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AGRICULTURE OUTLOOK



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The sowing of wheat crop in rainfed as well as in irrigated areas has been almost completed in Punjab, Sindh, KP and Balochistan provinces. Government of Pakistan has made efforts for export of wheat and wheat products with rebate of 159 USD per ton for sea route and rebate of 120 USD per ton for land route. Picking/harvesting of cotton crop has also been completed and good yield is expected in this year in growing areas of Punjab and Sindh provinces. Pakistan Cotton Ginner Association (PCGA) has estimated prices of seed cotton both in Punjab and Sindh between Rs.3,500 to Rs.4,200 per 40 kg. However, volume of cotton crop for this season was lower than expected as crop faced acute shortage of irrigation water and higher incidence of insect pests and diseases.

During the month of November of this year, the sugarcane crop was at harvesting/crushing stage. In Punjab and Sindh harvesting of sugarcane was in full swing and normal to above yield is expected. Government of Punjab and Sindh has fixed the minimum support price of sugarcane @ Rs.180 per 40 kg and 182 per 40 Kg for crushing season 2018-19 respectively. Harvesting, of rice crop has also been completed in Punjab and KP in the month of November. According to PMD, harvesting of maize crop has been completed in Punjab and KP provinces and good yield was reported.

Minor crops reported as satisfactory in growing conditions. Sowing operations of most of crops have been completed of and good yield is expected. Fruits like citrus, banana, cheeko and guava depicted their conditions as normal and good yield is expected. Harvesting of winter vegetables including potato is in progress in Punjab. However, it is available in Markets in Sindh, KPK and Baluchistan.

During the period from July-June, 2017-18, 710,221 metric tons of fruits (over all) worth US\$ 400.237 million have been exported as compared to 645,661 metric tons valuing US\$ 380.904 million of same period of last year, according to the data of Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, whereas, 875,269 metric tons of vegetables (overall) worth US\$ 241.426 million have been exported as against the 632,246 metric tons valuing US\$ 184.916 million of same period of last year, showing an increase of 30.56 percent.

Rain-thunderstorm with snowfall over the hills is expected at scattered places in upper Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit-Baltistan and Kashmir. Dense/Shallow foggy conditions are likely to continue in plains of Punjab, upper Sindh and Peshawar division during morning/night hours. Cold and dry weather is expected in most parts, while very cold weather in northern parts of the country. Frost is also expected in upper parts of the country during morning hours. During the last week of December, drought conditions will remain same in the country as recorded in previous week.

The availability of DAP during Rabi 2018-19 is estimated around 1,457,000 tonnes, which comprises 729,000 tonnes of opening inventory, 378,000 tonnes domestic production and 350,000



tones of imported supplies. The expected off-take of DAP is about 1,405,000 tonnes. DAP is a de-regulated item and its availability depends on import by the private sector.

CURRENT CROP SITUATION

1. Wheat

The sowing of wheat crop in rainfed as well as in irrigated areas has been almost completed in Punjab Province. Germination and early growth of sown crop is reported satisfactory, however further rains are required for its proper growth both in irrigated and rainfed areas of the Province.

The sowing of Rabi crops has also been completed in Sindh, KPK and Balochistan provinces. While sowing of wheat crop after sugarcane harvesting is still in progress and will continue during the month of December in plain areas of KPK (National Agro Met Center, PMD).

Farmers are advised to complete sowing operations immediately by using 50-60 kg seed per acre of recommended varieties. Late sowing is directly influence the production of the crop. Soil moisture level should be maintained at 85%. Use more seed rate than recommended for late sowing.

Current wheat stocks situation is given below:

Province / Agency	Cary forward stocks as on 01-05-2018	Procurement 2018	Current wheat stocks	Last year's wheat stocks
	(million tons)			
Punjab	3.596	3.623	6.663	6.029
Sindh	0.456	1.400	1.765	1.746
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	0.148	0.0661	0.239	0.365
Balochistan	0.119	0.000	0.073	0.0096
PASSCO	1.623	0.900	2.039	2.311
Total	5.942	5.989	10.669	10.451

Source: Working paper of 11th meeting of FCA (11th Oct, 2018)

In-spite of efforts made by the authorities for export of wheat, still country has huge stocks for wheat higher than the last year. These huge stocks can affect Government's procurement program which in turn will suffer farmers' interest to invest in wheat crop for Rabi 2018-19. Government of Pakistan has made efforts for export of wheat and wheat products with rebate of 159 USD per ton for sea route and rebate of 120 USD per ton for land route. Status of exported wheat and wheat products is as under:



