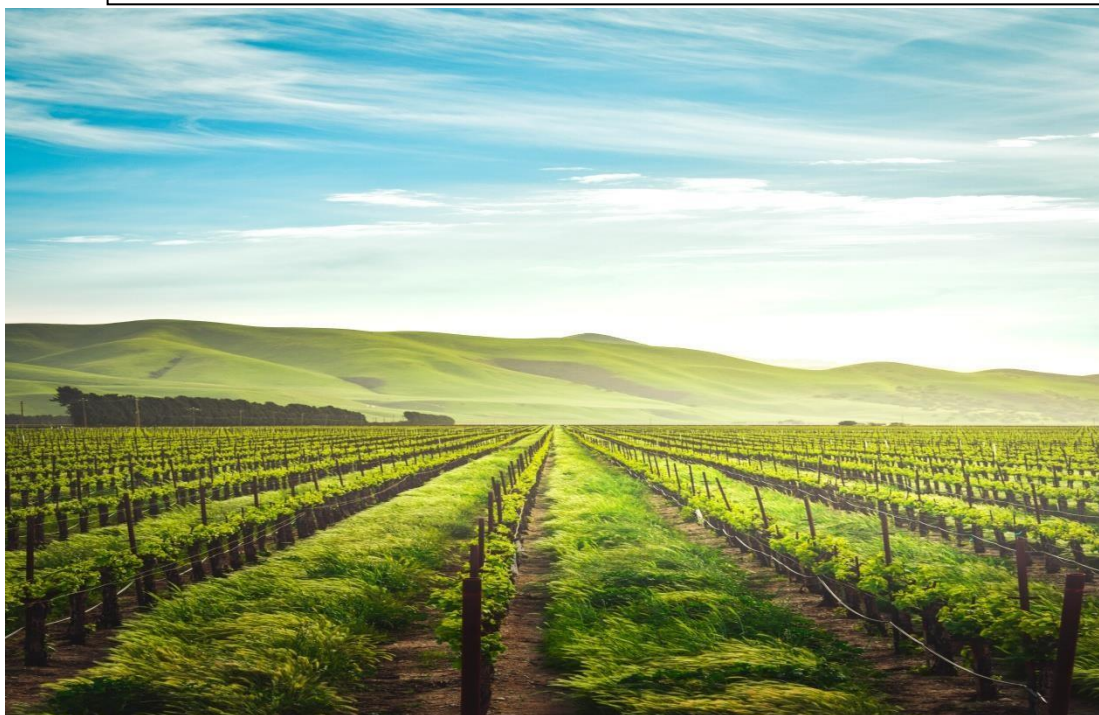


# AGRICULTURE OUTLOOK

Volume VIII, ISSUE 4, 2023



**PLANNING & RESEARCH DEPARTMENT  
ZARAI TARAQIATI BANK LIMITED,  
HEAD OFFICE, ISLAMABAD**





<b>S.No</b>	<b>CONTENT</b>	<b>Page</b>
1	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
2	CURRENT CROP SITUATION	4
2.1	Wheat	4
2.2	Oilseed Gram, and Lentils:	4
2.3	Horticulture	4
3	WEATHER SITUATION	5
4	DROUGHT SITUATION	6
5	WATER AVAILABILITY/ DAMS FLOW DATA	6
6	AVERAGE PRICES OF AGRI. COMMODITIES	7
7	TRADE SITUATION	9
8	FERTILIZER OFFTAKE SITUATION	11
9	NEWS TRENDS	12
10	AGRO ADVISORY SERVICES	13



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In Punjab, the growth and development of Wheat crop has reported satisfactory. . In Sindh, Wheat crop has been harvested in most parts and good yield has been reported so far. In KP, Recent rains have improved the moisture conditions for the crops. In Balochistan wheat crop condition is satisfactory but farmers were advised to aware from weather conditions before harvesting of wheat crop. Growth and development of gram crop has been reported satisfactory. Gram crop is at harvesting stage. Chickpea and mustard remained in progress in particular regions. In Balochistan, Yield of winter vegetables are reported well and these are available in the market. In GB, The agricultural activities remained suspended due to extreme cold conditions in most parts of the region. However, in the lower belt including the Gilgit region, the farmers have been resuming their activities in terms of vegetables and seasonal fruits.

Weather Situation reported by Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD), During the month of March 2023, Light, moderate and Heavy rainfall receives across the country where as Gilgit Baltistan, Upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and some areas of Sindh province received very less or no rainfall during the month.

