

# *AGRICULTURE OUTLOOK*

(Vol. V, Issue 9, 2020)



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## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Spraying of chemicals on cotton and sugarcane, removal of weeds from cotton, other crops and sowing of vegetables were the major field operations in most of the agricultural areas of the country. Major standing crops in Punjab are cotton, rice and sugarcane. In Sindh, overall crops growth and development in the province is reported satisfactory because of satisfactory rains occurrence during the month. In KP, growth and development of all standing crops is reported satisfactory. Rains reported during this monsoon season have positively affected the crops throughout the province. Major standing crops during the month were sugarcane and maize.

Scattered Monsoon rains with gradual decrease are likely to continue in the country with 2-3 spells over the northern half of the country; Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit-Baltistan and Kashmir during the first and second week September. Monsoon is expected to withdraw from Pakistan during third week, however westerly waves will continue to pass across the north of the country.

According to FAO Locust watch, on a smaller scale hatching and hopper band formation occurred in southeast Pakistan. Intensive control operations have significantly reduced infestations. Consequently, the second generation of breeding that commences in September is expected to be on a much smaller and more manageable scale.

Based on the Pakistan Bureau Statistics provisional figures of imports and exports, the balance of trade in July 2020 was (-) 281,257 million in terms of Rupees and (-) 1,686 million in US dollars.

## **2. CURRENT CROP SITUATION**

### **2.1. Cotton**

In Sindh, cotton crop is at Third True Leaf Stage. In Punjab, the growth and development of cotton crop has been observed/reported satisfactory. According to Pakistan Central Cotton Committee (PCCC), pest attack of White Fly, Jassid, Thrips and Mealy Bug has been observed. Boll weight is low and size is small. Farmers are continuously spraying against attack of white fly which is a serious problem hence farmer are struggling hard and using more inputs to get high yield.

In the local cotton market, the rate of cotton witnessed a significant reduction of Rs 400 to Rs 500 per maund. The reason behind the reduction of the rate is that due to the rains, the quality of the cotton produced at present isn't up to mark, especially in the province of Sindh. Low quality cotton was sold at Rs 7500 per maund in Sindh. The quality of cotton in Punjab is better as compared to the quality of cotton in Sindh due to which the rate is better in Punjab. In Sindh the rate of cotton as per quality is in between Rs 7500 to Rs8200 per maund. The rate of Phutti is in between Rs 3000 to Rs 3800 per 40 kg while the rate of Banola is in between Rs 1550 to Rs 1600 per maund. The rate of cotton in Punjab is in between Rs 8500 to Rs 8650. The rate of Phutti is in between Rs 3300 to Rs 4000 per 40 kg while the rate of Banola is in between 1700 to Rs 1750 per maund. In Balochistan the rate of cotton is in between Rs 8200 to Rs 8300 per maund while the rate of Phutti as per quality is in between Rs 4000 to Rs 4800 per 40 kg.

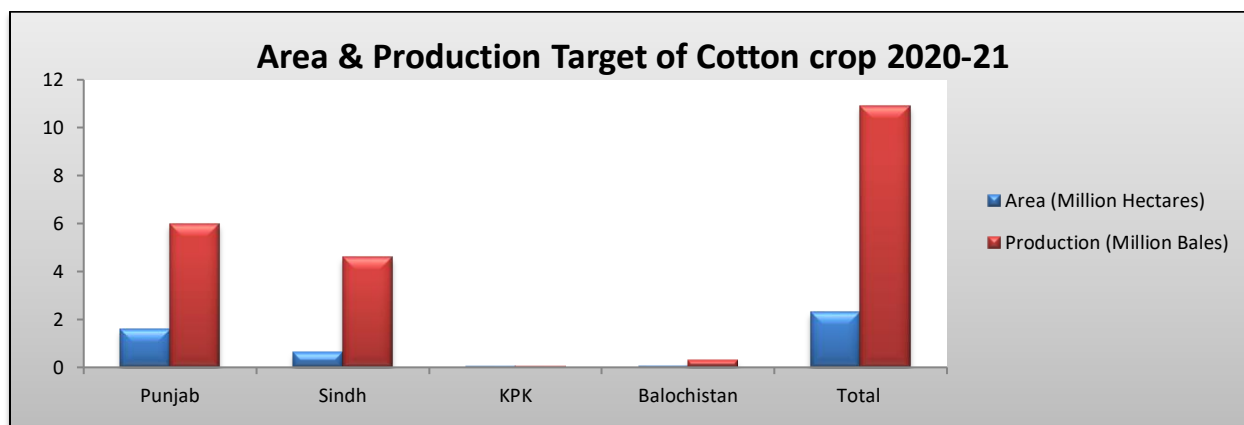
To ensure provision of good quality seeds to farmers in 2021, the Government of Punjab has already formulated a strategy for next year and an 18-member committee has already been formed on it. The purpose of formulation of the committee is to work on priority basis for the production of quality seeds for farmers.