Province	Allocated Quantity			Lifted Quantity			Balance Quantity
	Sea Route	Land Route	Total	Sea Route	Land Route	Total	
(million tons)							
Punjab	1.050	0.450	1.500	0.925	0.280	1.205	0.295
Sindh	0.350	0.150	0.500	0.350	0.150	0.500	0.000
PASSCO	0.5000	0.000	0.500	0.464	0.000	0.464	0.036
Total	1.900	0.600	2.500	1.739	0.430	2.169	0.331

Source: Working paper of 11th meeting of FCA (11th Oct, 2018)

2. Cotton

According to PMD, Picking/harvesting of cotton crop has been almost completed and good yield is expected this year in growing areas of Punjab and Sindh province. However, Pakistan Cotton Ginners Association (PCGA) reported that farmers are being prepared their land for wheat cultivation in Punjab and Sindh provinces after harvesting of cotton crop. The situation is not satisfactory and the production will be very far behind the target. The pest incidences of white fly, Mealy Bug and Dusky Cotton Bug were reported in the districts of Lodhran, Bahawalpur, Multan, Khanewal, Vehari and Rahim Yar Khan in Punjab.

According to the report released by (PCGA) as on 15th November, 2018 the arrivals of seed cotton in to ginneries witnessed decline by 7.3 percent to 8.671 million bales as compared to 9.358 million bales registered in the corresponding period last year. The arrivals in Punjab are reduced by 10.1% to 4.985 million bales as against 5.545 million bales. Whereas arrivals in Sindh recorded at 3.686 million bales, showing decrease of 3.3% as compared to 3.814 million bales in previous year. The prices of seed cotton both in Punjab and Sindh have recorded between Rs.3500 to Rs.4200 per 40 kg.

FIRST ASSESSMENT OF COTTON CROP 2018-19 SEASON

(Bales= 170 kg)

Province	Expected Production (million bales) (First Cotton Crop Assessment (12-09-2018))
Punjab	8.077
Sindh	2.600
KP	0.020
Baluchistan	0.150
Pakistan	10.847

Source: Cotton Crop Assessment Committee Meeting held on 12-09-2018

According to SUARCO, volume of crop for this season was lower than expected as cotton crop faced acute shortage of irrigation water and higher incidence of insect pests and diseases. Attractive phutti prices however, helped farmers to invest for high cost of production to pump subsurface irrigation water and plant protection measures.



During the first week of December 2018¹, seed cotton prices decreased by Rs.100 to Rs.200 per 40 Kgs but demand of better quality cotton is low due to high price. Thus the prices of seed cotton in Sindh said to have ranged from Rs.3000 to Rs.4000 per 40 Kgs, while in the Punjab seed cotton prices reportedly ranged from Rs.3300 to Rs.4000 per 40 Kgs, depending upon the quality.

Lint prices increased by Rs.100 to Rs.200 per mound (37.32 Kgs). Thus in Sindh lint cotton prices ranged from Rs.8200 to Rs 9100 per mound, while in the Punjab the cotton prices are said to have obtained from Rs.8400 to Rs.9000 per mound. During the current season, (August 2018/July 2019), Pakistan is expected to produce about 10.5 million bales cotton (155 Kgs) which will create a shortage. Domestic mills will have to import between 2 to 2.2 million bales of cotton. Mills off take this year is expected to range from 14.5 to 15 million bales.

International Cotton Situation

Global cotton area is expected to decrease by 2% to 33.4 million hectares in 2018-19 as compared to 34.13 million hectares in 2017-18. Based on lower area estimates, global production for 2018-19 is estimated to decline by 3.8% to 25.9 million tons as against 26.9 million tons in 2017-18. World cotton consumption is expected to increase by 2.6% to 27.6 million tons in 2018-19 as compared to 26.9 million tons in 2017-18. However, world exports and imports are projected to increase by 10% to 9.9 million tons in 2018-19. The world ending stocks are projected to decrease by 8.5% to 17.2 million tons in 2018-19.

3. Sugarcane

During the month of November of this year, the crop was at harvesting/crushing stage. In Punjab and Sindh harvesting of crop was in full swing and normal to above yield is expected. However, harvesting operation has been completed in KPK province.

Crushing of sugarcane has been started in the Sindh provinces by some millers. Government of Sindh has fixed the minimum support price of sugarcane @ Rs.182 per 40 Kg for crushing season 2018-19. Agriculture, Supply & Prices Department Sindh, has directed the Sugar Factories in the Province to pay quality premium to the cane growers at the end of the crushing season 2018-19 at the rate of fifty paisa per 40 Kg. (Mds), cane for each 0.1 percent (including fraction thereof to be calculated prorata) of excess sucrose recovery above 8.7 percent determined on overall sucrose recovery basis of each mill. Punjab government has approved release of Rs 2.90 billion for payment of dues to sugar mill owners and sugarcane rate has set at Rs. 180 per mound. Government of KPK also warned mill owner to start crushing of sugarcane immediately.