As per estimates of Pakistan Bureau of Statistics (PBS) during the month of Feb 2023 prices of most of Agri. commodities were increased over March, 2022.

According to Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, exports from Pakistan during February, 2023 amounted to Rs.584,156 million (provisional) as against Rs.525,461 million in January, 2023 and Rs.497,273 million during February, 2022 showing an increase of 11.17% over January, 2023 and by 17.47% over February, 2022. Imports into Pakistan during February, 2023 amounted to Rs. 1,075,784 million (provisional) as against Rs. 1,141,525 million in January, 2023 and Rs. 1,027,152 million during February, 2022 showing a decrease of 5.76% over January, 2023 but an increase of 4.73% over February, 2022.

According to the National Fertilizer Development Center (NDFC) Total nutrient offtake during February 2023 was about 359 thousand tonnes, showing an increase of 7.7 per cent over February 2022. Total production of all fertilizer products during February 2023 was 544 thousand tonnes. Imported supply was only 1.0 thousand tonnes.



## **CURRENT CROP SITUATION**

### **1. Wheat Crop**

In Punjab, The growth and development of Wheat crop has reported satisfactory. Also, recent rains have improved the moisture conditions for crops especially wheat in the rainfed belt. However, damages caused at particular locations due to hails/gusty winds. Overall, wheat crop is reported at maturity stage in most parts. In Sindh, Wheat crop has been harvested in most parts and good yield has been reported so far. However some losses has been reported to standing wheat crop because of hail and extensive rainfall. The crop has been entered into full maturity. In KP, Recent rains have improved the moisture conditions for the crops. In Balochistan wheat crop condition is satisfactory but farmers were advised to aware from weather conditions before harvesting of wheat crop.

### **2. Oilseed Gram, and Lentils**

In Punjab and KP, Growth and development of gram crop has been reported satisfactory. Gram crop is at harvesting stage. Chickpea and mustard remained in progress in particular regions. Pulses including masoor have been growing with normal pace. In Sindh, Condition of oil seed crops is reported as satisfactory. Rape mustard has also been harvested in most parts. Safflower and linseed etc have approaching their maturity stages, while sunflower is near vegetative stage. In KP, The growth of oil seed crops including newly introduced biofuel crop Jatropha is reported satisfactory.

### **3. Horticulture**

- In Punjab Harvesting/picking of winter vegetables and fruit is in progress and good yield has obtained this year.
- In Sindh, Growth and production of seasonal fruits like guava, banana, cheeko and apple stone (Bare) is reported satisfactory.
- In Sindh Sowing of spring/summer vegetables is in progress in most parts.
- In KP Sowing/land preparation for summer vegetables has started.
- In KP Picking and marketing of winter vegetables is in progress. Growth of orchid is satisfactory and good yield of citrus has been reported.
- In Balochistan Condition of standing crops and orchards is reported satisfactory. Most varieties of apples have completed their maturity stages and picking of the fruit is in progress.
- In Balochistan, Yield of winter vegetables are reported well and these are available in the market.
- In GB, The agricultural activities remained suspended due to extreme cold conditions in most parts of the region. However, in the lower belt including the Gilgit region, the farmers have been resuming their activities in terms of vegetables and seasonal fruits.



Source:

Directorate of Agricultural information Punjab, Sindh, KP

Department of Agricultural Extension Balochistan

Agriculture Bulletins, Pakistan Metrological Department

Monthly Agromet Bulletin, National Agromet Centre, Pakistan Meteorological Department

## WEATHER SITUATION

### Rainfall/Precipitation:

During the month of March 2023, Light, moderate and Heavy rainfall receives across the country where as Gilgit Baltistan, Upper Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and some areas of Sindh province received very less or no rainfall during the month. The chief amounts of monthly rainfall recorded across Pakistan during March 2023 are shown in Table given below:

#### Chief amount of rainfall recorded across Pakistan during the month of March, 2023.

Sr.No.	Station	Rainfall(mm)	Sr.No.	Station	Rainfall(mm)
1	Tirah-Khyber	190	11	Islamabad, zero point	102.34
2	Ziarat	178.8	12	Bannu	102.02
3	Parachinar	142	13	Ghalanai-Mohmand District	98.4
4	Fort Munro	136.8	14	Bhakkar	97.34
5	Barkhan	131	15	Zain Sanghar Nullah	96
6	Malamjabba	130	16	Rawalakot	94.31
7	Zhob	122	17	Kakul	94.02
8	Golra	108	18	Vehova-Taunsa	93.6
9	Layyah	107.91	19	W.S.R Mangla	93.4
10	Kot Addu	107.8	20	Gujranwala	91.23

### Relative Humidity during March 2023:

The mean daily Relative Humidity (R.H) remained normal to slightly above normal over most parts (selected locations) of the country particularly in lower Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Potohar region, Central & Southern Punjab and Quetta valley. Whereas, it remained below normal in Gilgit Baltistan. However, mixed trend has been observed at the selected locations of Sindh.

