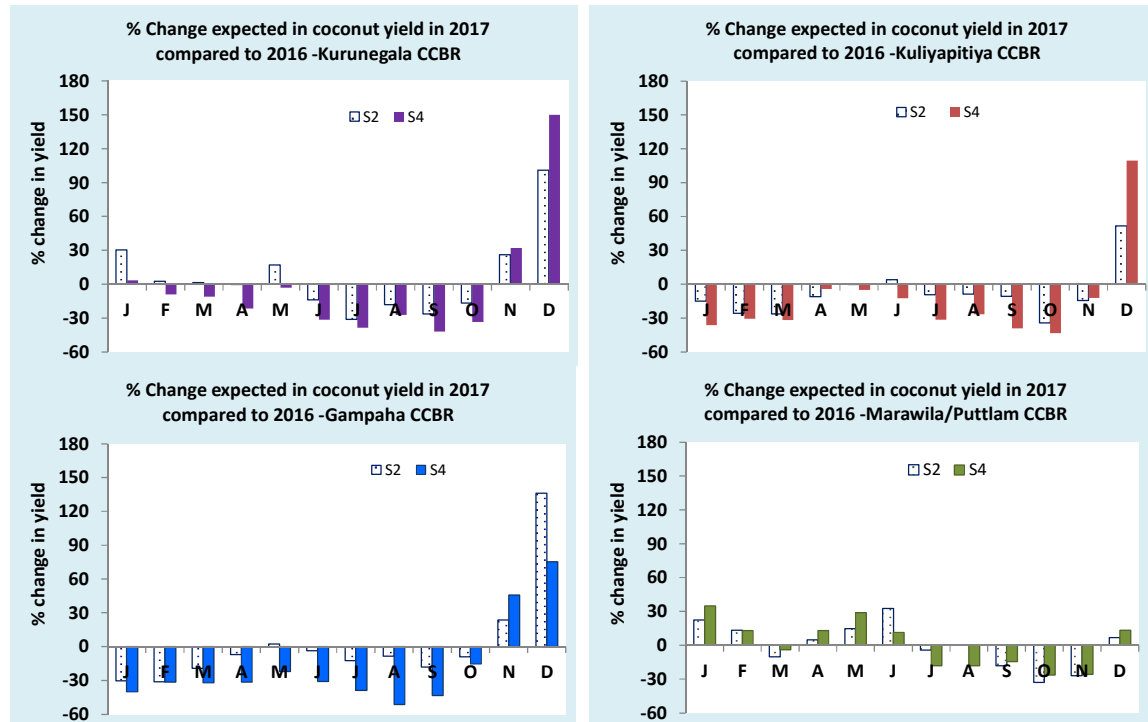


### Expected yield variation in 2017 compared to 2016 (final)

The coconut yield forecast for the year 2017 is 2347 Mn nuts and this is about 17.5 % reduction (498 Mn nuts) with respect to the estimated Annual National Coconut Production (ANCP) for the year 2016 (2845 Mn nuts). Generally, the major contribution (about 50%) to the National coconut yield comes from three districts; Kurunegala, Puttalam and Gampaha with Kurunegala district being the highest contributor (Table 1, Figs 1 & 2).

### Percentage change of yield in 2017 compared to 2016 in major coconut growing areas:



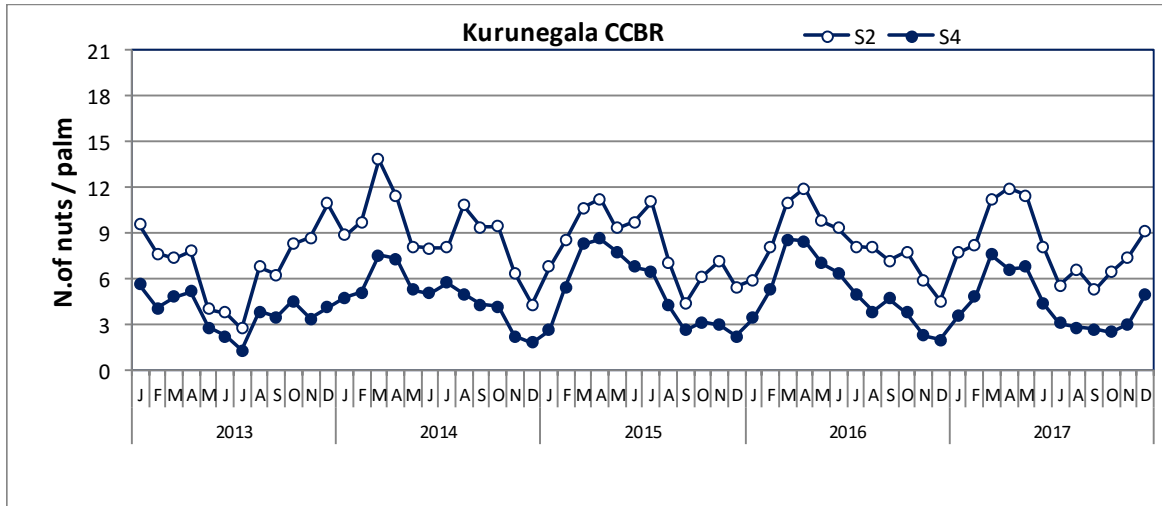
**Fig. 1 Monthly changes expected in coconut yield in 2017 with respect to 2016 in major coconut growing areas, Kurunegala and Kuliyaipitiya CCB regions (Kurunegala district), Gampaha and Puttalam districts (S2 – Suitable soils, S4 – Marginal soils)**