This season sugarcane crop has continuously faced stress crop conditions due to shortage of irrigation water and delay in crushing. Water shortage has resulted in below normal crop growth. Delayed payments and non-availability of support price during last year distressed sugarcane

¹ Reported by Business Recorder in their news as on December 07, 2018



growers resulting in reduced sugarcane area and shy investment of farmers for crop management this year.

4. Rice

According to Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), harvesting of rice crop has been completed in Punjab and KPK in November of this year. However, it is in progress in Sindh and normal to above yield is expected. Harvesting of late sown IRRI varieties was also in progress in Punjab and Sindh during the said month. Disease infestation was generally under control, however Brown Leaf Spot infestation was observed higher than last year.

Three years rice crop supply / demand statistics of the world and the country are given below:

Supply & Demand of Rice (million tons)						
Parameters	World			Pakistan		
	2016-17 est	2017-18 f'cast	2018-19 proj	2016-17 est	2017-18 f'cast	2018-19 proj
Opening Stocks	122.3	123.2	126.3	0.9	1.2	1.3
Production	486.9	489.9	490.4	6.8	7.3	6.8
Imports	47.7	48.2	48.8	0	0	0
Total Supply	609.2	613	616.7	7.6	8.5	8.1
Total Usage	486.1	486.8	492.3	2.9	3.1	3.2
Exports	47.7	48.2	48.8	3.5	4.1	3.9
Closing Stocks	123.2	126.3	124.4	1.2	1.3	1.1

Source: International Grain Council (IGC)

5. Maize

Maize crop has been harvested and is at storage stage. According to PMD, during the month of November, harvesting of the crop has been completed in Punjab and KPK provinces and good yield is reported. Farmers are advised to dry the harvested cobs of Maize and store seeds, when moisture level reached up to 10 percent. However, sowing for spring Maize cultivation has also been started in the Barani Areas of Rawalpindi.

6. Minor Crops

- According to Crop Reporting Department, Punjab, harvesting of Ground nut has been complete and now at marketing stage. Area under cultivation has been increased due to occurrence of sufficient rainfall in all producing areas of the country i.e. Chakwal, Rawalpindi, Jhelum and Attock from last year.
- Castor oil is growing at flowering, stage and condition of the crop is reported satisfactory.
- Rape mastered is growing normally and is reported at germination stage in Sindh.
- Sesame and sunflower is in progress and normal to above normal yield is expected.
- Harvesting of Sorghum crop in west Sindh has started.
- Sowing of lentil crop is in progress in Punjab.



- Sowing of Gram and oil seeds has been completed and its germination is reported satisfactory in Punjab.
- The Met Office has asked the farmers to follow harvesting peanut crop after plucking cotton and plow the field properly.
- Due to severe drought conditions in Thar, low millet production is expected.
- Harvesting of Sorghum crop in west Sindh has started.

7. Horticulture

Crop Conditions

Fruits

- The growth of citrus orchards is reported satisfactory and good yield is expected this year in Punjab.
- Seasonal fruits like Guava, banana are in good condition, Cheeko is in flowering stage and stone apple is at fruit formation stage in Sindh Province.
- In Baluchistan, all varieties of apples have developed colour and picking of the fruit is in progress.

Kinnow

- According to Citrus Research Institute, Sargodha Kinnow is near to maturity and will be available in Market in February of upcoming year. According to Punjab Agri. Department, production of Kinnow in Pakistan is more than 80 percent among all citrus fruits. Currently, it is being produced 2.33 million tons by cultivated more than 200 thousand acres.
- Only 9 to 10 percent foreign exchange earnings are being obtained through exports of citrus fruits. However, this group has huge potential in international markets, which may be increased through induction of latest scientific techniques and practices in harvesting operations.

Vegetables

- Harvesting of winter vegetables including potato is in progress in Punjab. However, it is now available in Market in Sindh, KPK and Baluchistan.
- Harvesting of okra is ongoing in Sindh. Agricultural experts have suggested farmers to take preventive measures to save the crop from pest attack.
- Harvesting of tomato has been completed in most parts of KP and Punjab.



