

SEASONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK & ADVISORY

May-October 2019

CLIMATE OUTLOOK SUMMARY

- Weak El Niño continue to persist in the Tropical Pacific. Climate models suggest El Niño condition to continue thru Jun-Jul-Aug 2019 season.
- Bicol Region will still be experiencing drought by May but near normal rainfall is projected from June-September 2019



WEATHER SYSTEMS THAT MAY AFFECT BICOL REGION



Month	Tropical Cyclones
May	1 to 2
June	1 to 2
July	2 to 3
August	2 to 3
September	2 to 4
October	2 to 3



- Southwest Monsoon (Habagat), Easterlies, Inter-tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ), LPAs and Ridge of High Pressure Area

Forecast Rainfall Analysis¹

Prov	May			June			July			August			September			October		
	Normal (mm)	Forecast (mm)	% to Normal	Normal (mm)	Forecast (mm)	% to Normal	Normal (mm)	Forecast (mm)	% to Normal	Normal (mm)	Forecast (mm)	% to Normal	Normal (mm)	Forecast (mm)	% to Normal	Normal (mm)	Forecast (mm)	% to Normal
Al	161.7	118.5	73.3	215.6	186.7	86.6	260.8	243.6	93.4	209.5	243.7	116.3	269.1	229.3	85.2	349.3	196.3	56.2
CN	146.8	109.2	74.4	188.8	158.8	84.1	235.1	213.9	91.0	160.5	229.2	142.8	261.2	233.8	89.5	466.6	273.4	58.6
CS	152.1	111.5	73.3	209.3	179.4	85.7	254.5	222.7	87.5	185.9	240.8	129.5	267.1	221.7	83.0	410.3	223.2	54.4
Cat	154.5	115.6	74.8	221.3	192.3	86.9	242.8	195.0	80.3	165.0	231.8	140.5	238.8	185.3	77.6	385.6	214.0	55.5
Mas	139.8	101.5	72.6	184.0	166.7	90.6	233.1	246.4	105.7	186.4	220.5	118.3	226.5	203.4	89.8	288.8	149.9	51.9
Sor	154.6	114.9	74.3	198.0	171.1	86.4	233.1	227.5	97.6	195.8	225.8	115.3	244.4	213.6	87.4	329.2	183.7	55.8

¹All Climate Forecast/Information is based on EL NIÑO & CLIMATE OUTLOOK (May-October 2019, issued by PAGASA last April 24, 2019 Source: <http://bagong.pagasa.dost.gov.ph/climate>

● Way below normal ● Below normal ● Near normal ● Above normal

IMPACT OUTLOOKS

- ◆ **Below normal rainfall** is conducive for postharvest operations of crops NOT damaged by *El Niño*.
- ◆ Production areas, especially for rice, with access to irrigation water can already start land preparation on the month of May. Upland and rainfed communities may experience delayed in land preparation and crop establishment.
- ◆ However, the wet condition succeeding the *El Niño* may cause **disease and pest outbreak in crops** (fungal diseases) and respiratory, increased parasitism in livestock and poultry, high post harvest losses in cereals and other high value commodities;
- ◆ With several **typhoons** projected for this season, the possibility of damages brought by **flooding, strong winds, soil erosion and landslide** may affect rehabilitation efforts.
- ◆ The risk of **salt-water intrusion** to farms is less likely especially along the Bicol River Basin and coastal communities;
- ◆ For the month of June-August, **flushing stage** of pili trees can be observed. Thus, there is an expected limited supply of scion.
- ◆ In fisheries, replenishment of water in fishing grounds and surface water temperature reduction are conducive for fish breeding and fingerlings dispersal.
- ◆ The **pasture** areas in provinces of *Masbate* is likely to **recover** from drought damage;
- ◆ In *Catanduanes*, return to near normal rainfall may result to longer drying period of abaca and tiger grass fibers. Meanwhile, for **cutflower growers** in *Albay* and *Camarines Sur*, this may result to flower damages and infestations.
- ◆ Below normal rainfall may result to high success in flower and fruit development in **pineapple** in *Camarines Norte*.

CLIMATE-RESILIENT AGRICULTURE PRACTICES

- ♣ **PCIC Risk Transfer.** Prior to planting, avail of risk-transfer mechanisms such as **insurance** from PCIC. Insure also the livestock and other farm assets;
- ♣ Use **early maturing, submergence-tolerant** and **saline-tolerant** varieties to reduce yield reduction and reduce costs in supplemental irrigation;
- ♣ **Repair drainage system.** Prevent water stagnation.
- ♣ **Plant wind breakers.** In areas exposed to strong winds, plant wind breakers such as cacao and ipil-ipil.
- ♣ **Cover crops.** Plant indigenous **cover crops** in sloping areas to improve soil fertility and reduce soil erosion/conserves soil moisture in upland areas.
- ♣ **Biomass as mulch.** Utilize **rice hull** or **coconut husk** as natural mulch to vegetables to conserve and retain moisture, lower soil temperature and reduce water-stress damage while achieving the potential yield of crop;
- ♣ Integrate **short-duration crops (legumes, vegetables, white corn)** to improve household food security;
- ♣ Process for **corn silage.** If properly processed, it can be stored for a year to cover the feeds needed by the ruminants.
- ♣ Practice **value-adding of vegetables** (eg. pickles) and **native fruits** (e.g. nipa fruits). With proper processing, these products can be developed into an enterprise of the household;
- ♣ Seek **other** potential source of **livelihood/food** and or plant crops that can serve as an alternate staple during lean months.
- ♣ For high value crops, use **rainshelter** or grow crops in **greenhouses.** **Change of cropping calendar** is also advised.
- ♣ **Climate information system.** Stay tuned to the weather and climate updates from PAGASA and issuance from the Department of Agriculture.

DA RFO 5 SUPPORT

- Planting materials and other farm inputs (seeds/seedlings, fertilizer and other production support services) for rehabilitation of farms damaged by *El Niño*.
- Farm Mechanization support services and Post-harvest facilities and farm operations technical assistance
- Climate-information services thru the regular release of 10-day weather forecast and seasonal climate outlook