According to estimates of cotton crop sowing area released by Crop Reporting Service Department Punjab, the cultivated area in Punjab was recorded at 1.546 million hectares which comprises 96.6% of the proposed target of 1.60 million hectares and about 18.6% less than previous year. Sowing area in Sindh was registered at 0.615 million hectares which comprises 96.1% of the target showing an increase of 2.7% over last year. In KPK, Cotton crop was cultivated over an area of 0.000216 million hectares that is 2.2% of the set target whereas, the area sown in Balochistan was 0.057 million hectares as against the target of 0.06 million hectares showing target achievement of 95%.

## Proposed Targets of Cotton Crop during 2020-21

Province	Targets 2020-21	
	Area (Million hectares)	Production (Million Bales)
Punjab	1.60	6.0
Sindh	0.64	4.6
KPK	0.01	0.0065
Balochistan	0.06	0.291
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.31</b>	<b>10.89</b>

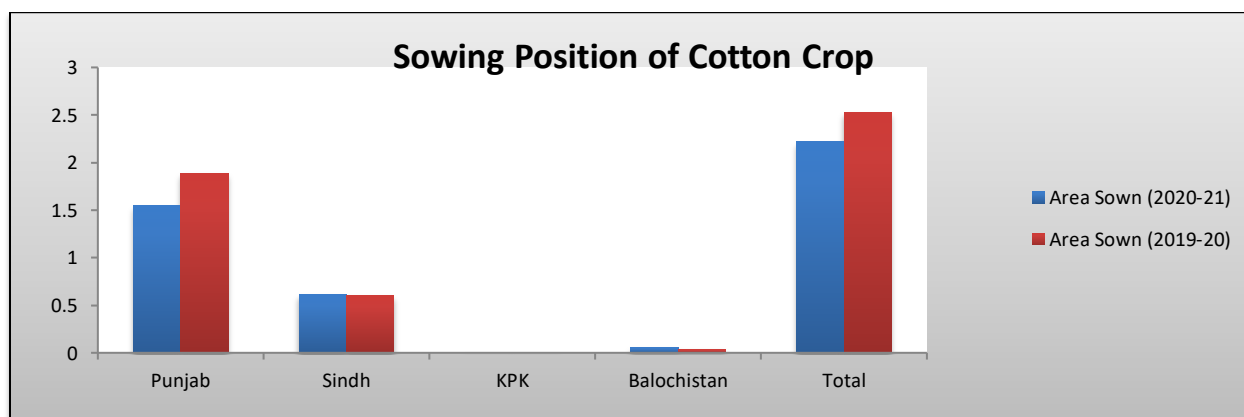
Source: Federal Committee on Agriculture



## Sowing Position of Cotton Crop 2020-21 (as on 11.09.2020)

Province	Target 2020-21	Area Sown		% Change Over	
		2020-21	2019-20	Target	Last year
Punjab	1.60	1.546	1.889	96.6	-18.16
Sindh	0.64	0.615	0.599	96.1	+2.7
KPK	0.01	0.000216	0.000213	2.2	+1.41
Balochistan	0.06	0.057	0.037	95.0	+54.05
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.31</b>	<b>2.218</b>	<b>2.525</b>	<b>96.02</b>	<b>-12.16</b>

Source: First estimates, Provincial Agriculture Crop Reporting Service Department



## 2.2. Rice

Rice is major standing crop and its condition is reported as satisfactory in both Sindh and Punjab provinces. In central Punjab, it is near to maturity.

Province	Proposed Targets of Rice Crop during 2020-21	
	Area(000 hec)	Production (000 Tons)
<b>Pakistan</b>	<b>2,957</b>	<b>7,990</b>
Punjab	1,900	4,200
Sindh	800	3,000
KPK	67	190
Baluchistan	190	600

## 2.3. Sugarcane

The condition of sugarcane crop is reported as satisfactory in Punjab province. However mild attacks of some pests are reported in some areas of the province. It is one of the major standing crop in Punjab. Efficient rainfall has fulfilled the crop's water requirements and maintained growth of crop in central and lower parts of Punjab province.