Area and Production of Fruits and Vegetables, 2016-17

Commodity	Area in 000 acres	Production in 000 tons	Yield in Mound /acre
Apple	235.40	669.91	71.15
Banana	72.15	134.90	46.74
Guava		547.65	79.47
Mango	418.81	1,784.09	106.5
Tomato	60.5	569.00	95.15
Onion	340.76	1,833.30	134.5
Chili	63.9	143	22.6
Gram	971.1	330	3.43
Potato	177.7	3,831.7	218.15

Source: *Agri. Marketing Information System, Punjab*

Marketing of Horticultural Crops

Onion

Onion is cultivated in all provinces of the country and is available in local markets. During the year 2017-18 it was cultivated on an area of 149 thousand hectares and reported 1,910 thousand tons production in the country. Currently onion is available in local markets, which is supplied from Sindh Province. While, major Onion producing areas of the country and their marketing time is given below:

Province	Producing Areas	Marketing Time
Punjab	Rajanpur, Khanywal, Lodhran, Bahawalpur, Multan, Bhakar	March to July
Sindh	Mirpur Khas, Umer Kot, Jamshoro, Matiari, Sanghar, Shaheed Benazirabad	June July and November to April
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Sawat, Dir Upper, Malakand, Memand Agency, Bajorr, and Kyber	June to September
Balochistan	Khuzdar, Naseerabad, Awaran, Kharan, Noshki, Lasbela	June to November



Potato

Potato is also grown in all provinces of the country. During the year 2017-18 it was cultivated on an area of 186.9 thousand hectares and reported 4,446.5 thousand tons production in the country. A new crop has been produced in the Punjab province and is being supplied to local market of the country. While, major potato producing areas of the country and their marketing time are given below:

Province	Producing Areas	Marketing Time
Punjab	Okara, Pakpattan, Sahiwal, Qasoor, T.T Singh and Khanewal etc.	November to June
Sindh	Khairpur, Nowshera Feroz, Dadu, Shikarpur, Ghotki, Sakhar, S. Benizabad	December to January
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Chitral, Nowshehra, Bajore, Manshehra, Mardan and Abbottabad	July to November
Balochistan	Qilla Saifullah, Qallat, Pashin, Ziarat, Harnai and Barkhan	Mid August to October

Tomato

Tomato is supplied from Sindh Province in this month after harvesting of fresh crop. During the year 2017-18 it was cultivated on an area of 63.7 thousand hectares and reported 675.3 thousand tons production in the country.

Province	Producing Areas	Marketing Time
Punjab	Sheikhupura, Khushab, Muzaffar garh, R.Y.Khan, Gujranwala, Khanewal and Bahawalpur etc.	April to June
Sindh	Thatta, Badin, M.P.Khas, T.M. Khan, Karachi and Umer Kot,	December to April
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Sawat, Charsadda, Mallakand, D.I.Khan, Tank Memand Agency and Dir	June to November
Balochistan	Barkhan, Qilla Saifullah, Naseerabad, Jaffarabad and Qallat	Last June to Mid November



Red Chilli

Province	Producing Areas	Marketing Time
Punjab	Multan, Lodhran, Pakpattan, R.Y.Khan, Khanewal, Weharri and Bahawalpur	May to August
Sindh	Umer Kot, Badin, Mirpur Khas Thatta, Tharparkar, Jamshoro and Sangharr	September to November and February to April

AVERAGE MONTHLY PRICES OF AGRI COMMODITIES

Description	Unit	Average Price in PKR	
		November 18	October 18
Apple	1kg	120	110
Citrus (Fruiter)	1 dozen	50	----
Bananas	Dozen	62	62.16
Pulse Masoor, Washed	1kg	116	115
Pulse Moong Washed	1kg	118	115
Pulse Mash Washed	1kg	144	141
Pulse Gram Washed	1kg	120	119
Potatoes	1kg	35	32
Onion	1kg	33	35
Tomatoes	1kg	40	70
Garlic	1kg	131	127

