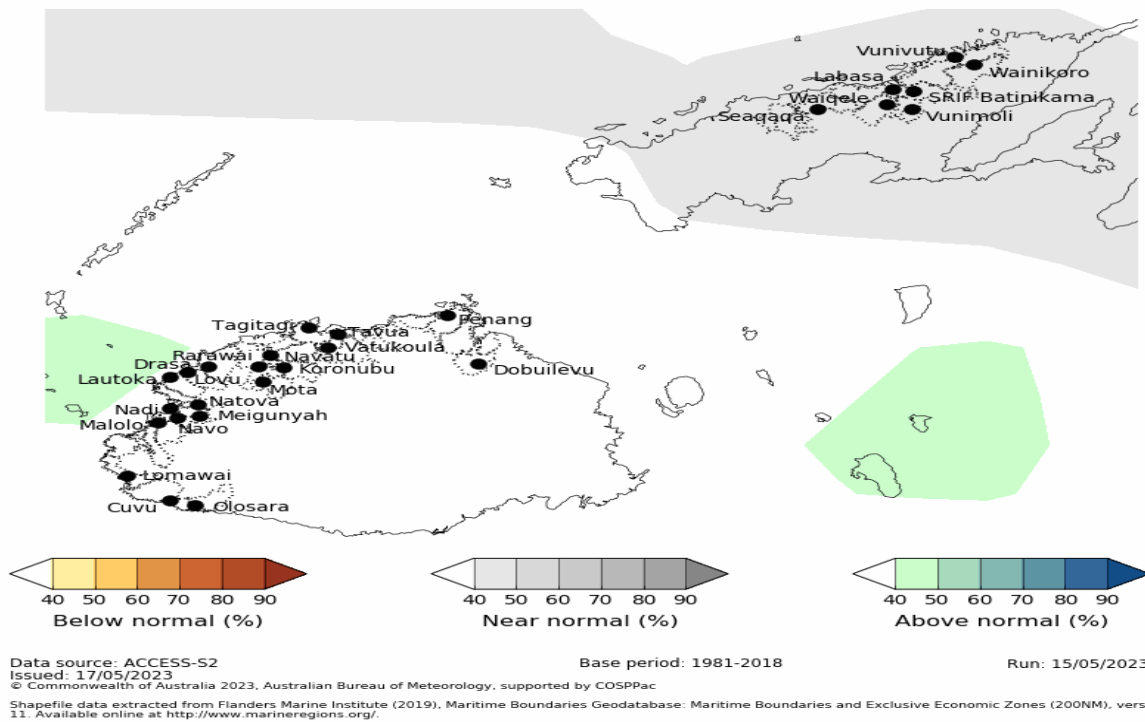


Figure 3: Near normal rainfall is likely across the sugarcane belts on Vanua Levu, while there is little guidance on the rainfall outlook for the sugarcane growing areas on Viti Levu with below normal, near normal and above normal rainfall equally likely. The confidence in the outlook is moderate.