Province	Proposed Targets of Sugarcane Crop during 2020-21	
	Area(000 hec)	Production(000 Tons)
Pakistan	1,181	69,802
Punjab	753	44,906
Sindh	310	19,000
KPK	117	5,850
Baluchistan	0.9	45.5

## 2.4. Maize

Sowing of autumn maize crop was in process in the country. Farmers are advised to utilize recommended cultivars and best practices to obtain high yield.

Proposed Targets of Maize Crop during 2020-21		
Province	Area (000 hec)	Production (000 tons)
Pakistan	1,338	6,710
Punjab	860	5,800
Sindh	4.4	5.0
KP	470	900
Baluchistan	4.5	5.0

## 2.5. Minor Crops:

### Oil Seeds

- Sesame is at vegetative stage.
- Sunflower harvesting has been completed. Few Pest / insect attacks have been reported in the media in some areas of Khairpur and Dadu in Sindh so far.
- Agricultural experts instructed farmers to start cultivating canola (sweet mustard) in the third week of September and said that the best time to cultivate canola is from 20 September to 31 October. Farmers should cultivate one and a half to 2 kg registered, healthy, and clean hybrid varieties seeds of canola like Faisal canola PARC in one acre, increase seed rate if the land is dry. The treatment of seeds is very important to protect the crop from diseases. Farmers should apply the recommended fungicide to the seeds on the advice of agriculture experts.
- Agriculture experts have instructed farmers to start the cultivation of linseed in early September; if the planting is completed on time then better yields can be achieved. Linseed cultivation can be completed by September 30. Loamy soil is of utmost importance and preferred for linseed cultivation. Cultivate the approved variety of Chandni 1988. When planting linseed with a drill, the spacing between rows should be up to 30 cm. The bumper crop can be obtained by sowing 6 kg per acre in irrigated areas and 8 kg per acre in rainfed areas.

### Fruits & Vegetables

- In Balochistan, marketing of local fruits and vegetables is in progress.
- In Gilgit Baltistan, condition and yield of orchards and summer vegetables are also reported satisfactory.
- The growth of standing vegetables is also reported satisfactory in Sindh.
- According to Punjab Agriculture Department, sowing of seasonal vegetables like potato, radish, carrot and turnips is in progress in province. Farmers are advised to prepare land and use healthy seeds for better crop development. However, harvesting of red chili is in progress in Punjab.
- Cabbage crop is in growing stage in Potohar plateau of Punjab.
- Harvesting of late maturing varieties of mango has almost been completed in Punjab. Crop is reported satisfactory, however attack of some sucking insects and pests have been reported by Punjab Agriculture Department.
- Flowers of citrus crop are blooming and crop is reported satisfactory.
- Pruning process in dates and citrus orchards of Punjab province is in progress.
- Overall condition of orchards is reported satisfactory in the province.
- The growth of standing vegetables is also reported satisfactory in Sindh province.

- Condition and yield of orchards and summer vegetables are also reported satisfactory in Balochistan
- Farmers have been instructed by agricultural experts to complete the cultivation of Toria during this week. Toria can be cultivated very successfully in all irrigated areas of Punjab. Toria production potential in irrigated areas is 15-18 mounds per acre. After cultivation and harvesting Toria, wheat can also be cultivated after it. Farmers should prefer loamy soil with good water-holding capacity for Toria cultivation. The best results can be obtained by using 1.5 to 2kg of Toria seeds per acres.

### **AREA & PRODUCTION OF CROPS**

<b>Rabi Crops 2019-20</b>	<b>*Area in 000 hectare</b>	<b>*Production “000 tons</b>	<b>Yield kg/hec.</b>
Wheat	8,839	24,495	
Gram	940	545	580
Lentil	10	5.4	522
Potato	177	4,437	25,082
Onion	146	2,070	14,147
Tomato	44	471	10,673
Canola	52	81	
Sunflower	89	105	
Rapeseed/Mustard	348	458	
<b>Kharif Crops 2019-20 (Provisional)</b>			
Cotton	2,526	9,181	
Sugarcane	1,046	66,250	63,329
Rice	3,034	7,410	2,442
Maize	1,320	6,559	4,970
Mung	187	133	711
Mash	14	7	471