Source: *Pakistan Bureau of Statistics*



Domestic Commodity Prices

Domestic Commodity Prices (in Rupees)						Percentage change over		
Items	Unit	7-Dec-17	8-Nov-18	29-Nov-18	6-Dec-18	Previous week	Previous month	Previous year
Weekly SPI Index (Combined)		224.89	237.70	239.25	237.94	-0.5	0.1	5.8
Wheat	10 Kg	339.85	348.46	348.46	349.34	0.3	0.3	2.8
Wheat Flour Bag Avg. Qlt.	10 Kg	388.42	393.89	394.71	394.22	-0.1	0.1	1.5
Rice Basmati Broken	Kg	70.68	77.38	78.22	78.10	-0.2	0.9	10.5
Rice Irri-6/9	Kg	51.20	54.39	54.54	54.44	-0.2	0.1	6.3
Mash Pulse Washed	Kg	162.05	142.07	147.09	149.40	1.6	5.2	-7.8
Gram Pulse Washed	Kg	118.37	118.93	120.91	122.68	1.5	3.2	3.6
Beef	Kg	343.81	382.51	383.34	383.34	0.0	0.2	11.5
Mutton	Kg	729.27	800.20	804.61	804.61	0.0	0.6	10.3
Chicken Live (Farm)	Kg	139.19	176.29	208.13	183.14	-12.0	3.9	31.6
Egg Hen (Farm)	Doz	128.51	122.28	118.41	117.79	-0.5	-3.7	-8.3
Sugar	Kg	53.97	54.81	55.04	55.28	0.4	0.9	2.4
Gur	Kg	83.59	85.19	84.18	84.33	0.2	-1.0	0.9
Milk Fresh	Ltr	82.50	85.51	85.51	85.51	0.0	0.0	3.6
Veg. Ghee (Tin)	2.5 Kg	462.94	478.47	484.76	487.41	0.5	1.9	5.3
Cooking Oil (Tin)	2.5 Ltr	469.71	486.06	500.06	504.76	0.9	3.8	7.5
Urea Sona	50 Kg bag	1403.0	1759.0	1763.00	1771.0	0.5	0.7	26.2
		0	0	0	0			
DAP	50 Kg bag	2875.0	3588.0	3575.00	3563.0	-0.3	-0.7	23.9
		0	0	0	0			
Cotton [@]	Maund (37.32 Kg)	6745.0	8960.0	8810.00	8960.0	1.7	0.0	32.8
		0	0	0	0			

Source:

Pakistan Bureau of Statistics
Business Recorder (www.brecorder.com)



IMPORT & EXPORT SITUATION

Exports of Agri Commodities 2017-18

Commodity	Exports	
	Qty in 000 tons	Amount in Million Rs.
Fruits		
Citrus/Kinno	174.624	7518.568
Apple Fresh	0.207	12.878
Bananas	44.608	1747.214
Guava	0.18	8.754
Apricot	0.152	15.35
Vegetables		
Potato	570.262	11,807.349
Onion	132.78	4185.684
Tomato	16.858	675.627
Garlic	0.485	93.298
Red Chilli	3.268	542.732

Imports of Agri Commodities 2017-18

Commodity	Imports	
	Qty in 000 tons	Amount in Million Rs.
Fruits		
Grapes	100.680	6121.545
Apple Fresh	69.842	3568.459
Pomegranate	15.310	1761.891
Apricot Fresh	13.2	1038.176
Water Melon	11.678	419.372
Vegetables		
Potato	0.151	2.947
Onion	77.994	2.947
Tomato	55.176	3,018.536
Garlic	46.245	6848.211
Ginger	90.570	8392.717

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, Trade Development Authority

- During the period from July-June, 2017-18, 710,221 metric tons of fruits (over all) worth US\$ 400.237 million were exported as compared to 645,661 metric tons valuing US\$ 380.904 million of same period of last year, according the data of Pakistan Bureau of Statistics. Meanwhile, 875,269 metric tons of vegetables (overall) worth US\$ 241.426 million exported as against the 632,246 metric tons valuing US\$ 184.916 million of same period of last year, showing an increase of 30.56 percent.
- Pakistan's seafood export, which has already scaled back by 11.31 percent this fiscal year, is now feared to drop further up to 80 percent if the Balochistan government continues its ban on hunt by the Sindh's fishing boats within its 12 nautical miles seawaters. The country hardly fetched \$67.156 million in July-Oct 2018-19 comparing to the seafood export of



\$75.723 million in July-Oct 2017-18 that shows \$8.567 million fall in the four months of the current fiscal year is likely to go further down.

- All Pakistan Fruit & Vegetable Exporters, Importers & Merchants Association (PFVA) has announced to cut Kinnow export target by 13 percent for this season due to high cost of production and hard competition in the international market. The export of Kinnow is due to start from 1st December 2018 and PFVA has set Kinnow export target of 325,000 tons for 2018-19 by reducing 50,000 tons compared to the last year 2017-18.
- A meeting of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) of the Cabinet has allowed export of 0.5 million tons of wheat both by provincial governments and Pakistan Agricultural Storage and Services Corporation (PASSCO). An official said that Ministry of National Food Security and Research had proposed export of 3.1 million tones of surplus wheat with a subsidy of \$105 per tones but the ECC allowed export of 0.5 million tones.