Rainfall distribution and the maximum air temperature ( $T_{max}$ ) during the 'sensitive stages' of coconut bunch development are the two main climatic variables which have a greater impact on the yield of coconut. The mean annual rainfall, considering coconut growing districts altogether, showed approximately 37% reduction in 2016 compared to that of 2015. The two significant dry spells prevailed from January to March / April along with high temperature (3-4 months) and from June to October (5 months), and the failure of North-East monsoon rains in 2016 resulted significant yield

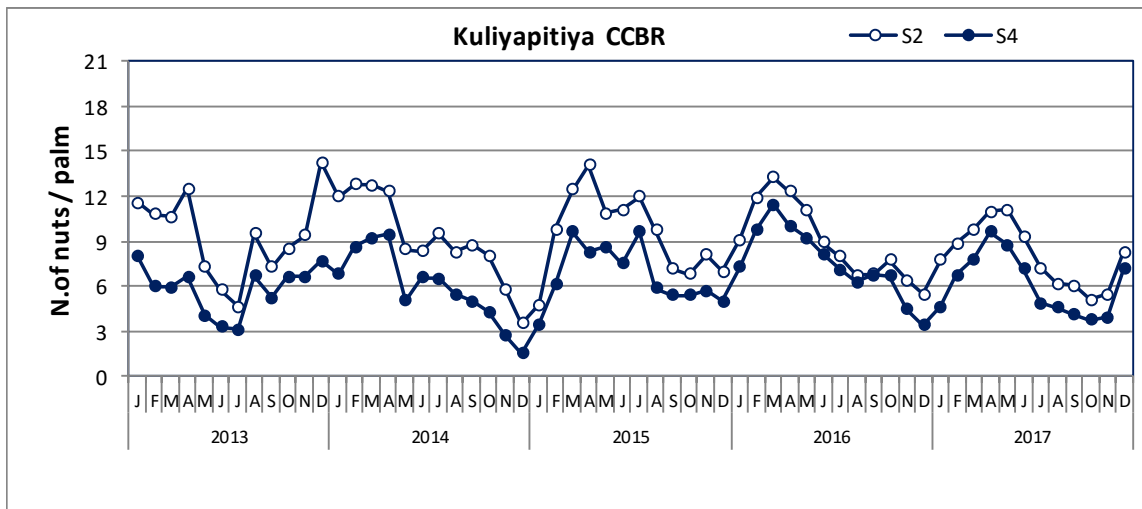
reductions in 2017 compared to that of 2016, mainly in Kurunegala and Gampaha districts, except for the Nov/Dec pick

**Fig 2: Expected yield variation in major coconut growing areas from 2013-2017**

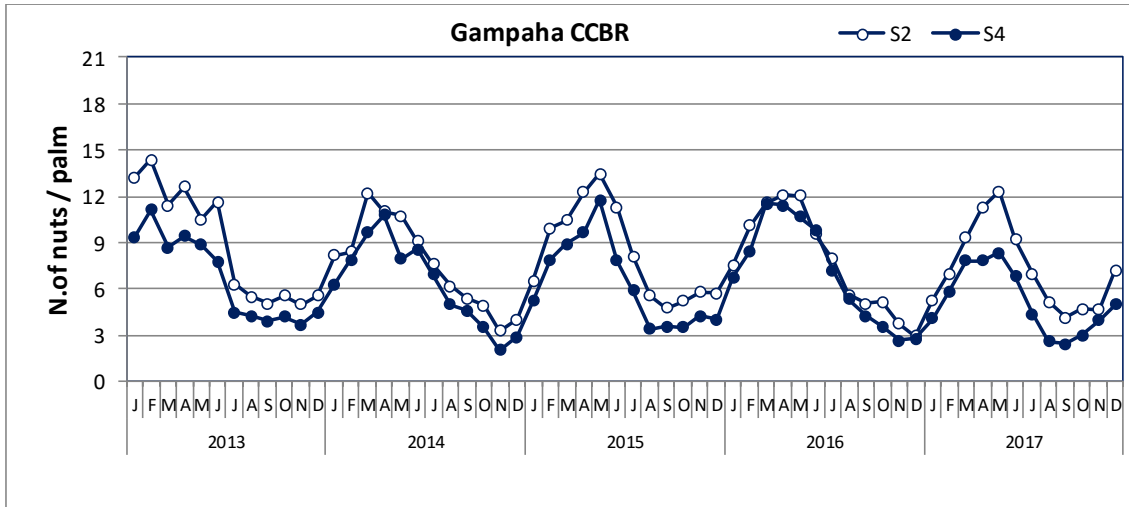
**Kurunegala CCB Region (Age of palms 30-50 yrs)**