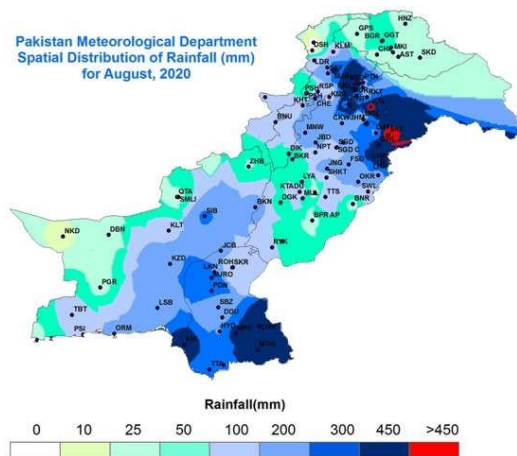
*Source: Working Paper on Kharif Crops estimates, Federal Committee on Agriculture*



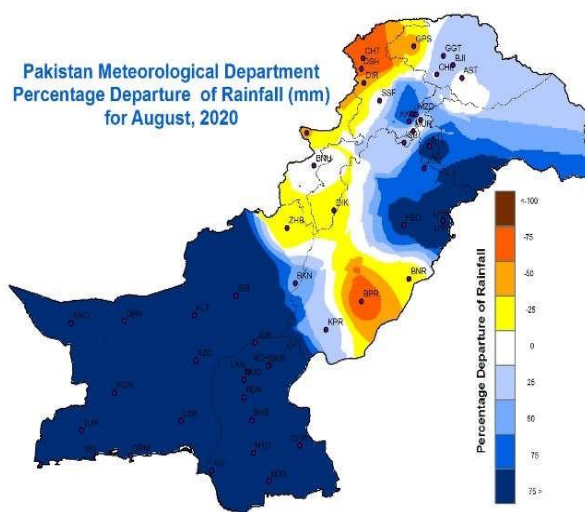
### 3. WEATHER SITUATION

During the month of August 2020, rainfall received across Pakistan is shown in Figure 1. Extreme to heavy rainfall events were reported at most of the places in Sindh and Balochistan, while the rest of the country received light to moderate rainfall comprising Gilgit Baltistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and south Punjab. Chief amounts of monthly rainfall recorded across Pakistan during August, 2020.

**Figure 1**



**Figure 2**



The Fig. 2 depicts the Percentage Departure of Rainfall from the normal. Above Normal rainfall was received at most of the places in Sindh and Balochistan while below normal at a few stations in Gilgit Baltistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab.

**Table1**

Sr. No.	Station	Rainfall(mm)	Sr. No.	Station	Rainfall(mm)
1	Karachi (Gulshan-e-Hadeed)	613	11	Mirpur Khas	348.0
2	Sialkot Cantt.	547.5	12	Chhor	344.1
3	Kotli	514.0	13	Muzaffarabad Airport	334.0
4	Islamabad (Saidpur)	478.0	14	Gujranwala	333.0
5	Balakot	476.0	15	Buner	291.2
6	Malam Jabba	454.9	16	Hafizabad	286.2
7	Mithi	431.4	17	Moenjo Daro	281.0
8	Kakul	381.0	18	Narowal	278.2
9	Jhelum	372.7	19	Bandi Abbaspur	251.9
10	Mangla	349.2	20	Thatta	251.8

## Weather Outlook for September 2019

Scattered Monsoon rains with gradual decrease are likely to continue in the country with 2-3 spells over the northern half of the country; Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Gilgit-Baltistan and Kashmir during the first and second week of the month. Monsoon is expected to withdraw from Pakistan during third week, however westerly waves will continue to pass across the north of the country. Under the influence of these westerly waves, two to three spells of isolated rains may occur over the upper parts of the country (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Upper Punjab, Gilgit-Baltistan and Kashmir during second half of the month.

The precipitation amount would be less relative to August. In Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh and Southern Punjab, it may range from few millimeters to 30mm. Over northern and north eastern Punjab, the September precipitation may range between 80 to 110 mm. High agricultural plains of Baluchistan are expected to remain practically dry during the month.

Despite some drop in air temperature and smaller day length, the evaporative demand of the atmosphere will generally increase as compared to August. The reason for that increase is relatively clear sky especially during the second fortnight.