WEATHER OUTLOOK

Past Trends

- Light rainfall reported from few of the agricultural plains of Punjab, K.P, G.B and Kashmir; however dry weather was reported from rest parts of the country during the last mid of December.
- Mean values of some weather parameters are observed given below:

Province	Maximum Temperature (°C)	Minimum Temperature (°C)	Wind Speed (km/hr)	Relative Humidity (%)
	Dropped below Normal			
Punjab	1	2	1.5	64
Sindh	0.7	0.8	3.0	58
Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	0.6	0.1	3.3	69
Balochistan	0.3	--	2.4	44
Gilgit Baltistan	0.2	1.4	1.7	59



Future Outlook

- Rain-thunderstorm with snowfall over the hills is expected at scattered places in upper Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, Rawalpindi division, Islamabad, Gilgit-Baltistan, Kashmir and isolated places in upper Punjab and north Balochistan while cold and dry weather is expected elsewhere in the country.
- Dense/Shallow foggy conditions are likely to continue in plains of Punjab, upper Sindh and Peshawar division during morning/night hours. Cold and dry weather is expected in most parts, while very cold weather in northern parts of the country. Frost is also expected in upper parts of the country during morning hours.
- Normal wind pattern may prevail in most of the agricultural plains of the country during the month of December; however dust/sand storms may occur in southern Punjab and Sindh.
- Keeping in view the expected weather conditions following advises are suggested for farming community.
 - a) Fog may be increased in the central parts of the country due to dry weather.
 - b) Farmers are advised to schedule the irrigation plans of ongoing Rabi crops.
 - c) Removing weeds from the standing crops is very important as weeds utilize moisture and food which are to be utilized by the crop. As a result considerable loss in yield occurs every year.
 - d) Measures may be taken to preserve the crops/nurseries from the damaging impacts of extreme weather conditions.

Source: <http://nwfc.pmd.gov.pk>

DROUGHT SITUATION

During the last week of December, drought conditions will remain same in the country as recorded in previous week. According to weather conditions, severe drought conditions prevailed in most districts of Sindh (Badin, Dadu, Hyderabad, Jacobabad, Jamshoro, Karachi, Khairpur, Larkana, Mityari, Mohen-jo-daro, Naushero Feroz, and others) and Balochistan province (Awaran, Bolan, Chaghi, Gawadar, Noushki, Mastung, Panjgur and others). Whereas, normal conditions prevailed in the northern half of the country.

Source: <http://www.ndmc.pmd.gov.pk/index.htm>



WATER SITUATION

Rivers and Barrages Inflow & Outflow as on 26.12.2018

In cusec

River	Mean Inflow/ U/S Discharge	Mean Outflow/ D/S Discharge
Indus at Tarbela	16,000	10,000
Kabul Inflow at Nowshera	4340	----
Jehlum at Mangla	6,791	5,000
Chenab at Mrala	6252	6252

In cusec

Barrages	Mean Inflow/ U/S Discharge	Mean Outflow/ D/S Discharge
Jinnah	28,000	24,500
Chashma	22,600	13,000
Taunsa	24,091	23,791
Kalabagh	26,527	23027
Panjnad	2,317	----
Guddu	26,532	24,992
Sukkur	17,750	---
Kotri	1,325	---

Source:

- Indus River System Authority (IRSA)
- Water Development and Power Development Authority



FERTILIZER OFFTAKE SITUATION

The issue of availability of DAP and urea was discussed during the last meeting of the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC). The availability of DAP during Rabi 2018-19 is estimated around 1,457,000 tonnes, which comprises 729,000 tones of opening inventory, 378,000 tonnes domestic production and 350,000 tonnes of imported supplies. The expected off-take of DAP is about 1,405,000 tonnes. DAP is a de-regulated item and its availability depends on import by the private sector.

The ECC was also informed that DAP fertilizer prices are directly linked with international prices. International prices during September were in the range of US \$420-425/tonne FoB bulk in Australia and US \$413-417/tonne FoB in China. Price of DAP fertilizer has been reported at Rs 3,581 per bag in the local market.