Rainfall Outlook: July to September 2023

Tercile rainfall probabilities for July to September 2023

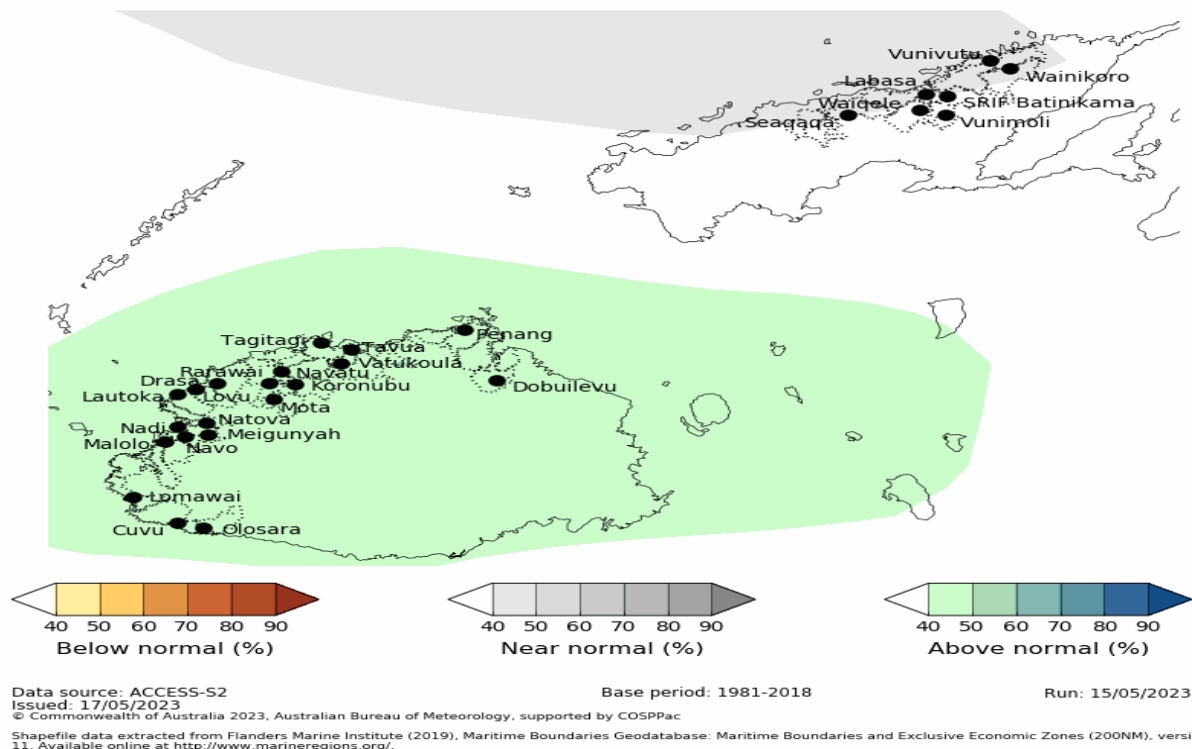


Figure 4: Above normal rainfall is likely across the sugarcane growing areas on Viti Levu, while there is little guidance on the rainfall outlook for the sugarcane growing areas on Vanua Levu with below normal, near normal and above normal rainfall equally likely. The confidence in the outlook is good or high.

Explanatory Notes

Fiji Sugarcane Rainfall Outlook

The Fiji Sugarcane Climate Outlook is a collaborative product of the Fiji Meteorological Service (FMS) and the Sugar Research Institute of Fiji (SRIF). It is produced to provide advisories to the farmers and other key sugar industry stakeholders. It aims to provide advanced warning on climate abnormalities for informed decision making. The product is issued on a monthly basis.

El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)

ENSO is the principal driver of the year-to-year variability of Fiji's climate. There are two extreme phases of this phenomena, *El Niño* and *La Niña*.

El Niño or La Niña events usually recur after every 2 to 7 years. It normally develops during the period April to June, attains peak intensity between December to February and decays between the period April to June the following year. While most events last for a year, some have persisted for up to 2 years. It should be also noted that no two El Niño or La Niña events are exactly the same. Different events have different impacts, but most exhibit some common climate characteristics.

Usually there is a lag effect on Fiji's climate with ENSO events, that is, once an El Niño or La Niña event is established in the tropical Pacific, it may take 2-6 months before its impact is seen on Fiji. Similarly, once an event finish, it can take 2-6 months for climate to normalise.

El Niño events are associated with warming of the central and eastern tropical Pacific. El Niño events usually result in reduction of Fiji's rainfall. Often the whole of Fiji is affected in varying degrees and it is quite unusual for one part of the country to experience a prolonged dry spell, while the other is in a wet spell. The relationship and level of rainfall suppression is greater in the Dry Zone (sugarcane growing areas) than in the Wet Zone. It is the suppression of rainfall during the Cool/Dry Season (May to October) that is normally of most concern. Dry Season mean monthly rainfall in the Dry Zone ranges between 40mm and 90mm. A reduction in Cool/Dry Season rainfall in the Dry Zone results in little or no rainfall until the next Wet Season. While usually the strength of an ENSO event is proportional to its impact on Fiji, at times weak event can also have a significant impact.

Explanatory Notes

La Niña events are associated with cooling of the central and eastern tropical Pacific. Usually La Niña results in wetter than normal conditions for Fiji, occasionally leading to flooding during the Warm/Wet Season (November to April).

When ENSO is neutral, that is, neither El Niño nor La Niña, it has little effect on global climate, meaning other climate influences are more likely to dominate.

Lag effects – means that there is a delay in a change of some aspect of climate due to influence of other factors that is acting slowly.

Climate (Rainfall) Outlook

The rainfall outlook is in probabilistic format.

Probability of more than 60% in the upper tercile (area on the map with green shading) means that rainfall is **very likely** to be **above normal** (that is, there is more than 60% chance of receiving above normal rainfall). Probability of less than 60% in the upper tercile means that rainfall is **likely** to be above normal (that is, there is 40-60% chance of receiving above normal rainfall).

Probability of more than 60% in the lower tercile (area on the map with brown shading) means that rainfall is **very likely** to be **below normal** (that is, there is more than 60% chance of receiving below normal rainfall). Probability of less than 60% in the lower tercile means that rainfall is **likely** to be below normal (that is, there is 40-60% chance of receiving below normal rainfall).

Probability of more than 60% in the middle tercile (area on the map with grey shading) means that rainfall is **very likely** to be **near normal** (that is, there is more than 60% chance of receiving near normal rainfall). Probability of less than 60% in the middle tercile means that rainfall is **likely** to be near normal (that is, there is 40-60% chance of receiving near normal rainfall).

Climatology - all tercile percentages are less than 40% (area on the map with white shading), indicates that the outlook period offers little guidance as the chances of below normal, normal and above normal rainfall are similar.

Disclaimer: The seasonal climate outlook provided in this document is presented for the sugar sector and should be used as a guide only. While FMS and SRIF takes all measures to provide accurate information and data, it does not guarantee 100% accuracy of the forecast presented in this outlook. Please enquire with FMS and SRIF for expert advice, clarifications and additional information as and when necessary. The user assumes all risk resulting directly or indirectly from the use of the climate prediction information.