The mean daily relative humidity over the agricultural plains of the country may vary between 50 to 65% except high agricultural plains of Balochistan, where it would be around 40%. The mean daily air temperature in crop atmosphere is expected to range between 29°C and 32°C except Quetta, where it may average to 22°C. The mean maximum temperature may vary between 33 to 38°C over most of the agricultural areas, whereas Quetta may experience it around 32°C. The mean minimum temperature is likely to remain in the range of 20 to 26°C and about 11°C at high agricultural plains of Balochistan

## 5. DESERT LOCUST SITUATION UPDATE

On a smaller scale hatching and hopper band formation occurred in southeast Pakistan. Intensive control operations have significantly reduced infestations. Consequently, the second generation of breeding that commences in September is expected to be on a much smaller and more manageable scale.

*Courtesy: Food and Agriculture Organization of United Nations, Locust Watch, 2nd September, 2020*

### Impact of weather on Locust Growth

Monsoon rainfall is expected to remain slightly above normal (+10%) during September 2020 in Pakistan. Eastern Sindh is likely to receive above normal rainfall during September; however dry weather is expected for the next two months.

Temperatures are expected to remain within the requisite criteria (20-35 °C) in most parts of the Sindh. The expected temperatures of the region may favour the Egg and Hopper development of

Locust. Generally, winds are expected to prevail westerly in lowland areas. Along with the expected temperatures and wind pattern, higher rains would provide favorable environment for Locust breeding during September.