Economic Coordination Committee in its meeting held on November 7, 2018 had approved operationalisation of two fertilizer plants, ie, M/s Fatima fertilizer and M/s Agritech for a further period of two months, ie, December 2018 and January 2019. Average Fertilizer rates in Sindh and Punjab during 2nd week of December were as follows;

Product	Average Rate per 50 kg
DAP	3,505.00
MOP	1,835.00
NP	2,905.00
NPK	2,660.00
SOP	3,805.00
SSP	1,210.00
Urea	1,737.50
Ammonium Nitrate	1,605.00
DAP	3,505.00

Source: <http://par.com.pk/>

NEWS & TRENDS

- Khushali Microfinance Bank and IFC, a member of the World Bank Group, have agreed to enter into an advisory engagement to support the development of an agri-digital scorecard to accelerate financial inclusion and access to finance for low-income farmers in Pakistan. This collaboration embodies the commitment from both institutions to support small landholders that are not in the radar of conventional banking ecosystem, thus facilitating



the creation of a more resilient farming segment across the breadth of the country. This collaboration will leverage IFC's global experience in developing such scorecards in various geographies across Latin America, Africa and Asia. Notably, the project will benefit from IFC's most recent experiences in China where IFC's engagements have successfully ramped up outreach through large-scale institutions such as Bank of Lang fang and Postal savings Bank of China. In addition, the project will leverage Khushhali Microfinance Bank's recently upgraded technology platform, T-24, which, with its optimal capabilities is amongst the best in the world.

- The Rice Export Association of Pakistan (REAP) in collaboration with Eurofins Global Control, an international inspection company offering supply chain control solutions to achieve product quality and safety from the origin to the consumer, arranged an awareness session for the Basmati Rice exporters regarding changes being made in import inspection laws by the European Union (EU). Managing Director Eurofins Thomas Unger gave a detailed briefing to the exports about upcoming changes in laws by the EU in food sector with special emphasis on rice. He said rice was one of the biggest components of EU imports from Pakistan.
- Provincial Agriculture Department has formulated a well-knitted plan for enhancing the per acre wheat yield and to introduce new methods of wheat sowing in the Punjab. Over 1.60 crore acres of land would be brought under wheat crop during Rabi crop season in wheat growing parts of the Punjab. In order to attain the fixed target of wheat crop, the Agriculture department has finalized necessary arrangements in the Province. Under the plan the agriculture department will take necessary steps for creating awareness among the growers about the new technique "Bed Planting" across the Punjab. The sowing of wheat on beds will help in saving the irrigation water 30 to 50 percent while supportive in enhancing wheat production as well as protect the wheat crop from rain and winds. The Agriculture Department would provide full assistance and guidance to the wheat growers for adopting the new technique of bed planting for attaining better output of the crop and enhancing the wheat crop acreage in the Province. Under the programme special attention will be accorded on bringing maximum land under wheat crop for attaining yielding results.
- Punjab government has formulated a well-knitted plan for the promotion of sunflower and other oil seed crops in the province. Under the programme sunflower would be cultivate on more than 2.1 lakh acres of land in different areas of the Province. The cultivation of sunflower crop could play a vital role in enhancing the production of edible oil because the sunflower seeds had 40 percent oil capacity as compare to other oil seed crops.
- The Government of Punjab in collaboration with FAO United Nations and World Bank jointly organized a stakeholders' conference titled "Punjab Wheat Sector Stakeholder's Conference" under the World Bank's financed "Strengthening Markets for Agriculture and Rural Transformation (SMART) program. In the conference, Punjab Food Department, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and World Bank brought



together stakeholders from the wheat sector to discuss how the sector could best move forward to serve the interests of all stakeholders.

- Xinjiang Agriculture University China and University of Agriculture Faisalabad have agreed to work jointly on the projects of heat tolerant cotton and wheat varieties. It was agreed to identify the genes for heat tolerant and breeding of the new varieties.

زرعی سفارشات برائے کسان

گندم

- ☆ پہلی آبپاشی کے بعد کھیت وتر حالت میں آجائے تو دوہری بارہیرو چلائیں۔
- ☆ جڑی بوٹیاں گندم کی پیداوار کو 50 فیصد تک کم کر سکتی ہیں اور فصل میں دیگر وسائل کے ضیاع کا بھی باعث بنتی ہیں۔
- ☆ گندم کو ایک پوری پوری یا فی ایکڑ پہلے پانی کے ساتھ ڈالیں۔ ریتلی زمینوں میں پہلا پانی لگانے کے بعد نائٹروجنی کھاد کا استعمال کریں۔
- ☆ پختہ کاشت کے لیے شرح بیج (منظور شدہ 50 تا 60 کلوگرام) فی ایکڑ اضافہ کے ساتھ استعمال کیا جائے تاکہ پیداوار میں خاطر خواہ کمی نہ ہو پائے۔
- ☆ کپاس، بکئی اور کماڈ کے بعد کاشت کی گئی گندم کو پہلا پانی کاشت کے 20 تا 25 دن بعد اور دھان کے بعد کاشت کی گئی فصل کو 35 تا 45 دن بعد پانی لگائیں۔