### Temperature Situation during March, 2023

Temperature plays a vital role in the growth and development of agricultural crops. Thermal regime particularly the night temperatures remained slightly above normal over most of the agricultural plains of the country.

The night time temperature remained above normal (at selected locations) with maximum departure up to 2.4°C in Punjab, 2.2°C in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 1.6°C in Gilgit Baltistan, 6.0°C in Sindh, 1.8°C in Quetta, 3.1°C in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. However, mixed trend was observed in Potohar region.



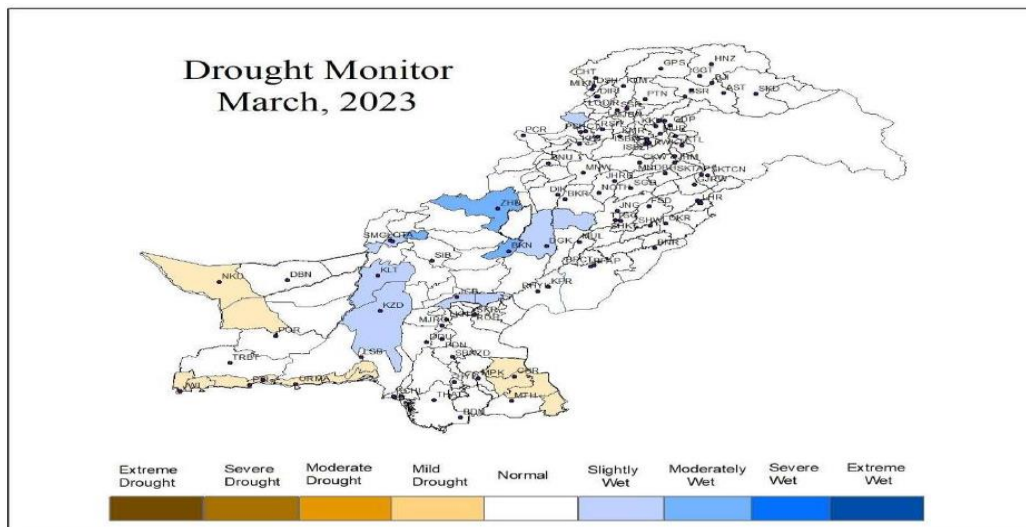
Mean monthly temperature (at selected locations) ranged between 20 to 22°C in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, 17 to 21°C in Potohar plateau, 21 to 24°C in remaining parts of Punjab, 25 to 26°C in agricultural plains of Sindh, 9 to 15°C in Gilgit-Baltistan region and it was observed 13.3°C in the high elevated agricultural plains of Baluchistan represented by Quetta valley.

### Weather Prediction during April, 2023

In April, generally heating starts over the subcontinent due to increasing solar angle and the sunshine over the equator during last decade of the month. Heating trend triggers energetic weather systems, which resulted in increasing number of dust / wind storms and precipitation events. March marks substantial addition to Rabi season precipitation and rising temperatures contribute significantly in photosynthesis process. Accordingly, rainfalls along with snow over the high mountains occur during this month. The particular areas of Northern-central Khyber Pakhtunkhwa along the adjoining areas of northern Punjab and western belt of Kashmir would receive considerable amount of precipitation.

### DROUGHT SITUATION

In Balochistan Province, Nokkundi, Kharan, Jiwani, Pasni, and Ormara areas while in Sindh Province Chorr, Khipro, Nagarparkar and Chacharo areas are under moisture stress and mild drought-like conditions have arisen while normal and wet like conditions are being observed in rest of the country as shown in the figure given below:

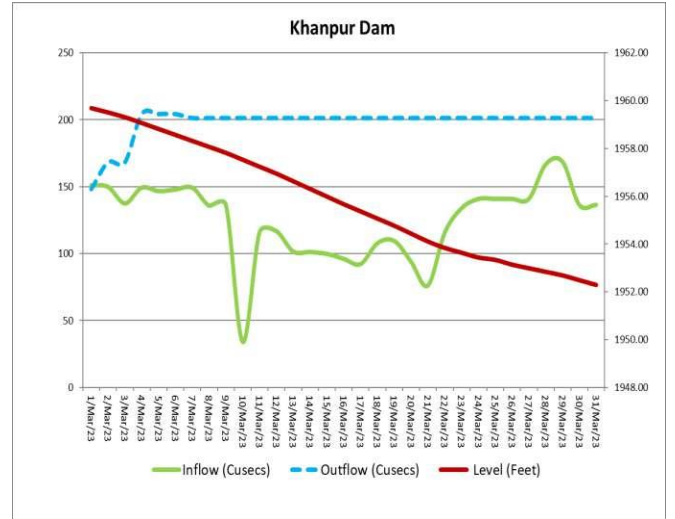
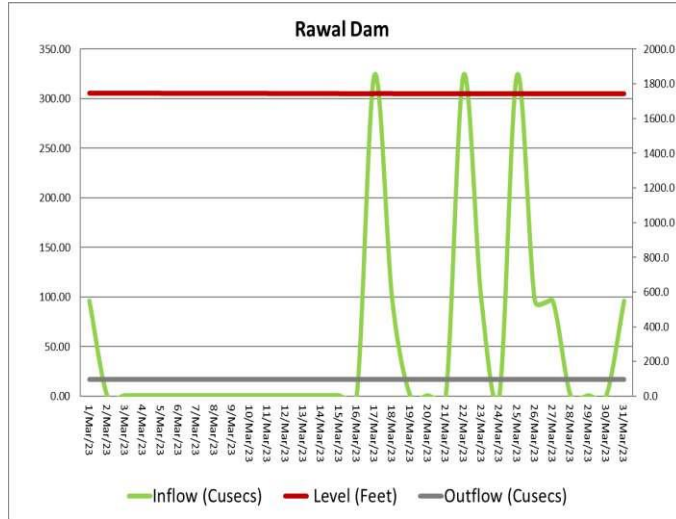


Source: <http://www.ndmc.pmd.gov.pk/>

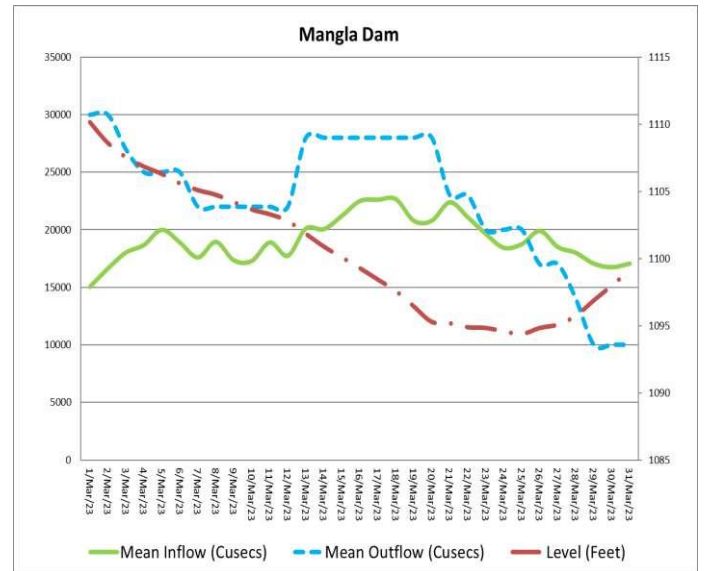
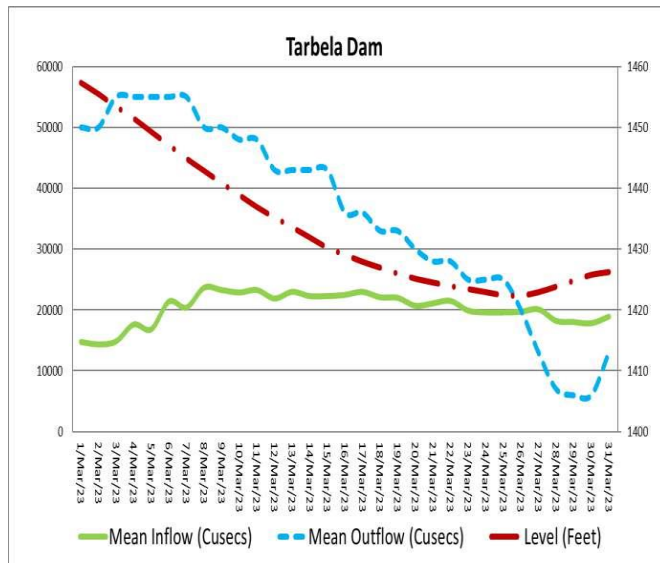
### WATER AVAILABILITY/DAMS FLOW DATA:

In the month of March 2023, water inflow, outflow and levels of the Rawal, Khanpur, Tarbela and Mangla dams are shown in Figs. given below. Level at other major reservoirs has dropped due to less or no rain in the catchment areas.