### Precautionary Measures

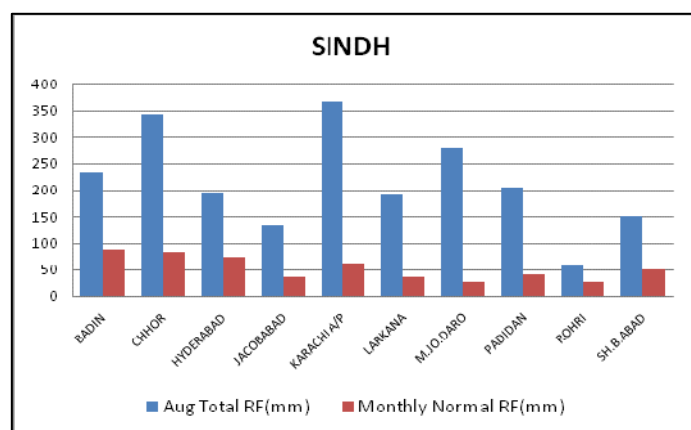
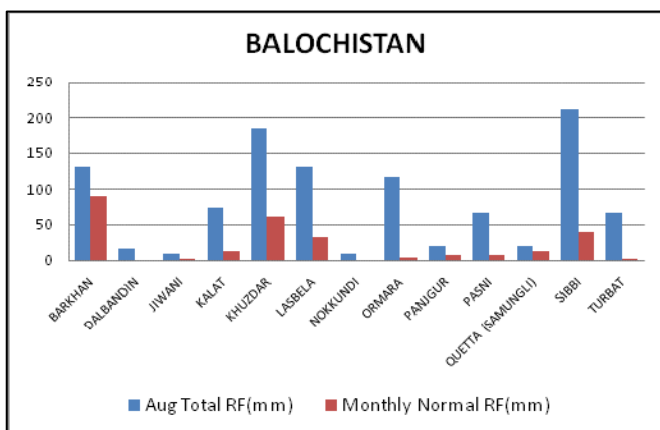
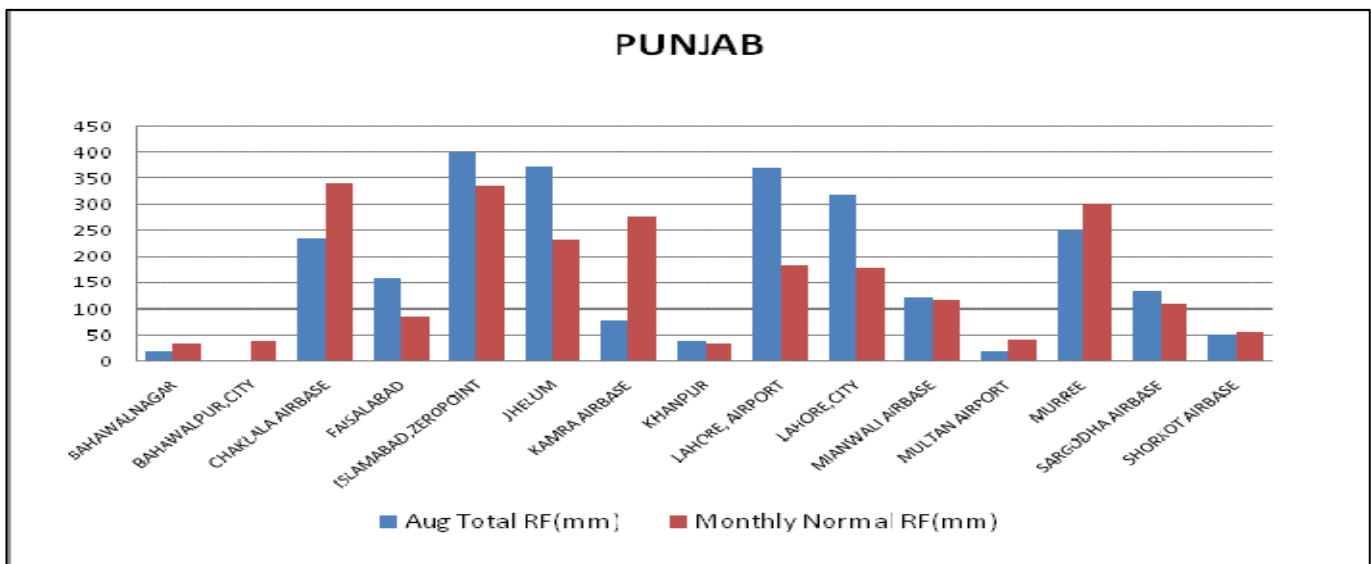
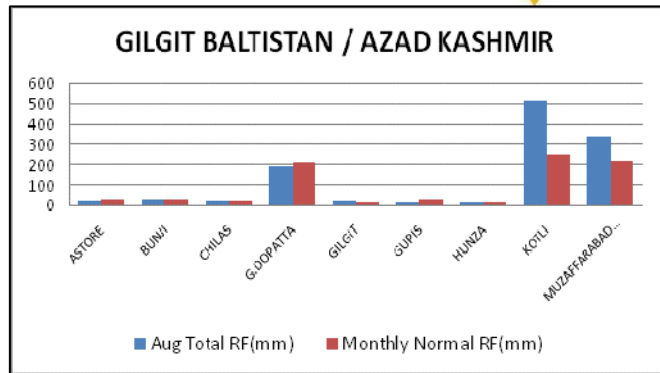
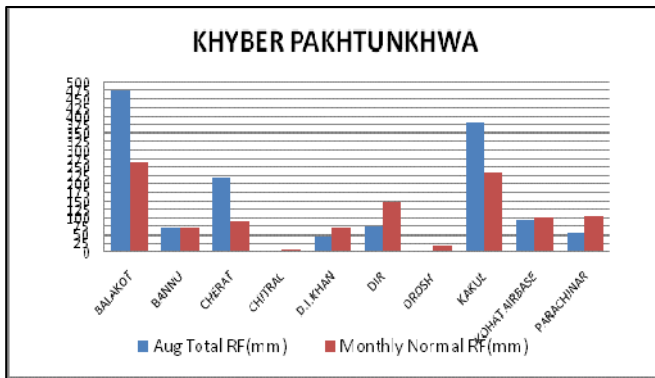
Widespread and Appropriate insecticides spray using aero planes/helicopters or special vehicles in the affected areas, is the only solution to control the spread of locust.

Parameters	Threshold	Outcome	Remarks
Rainfall (mm)	> 25 mm each in last two months	Favorable for laying Eggs	The weather conditions in the recent months favored the development and growth of Locust in the particular areas. As per seasonal prediction, there would be conducive environment for the locust during September, particularly in the lower and eastern parts of Sindh.
Air Temperature	20-35 °C	Favorable for Egg and Hopper development	
Soil Temperature (Shallow Depths)	> 35 °C	Generally, favorable for egg development	
Wind Speed (Knots)	<13.6 Knots for Adults <19.4 Knots for swarm	Favorable for Adults to take off. Favorable for Swarm to take off	

## 6. DROUGHT SITUATION AND OUTLOOK

Wet conditions prevailed over most of the places in the northern parts of the country, Sindh and Balochistan. These rains are quite beneficial for the drought prone areas of Sindh and Balochistan. During the month of August, the rains associated with heavy showers recorded at most of the places in the agricultural plains of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Punjab.

