

# SEASONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK & ADVISORY

December 2018-May 2019

## CLIMATE OUTLOOK SUMMARY

- Transition from warm-ENSO-neutral conditions to El Niño is highly likely during Oct.-Nov.-Dec. 2018 season
- 80% Chance El Niño from Dec-Feb; 55-50% chance from March-May
- The highly probable below normal precipitation over the Philippine Sea.
- ENSO Alert System Status: **El Niño Watch**



## WEATHER SYSTEMS TO AFFECT BICOL



- Northeast Monsoon (Amihan)
- Two(2) to four (5) tropical cyclones may develop/ enter the PAR



- Other weather systems: Tail end of Cold Front, ITCZ, Low Pressure Areas (LPAs) and Ridge of High Pressure Area

## Forecast Rainfall Analysis<sup>1</sup>

| Prov | December    |               |             | January     |               |             | February    |               |             | March       |               |             | April       |               |             | May         |               |             |
|------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
|      | 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   | 464.2       | 338.9         | 73.0        | 274.7       | 206.6         | 75.2        | 200.9       | 113.7         | 56.6        | 170.8       | 127.1         | 74.4        | 158.2       | 119.9         | 75.8        | 163.5       | 96.6          | 59.1        |
| CN   | 504.7       | 365.9         | 72.5        | 246.5       | 205.6         | 83.4        | 177.1       | 113.5         | 64.1        | 144.4       | 122.0         | 84.5        | 124.5       | 44.7          | 35.9        | 147.3       | 87.2          | 59.2        |
| CS   | 474.2       | 342.4         | 72.2        | 256.0       | 192.8         | 75.3        | 173.9       | 107.8         | 62.0        | 148.7       | 117.2         | 78.8        | 130.2       | 72.0          | 55.3        | 153.1       | 88.5          | 57.8        |
| Cat  | 463.7       | 332.0         | 71.6        | 264.7       | 192.7         | 72.8        | 158.0       | 100.3         | 63.5        | 150.0       | 96.6          | 64.4        | 141.3       | 99.6          | 70.5        | 155.3       | 92.4          | 59.5        |
| Mas  | 322.0       | 232.5         | 72.2        | 187.4       | 148.8         | 79.4        | 119.5       | 67.4          | 56.4        | 107.0       | 68.8          | 64.3        | 82.3        | 58.3          | 70.8        | 142.1       | 76.6          | 53.9        |
| Sor  | 455.7       | 335.4         | 73.6        | 291.2       | 222.8         | 76.5        | 203.4       | 114.3         | 56.2        | 173.2       | 118.8         | 68.6        | 137.3       | 106.0         | 77.2        | 156.5       | 93.6          | 59.8        |

<sup>1</sup>All Climate Forecast/Information is based on Regional Forecast Quick Look (Dec. 2018-May 2019, issued by PAGASA last November 21, 2018. Source: <http://bagong.pagasa.dost.gov.ph/climate>

● Way below normal

○ Below normal

● Below normal

## IMPACT OUTLOOKS

- ◆ The **El Niño conditions** in the first quarter of the year may delay crop establishment in rainfed and upland areas and increase in costs for supplemental pump irrigation in the lowland;
- ◆ The risk of **salt-water intrusion** to farms is very high especially along the Bicol River Basin and coastal communities;
- ◆ The pasture areas in provinces of **Masbate** is likely to be affected by **below normal rainfall** as these are susceptible to drought damage;
- ◆ All coconut-producing provinces may experience drop in production;
- ◆ In fisheries, surface-oriented, schooling fish often disperse and move into **deeper waters**. Fishes that remain in an affected region experience **reduced growth, reproduction, and survival**.
- ◆ In **Catanduanes**, the below normal rainfall will benefit the **abaca** farmers in hastening and producing quality fibers during the supposedly rainy first quarter
- ◆ For **cut-flower growers** in **Albay** and **Camarines Sur**, the below normal rainfall is conducive for flower production
- ◆ Below normal rainfall may result to high success in flower and fruit development in **pineapple** in **Camarines Norte**.

## CLIMATE-RESILIENT AGRICULTURE PRACTICES

- ♣ **Cover crops**. Plant indigenous **cover crops** in sloping areas to improve soil fertility and reduce soil erosion/conservate 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 retaining achieving the potential yield of crop;
- ♣ Integrate **short-duration crops** (*legumes, vegetables, white corn*) to improve household food security;
- ♣ Use **early maturing, drought-tolerant** and **saline-tolerant** varieties to reduce yield reduction and reduce costs in supplemental irrigation;
- ♣ Practice **Alternate-wetting and drying technology** in rice production. AWD reduces 50% of irrigation water needed thereby also reducing expenses on fuel and labor costs in irrigating without penalizing yield;
- ♣ **PCIC Risk Transfer**. Prior to planting, avail of risk-transfer mechanisms such as **insurance** from PCIC. Insure also the livestock and other farm assets;
- ♣ Learn how to process **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** (eg. 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.

## DA RFO 5 SUPPORT

- Planting materials and other farm inputs (seeds/seedlings, fertilizer and other production support services)
- 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