### Water inflow, outflow and level of Rawal and Khanpur dams:



### Water inflow, outflow and level of Tarbela and Mangla dams:



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

### AVERAGE PRICES OF AGRI. COMMODITIES:

During the month of Feb 2023 prices of most of Agri. commodities were increased over March, 2022. Among these products, Wheat, Rice, Bread, Beef Mutton, Chicken, Fresh Milk, Onion and





Sugar showed remarkable increase over the month of March 2022. Oppositely, commodities like Pulse Masoor and Pulse Moong, reported decrease over the month of March 2022. Detail is given below in table:

S. No.	Description	Unit	Average Prices			%change Mar 23 over	
			23-Mar	Feb 23	22-Mar	23-Feb	22-Mar
1	Wheat Flour Bag	20 Kg	2064.43	1699.73	1167.44	21.46	76.83
2	Rice Basmati Broken (Average Quality)	1 Kg	184.51	173.17	103	6.55	79.14
3	Rice IRRI-6/9 (Sindh/Punjab)	1 Kg	135.21	127.55	75.58	6.01	78.9
4	Bread plain (Small Size)	Each	101.11	99.26	65.08	1.86	55.36
5	Beef with Bone (Average Quality)	1 Kg	710.4	698.07	599.81	1.77	18.44
6	Mutton (Average Quality)	1 Kg	1489.14	1464.95	1226.69	1.65	21.39
7	Chicken Farm Broiler (Live)	1 Kg	395.45	428.77	287.58	-7.77	37.51
8	Milk fresh (Un-boiled)	1 Ltr	159.55	153.27	116.63	4.1	36.8
9	Curd (Dahi) Loose	1 Kg	185.21	178.09	134.37	4	37.84
10	Powdered Milk NIDO 390 gm	Each	681.7	667.29	519.91	2.16	31.12
11	Eggs Hen (Farm)	1 Dozen	245.1	282.46	135.57	-13.23	80.79
12	Mustard Oil (Average Quality)	1 Kg	589.72	581.05	438.75	1.49	34.41
13	Cooking Oil DALDA or Other Similar	Each	3313.57	2932.39	2258.19	13	46.74
14	Vegetable Ghee DALDA/HABIB 2.5 kg	Each	1549.22	1397.19	1137.54	10.88	36.19
15	Vegetable Ghee DALDA/HABIB or Ot	Each	614.95	565.11	451.17	8.82	36.3



16	Bananas (Kela) Local	1 Dozen	200.92	149.58	110.62	34.32	81.63
17	Pulse Masoor (Washed)	1 Kg	279.9	279.74	214.53	0.06	30.47
18	Pulse Moong (Washed)	1 Kg	282.91	280.62	166.09	0.82	70.34
19	Pulse Mash (Washed)	1 Kg	419.23	409.66	269.54	2.34	55.54
20	Pulse Gram	1 Kg	255.62	258.66	165.45	-1.18	54.5
21	Potatoes	1 Kg	52.48	43.49	36.63	20.67	43.27
22	Onions	1 Kg	134.16	204.64	40.19	-34.44	233.81
23	Tomatoes	1 Kg	64.76	49.99	85.58	29.55	-24.33
24	Sugar Refined	1 Kg	104.21	94.1	87.62	10.74	18.93
25	Gur (Average Quality)	1 Kg	145.55	139.46	134.69	4.37	8.06
26	Salt Powdered (NATIONAL/SHAN) 80	Each	51.05	49.37	33.94	3.4	50.41
27	Chilies Powder NATIONAL 200 gm Pa	Each	218.04	220.09	237.73	-0.93	-8.28
28	Garlic (Lehsun)	1 Kg	394.95	448.47	335.75	-11.93	17.63