The month of August was good enough to normalize the drought conditions in the drought prone areas of Balochistan and Sindh. All stakeholders are requested to make all efforts to drain surplus/stagnant waters from standing crop fields for improved crop growth.



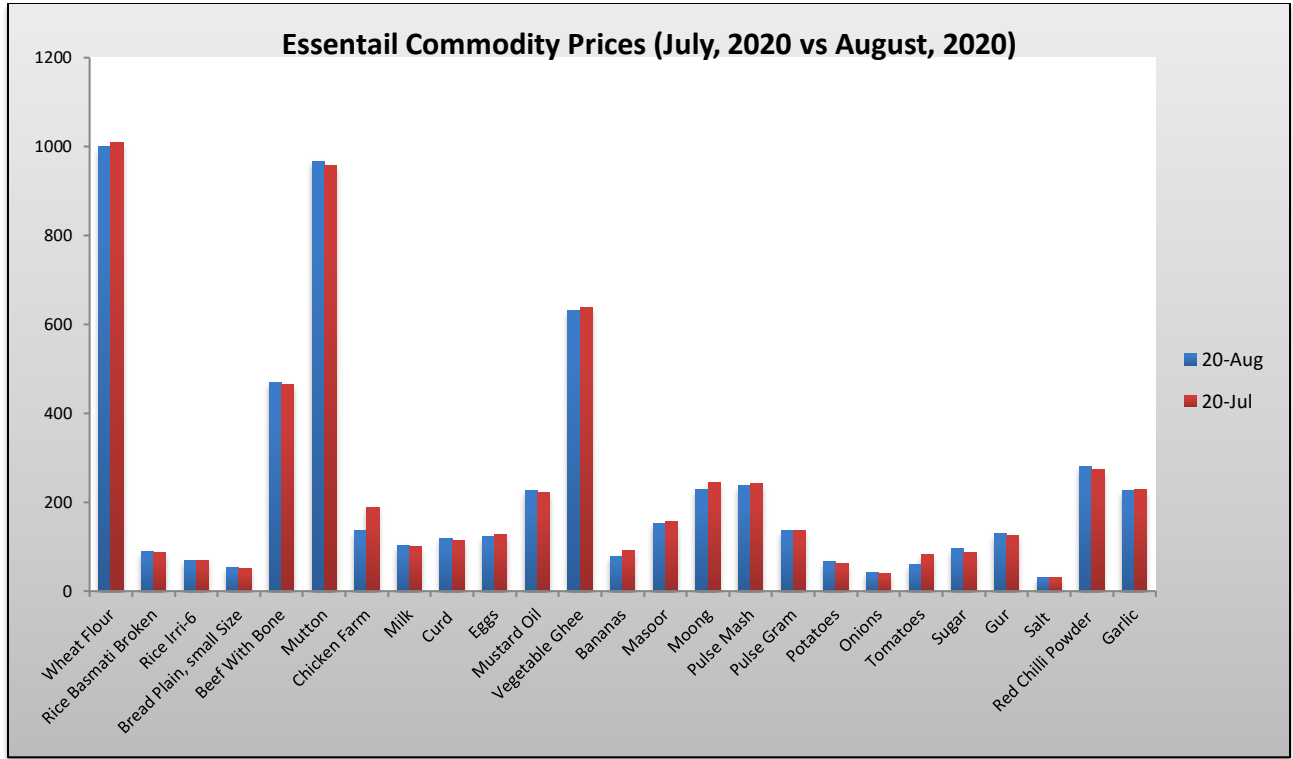
#### Advice for Farmers:

- Monsoon rains are expected in different parts of the country during the period.
- Take timely precautionary measures to protect their crops, livestock and other property.
- Due to mostly dry weather in the lower half of the country during the past month, farmers of cotton and sugarcane crops of the lower areas are advised to irrigate the crops as per requirement.

- Farmers of the upper half of the country are advised to complete the sowing of Kharif crops in time to utilize fully the present soil moisture, especially growers of maize crop in the rain-fed areas.
- Due to recent rains, farmers should be careful about weeds & pest attacks as the present soil & atmospheric conditions are suitable for rapid weeds growth & pest attacks.