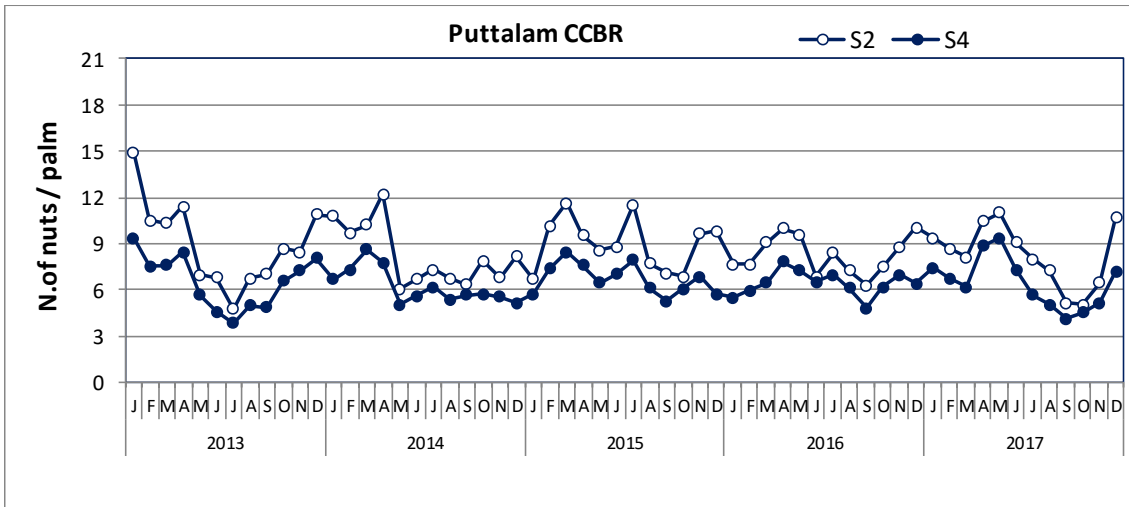
**Kuliyapitiya CCB Region (Age of palms 30-50 yrs)**

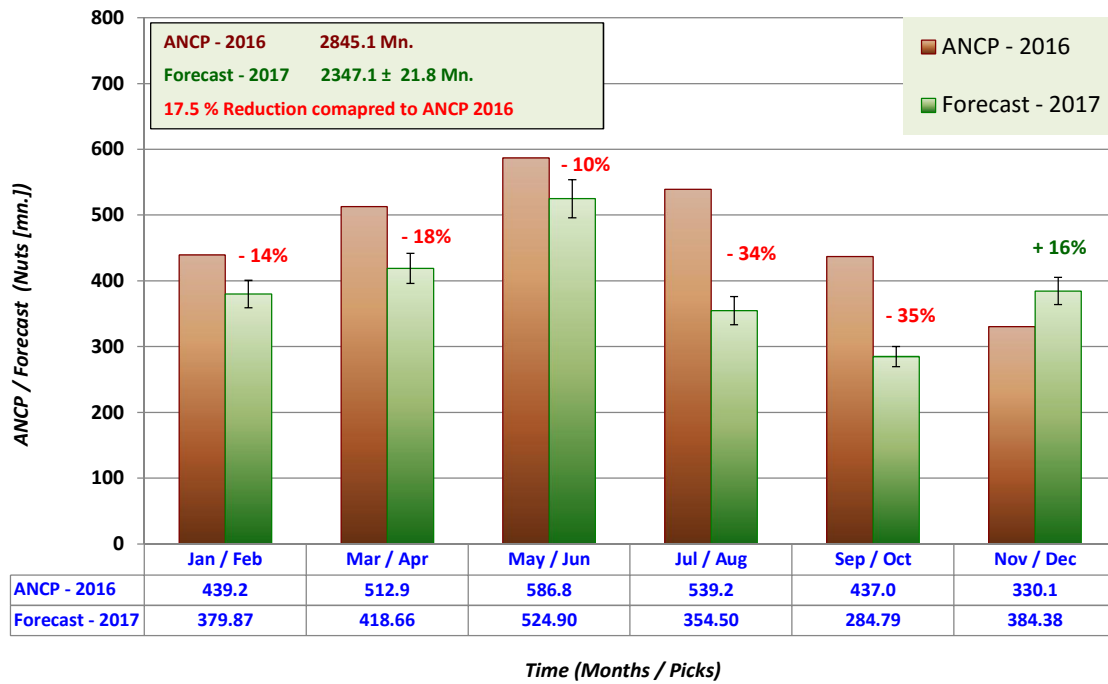


Gampaha CCB Region (Age of palms 30-50 yrs)



Marawila-Puttalam CCB Region (Age of palms 30-50 yrs)





**Comparison of bi-monthly forecast for January – December 2017 with the estimated National Coconut Production in 2016, ANCP: Annual National Coconut Production**

Dr Sanathanie Ranasinghe

Additional Director

22.06.2017