Decrease in Prices 

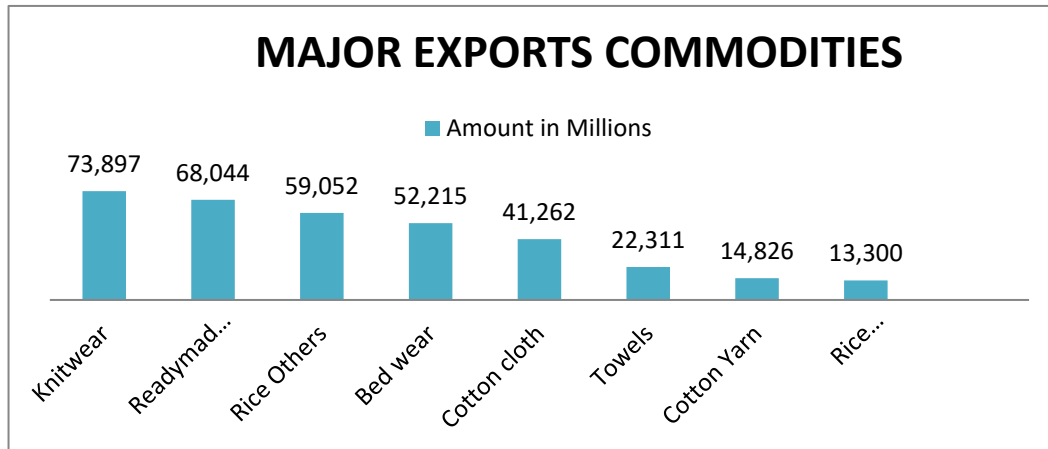
Increase in price 

## TRADE SITUATION

### Exports:

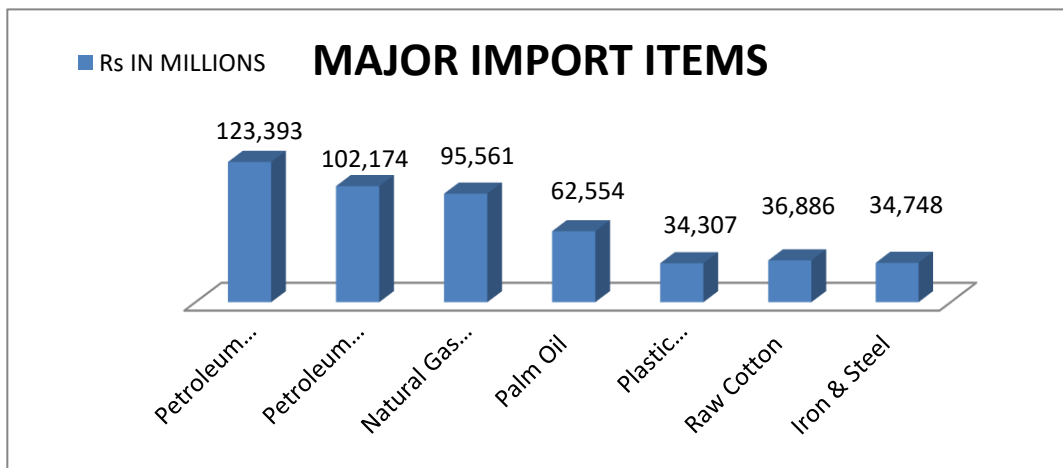
- According to the provisional figures compiled by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, exports from Pakistan during February, 2023 amounted to Rs.584,156 million (provisional) as against Rs.525,461 million in January, 2023 and Rs.497,273 million during February, 2022 showing an increase of 11.17% over January, 2023 and by 17.47% over February, 2022.
- In terms of US dollars the exports in February, 2023 were \$ 2,191 million (provisional) as compared to \$ 2,244 million in January, 2023 showing a decrease of 2.36% and by 22.69% as compared to \$ 2,834 million in February, 2022.
- Exports during July – February, 2022-2023 FY2022-23 totaled Rs. 4,287,510 million

(provisional) as against Rs.3,519,913 million during the corresponding period of last year showing an increase of 21.81%.



#### Imports:

- Imports into Pakistan during February, 2023 amounted to Rs. 1,075,784 million (provisional) as against Rs. 1,141,525 million in January, 2023 and Rs. 1,027,152 million during February, 2022 showing a decrease of 5.76% over January, 2023 but an increase of 4.73% over February, 2022.
- In terms of US dollars the imports in February, 2023 were \$ 4,034 million (provisional) as compared to \$ 4,875 million in January, 2023 showing a decrease of 17.25% and by 31.08% as compared to \$ 5,853 million in February, 2022.
- Imports during July – February, 2022-2023 FY2022-23 totaled Rs. 9,180,174 million (provisional) as against Rs. 8,966,515 million during the corresponding period of last year showing an increase of 2.38%.
- In terms of US dollars the imports during July – February, 2022-2023 FY2022-23 totaled \$ 40,118 million (provisional) as against \$ 52,452 million during the corresponding period of last year showing a decrease of 23.51%



Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics

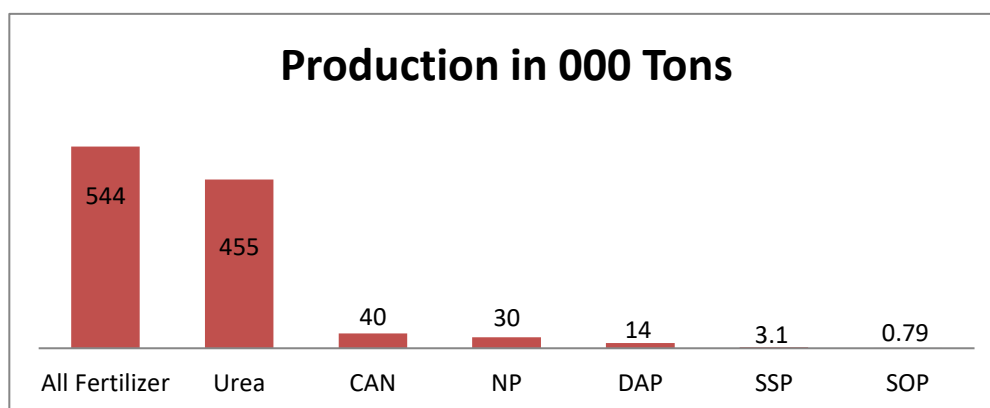


## FERTILIZER OFFTAKE SITUATION

- Total nutrient offtake during February 2023 was about 359 thousand tonnes, showing an increase of 7.7 per cent over February 2022.
- Phosphate and potash offtake increased by 62.8 and 54.4 per cent, respectively. While nitrogen offtake decreased by 1.2 per cent.
- Urea offtake during February, 2023 was 503 thousand tonnes, which decreased by 4.6 per cent as compared to February 2022.
- DAP offtake was 98 thousand tonnes, which increased by 76.3 per cent over February 2022.

## FERTILIZER PRODUCTION AND IMPORTED SUPPLIES

- Total production of all fertilizer products during February 2023 was 544 thousand tonnes.
- Out of this, urea production was 455 thousand tonnes which is 83.7 per cent of total production.
- Other products were DAP 14 thousand tonnes, CAN 40 thousand tonnes, Nitrophos 30 thousand tonnes, SSP 3.1 thousand tonnes and SOP 0.79 thousand tonnes. Imported supply was only 1.0 thousand tonnes of AS during February 2023.



Source: National Fertilizer Development Centre



## **NEWS TRENDS**

### **Balochistan sets wheat price at Rs4,000 per 40 kg:**

Following the directive of Balochistan Chief Minister, the support price of wheat in the province has been set at the same level as in other provinces.

Now, the support price of wheat has been fixed at a minimum of Rs4,000 per 40 kg. “The objective of this initiative is to increase the production of wheat by encouraging and providing financial support to farmers in the province,” said a statement. Earlier, Rs6 billion had been released for the food department for the purchase of wheat during the current fiscal year. The provincial finance department would release an additional Rs2 billion for the food department. Last year, the provincial government had provided free wheat seeds worth more than Rs2 billion to the farmers. Meanwhile, preparations for the timely purchase of wheat by the food department have been completed, the statement added. For the process, around 23 centres have been established in four zones, which will purchase wheat under the supervision of four deputy project directors and 23 in charges of centres. According to the statement, a notification for the appointment of project director will be issued by Sunday. Moreover, Section 144 will be enforced from April 1 till the completion of wheat procurement.

### **Pakistan, China scientists to combat citrus diseases**

Chinese and Pakistani scientists are collaborating to develop biological control measures to enhance the quality and quantity of citrus fruit in Pakistan. A research centre was launched by the two countries in 2018 to jointly explore green and sustainable solutions to the growing prevalence of citrus diseases across the South Asian nation.

Speaking to the China Economic Net, Professor Dr Qiu Baoli and Professor Dr Shaukat Ali, Director and Deputy Director of the China-Pakistan citrus pest management centre, said that while chemical measures could provide quick responses to citrus disease outbreaks, they also increased the resistance of pests against pesticides, posing grave environmental and health threats.

The researchers told CEN that the centre, initiated by South China Agricultural University and Sargodha University, had undertaken four strands of research work to produce environmentally friendly solutions.