کماڈ

- ☆ فصل کی کٹائی سے 25 سے 30 دن قبل پانی دنیا بند کر دیں۔
- ☆ فصل کی کٹائی جاری رکھیں اور سطح زمین سے آدھا تا ایک انچ اوپر تک کریں۔
- ☆ فصل کی کٹائی شوگر ملز کی طرف سے پرمت / اجازت نامہ ملنے کی صورت میں کریں کٹائی کے بعد زیادہ دیر فصل رکھنے کی صورت میں وزن میں کمی واقع ہو سکتی ہے۔
- ☆ کورا پڑنے کی صورت میں فصل کو ہلکا پانی لگائیں۔

روغن دار اجناس

- ☆ سرسوں، توریہ، رابا اور کینولہ کی اقسام پر اگر جیلہ یا لشکری سنڈی وغیرہ کا حملہ نظر آئے تو محکمہ زراعت کے زرعی ماہرین سے مشورہ کر کے کیائی ادویات کا سپرے کریں۔
- ☆ سورج مکھی کی کاشت کے لیے بھاری میرا زمین کا انتخاب کریں۔ کلرٹھی اور بہت ریتلی زمین اس کی کاشت کے لیے موزوں نہیں ہے۔
- ☆ اچھے آگاؤ کے لیے صاف ستھرے دوغلی اقسام کے بیج 2 کلوگرام فی ایکڑ استعمال کریں۔

دائیں

☆ چنے کی فصل کا باقاعدگی سے معائنہ رکھا جائے اگر فصل میں ٹوکے کا حملہ نظر آئے تو محکمہ زراعت کے سفارش کردہ زہروں کا سپرے کریں۔

☆ مسورا اور چنے کی فصل پر مختلف بیماریاں حملہ آور ہوتی ہیں۔ جن میں مرجھاؤ، جھلساؤ، کنگلی، مسور کی پھپھوندی زیادہ اہم ہیں۔ اس کے علاوہ ان پر دیریک، ٹوکا، چور کینڑا، رس چوسنے والے کیڑے مثلاً ست تیلہ، سفید مکھی، تھرپس، لشکری سنڈی کا بھی حملہ ہو سکتا ہے۔

چارہ جات

☆ برسیم کی کاشت بھی جلد از جلد مکمل کر لیں اور شرح بیج 8 کلوگرام فی ایکڑ رکھیں۔

☆ بوقت کاشت ڈبڑھ بوری ڈے اے پی فی ایکڑ استعمال کریں۔ اگر بوائی بذریعہ جھڑ اور کھڑے پانی میں کی گئی ہو تو پہلا پانی بوائی کے 7 دن بعد دینا چاہیے تاکہ گاؤ اچھا ہو۔

☆ لوسرن کی فصل کو پہلا پانی بوائی کے 3 ہفتہ بعد اور پھر حسب ضرورت دیں۔

☆ برسیم کے بیج کو بوائی سے پہلے جراثیمی ٹیکہ لگائیں یا پچھلے سال والے برسیم کے کھیت سے 80 کلوگرام مشید جراثیم والی مٹی لاکر فی ایکڑ کے کھیت میں کس کریں۔

سبزیات و باغات

☆ چھوٹی اور نازک سبزیوں کو سردی اور کورے سے بچانے کے لیے پلاسٹک شیٹ کا استعمال کریں۔

☆ آلو کی فصل کا معائنہ کرتے رہیں۔ بیماری یا کیڑے کی صورت میں محکمہ زراعت کے عملے سے مشورہ کریں۔

☆ چھوٹے پلاٹوں میں ایسی سبزیات کاشت کی جائیں جو کافی دیر تک پیداوار دیں مثلاً پالک، دھنیا، پیٹھی وغیرہ جبکہ 3 سے 5 مرلہ کے پلاٹ میں ان سبزیوں کے علاوہ گوبھی، ٹماٹر، گاجر، شلجم، مولیٰ وغیرہ لگائیں جاسکتی ہیں۔

☆ باغات کو کورے سے بچائیں۔ کورے اور سردی سے بچاؤ کے لیے چھوٹے پودوں کو کسی شیٹ سے ڈھانپ دیں اور پانی لگائیں۔

☆ رات کے وقت باغ یا نرسری میں دھونی دیتے رہیں اور تر شاہہ پھل کی برداشت جاری رکھیں۔

Source: Zaraf nama, Government of Punjab (Farmers' Advisory)

Fauji Fertilizer Company Limited (Farmers' Advisory Service)

پلاننگ اینڈ ریسرچ ڈیپارٹمنٹ

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