### **Sources:**

- [www.brecorder.com/trends/agriculture](http://www.brecorder.com/trends/agriculture)
- The Express Tribune

## زرعی سفارشات برائے کسان

### دھان

- ☆ فصل کو 20 مئی سے پہلے ہرگز کاشت نہ کریں۔ تاکہ فصل کو تنے کی سنڈی کے حملے سے بچایا جاسکے۔
- ☆ نیبری کی کاشت کا وقت 20 مئی تا 7 جون برائے موٹی اقسام (اری)، 7 جون تا 25 جون برائے باستی اقسام اور 15 جون تا 30 جون برائے شاہین باستی ہے جبکہ ہائبرڈ اقسام کے لیے 20 مئی تا 15 جون ہے۔
- ☆ نیبری کو پانی کی موجودگی اور زمین کی ساخت کو مد نظر رکھتے ہوئے بذریعہ کدو، خشک اور راب کے طریقے سے کاشت کریں۔
- ☆ فصل کو بکائی اور پتوں کے بھورے دھبوں والی جیسی بیماریوں سے محفوظ رکھنے کے لیے بیج کو بوائی سے دو ہفتے پہلے پھپھوندی کش زہر تھائیوفینیٹ میتھائل 2 سے 2.5 گرام فی کلوگرام بیج لگائیں۔
- ☆ دھان کی منظور شدہ موٹی اقسام کے ایس 282، نیاب اری 9، اری 6، کے ایس 133، کے ایس 434 اور نیاب 2013 جبکہ باستی اقسام سپر باستی، باستی 515، شاہین باستی، پنجاب باستی، نیاب باستی 2016 اور نور باستی ہائبرڈ اقسام وائے 26، پرائیڈ-1، شہنشاہ 2، پی ایچ بی-71، آرائز سوئٹ اور فائن غیر باستی اقسام بی ایس 2 اور پی کے-386 کے بیج کا انتظام کریں۔

### کپاس

- ☆ مرکزی علاقہ جات میں فصل کی کاشت 31 مئی تک جب کہ ثانوی علاقوں میں 15 مئی تک مکمل کر لیں۔
- ☆ کاشت پتوں پر مشین یا ہاتھ کی مدد سے کریں اور ڈرل سے لائنوں میں کاشت کی گئی کپاس کو پہلی آبپاشی کے بعد پودوں کی ایک لائن چھوڑ کر دوسری لائن میں مٹی چڑھا کر پتیاں بنا دیں۔
- ☆ محکمہ زراعت کی منظور شدہ بی ٹی اقسام میں چند ایک میں آئی یو بی 13، بی ایس 15، ایف ایچ 142، نیاب 878، ایم این ایچ 886، ایف ایچ 114، ایف ایچ 114، ایف ایچ لالہ زار، این ایس 121، علی اکبر 802، جی ایس 555، اے جی ایس 777، وی ایچ 259، کے زیڈ 181، سائٹو 178، ستارہ ایم 11، نارزن 3، نیاب 545، نیاب 1048 اور نیچے 3 شامل ہیں۔
- ☆ محکمہ زراعت کی سفارش کردہ روایتی اقسام سی آئی ایم-554، سی آئی ایم 608، نیاب 112، نیاب 2008، سائٹو 124، سی آئی ایم 620، ایس ایل ایچ 317، پی ایچ 167، نیچے 115، ایف ایچ 942، نیاب 852، نیاب کرن، سی آرائس ایم 38 اور نیاب کاشت کریں۔
- ☆ کھادوں کا متوازن استعمال کے لیے مرکزی علاقہ جات میں کپاس کو 69 کلوگرام نائٹروجن، 35 کلوگرام فاسفورس اور 25 کلوگرام پوناش فی ایکڑ ڈالیں۔ جبکہ ثانوی علاقہ جات میں 58 کلوگرام نائٹروجن، 35 کلوگرام فاسفورس اور 25 کلوگرام پوناش فی ایکڑ ڈالیں۔

Source: Zarat Nama, Directorate of Agricultural Information

پلاننگ اینڈ ریسرچ ڈیپارٹمنٹ

زرعی ترقیاتی بینک لمیٹیڈ

ہیڈ آفس، اسلام آباد



## Editorial Board:

Mr. Mr. Tariq Mahmood  
Mr. Nadeem Akhtar Malik  
Mr. Muhammad Fakhar Imam  
Mr. Ahmed Hussain Khan  
Ms. Aamna Imtiaz (OG-II)  
Ms. Humma Nisar (OG-II)

Head Planning Research & Technology Division  
Head Planning and Research Department  
Head Research & Publication Unit  
Head Information & Monitoring Unit  
Research and Publication Unit  
Business Planning Unit