## 7. AVERAGE PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES

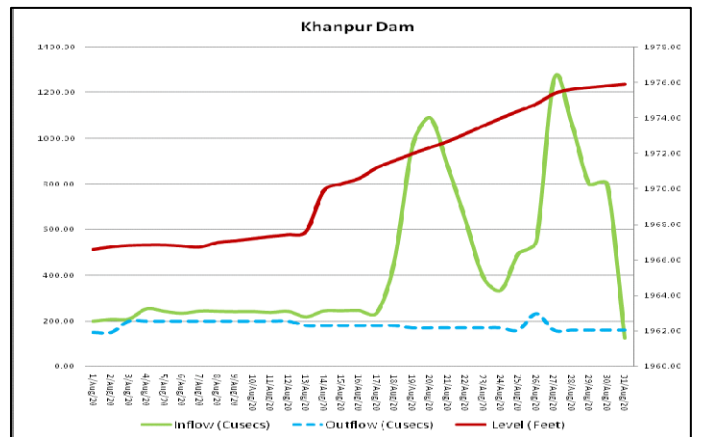
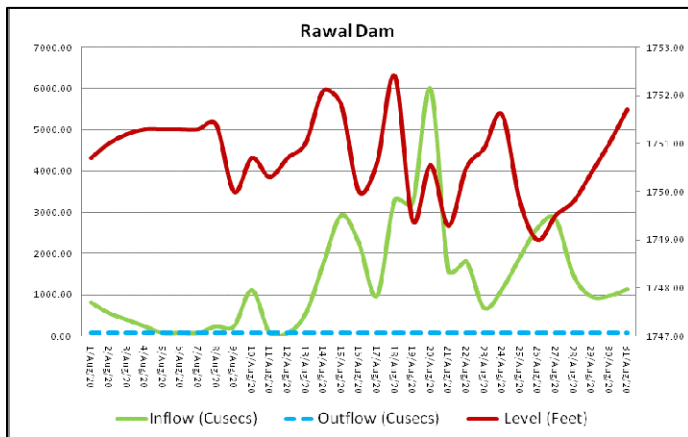
S. No.	Description	Unit	Average Prices			%change Aug 20 over	
			Aug20	Jul 20	Aug 19	Jul 20	Aug 19
2	Wheat Flour, Bag	20 Kg	1000	1009	842	-0.90	18.77
3	Rice Basmati Broken, (AQ)	1 Kg	89	87	80	2.72	10.78
4	Rice Irri-6 (Punjab/Sindh)	1 Kg	69	69	60	0.87	14.80
5	Bread Plain, small Size	Each	54	50	44	7.41	21.79
6	Beef With Bone, (AQ)	1 Kg	470	465	417	0.97	12.61
7	Mutton, Average Quality	1 Kg	967	958	868	0.87	11.36
8	Chicken Farm, Broiler, Live	1 Kg	136	189	180	-28.05	-24.5
9	Milk, Fresh, Un-boiled	1 Ltr	103	100	91	3.14	12.47
10	Curd (Dahi)	1 Kg	118	114	107	3.75	10.64
12	Eggs Hen, Farm	Dozen	124	127	97	-2.05	28.05
13	Mustard Oil, Average Quality	1 Kg	227	221	197	2.44	15.07
15	Vegetable Ghee, Dalda/Habib	2.5 Kg	631	638	534	-1.02	18.14
17	Bananas (local)	Dozen	79	91	78	-13.67	0.81
18	Pulse Masoor, Washed	1 Kg	153	156	125	-1.68	22.37
19	Pulse Moong, Washed	1 Kg	229	245	170	-6.60	34.93
20	Pulse Mash, Washed	1 Kg	238	242	179	-1.49	32.65
21	Pulse Gram, Washed	1 Kg	136	137	130	-0.64	4.78
22	Potatoes	1 Kg	67	62	39	8.40	72.09
23	Onions	1 Kg	43	39	63	10	-31.05
24	Tomatoes	1 Kg	59	83	54	-28.12	10.17
25	Sugar, Refined	1 Kg	95	86	75	10.76	26.15
26	Gur, Average Quality	1 Kg	129	125	110	2.90	16.99
27	Salt Powdered (National/Shan)80gm	Each	30	30	30	-0.37	1.21
28	Red Chilli Powder National 200gm	Each	280	273	150	2.40	86.67
29	Garlic	1 Kg	226	228	254	-0.90	-10.77



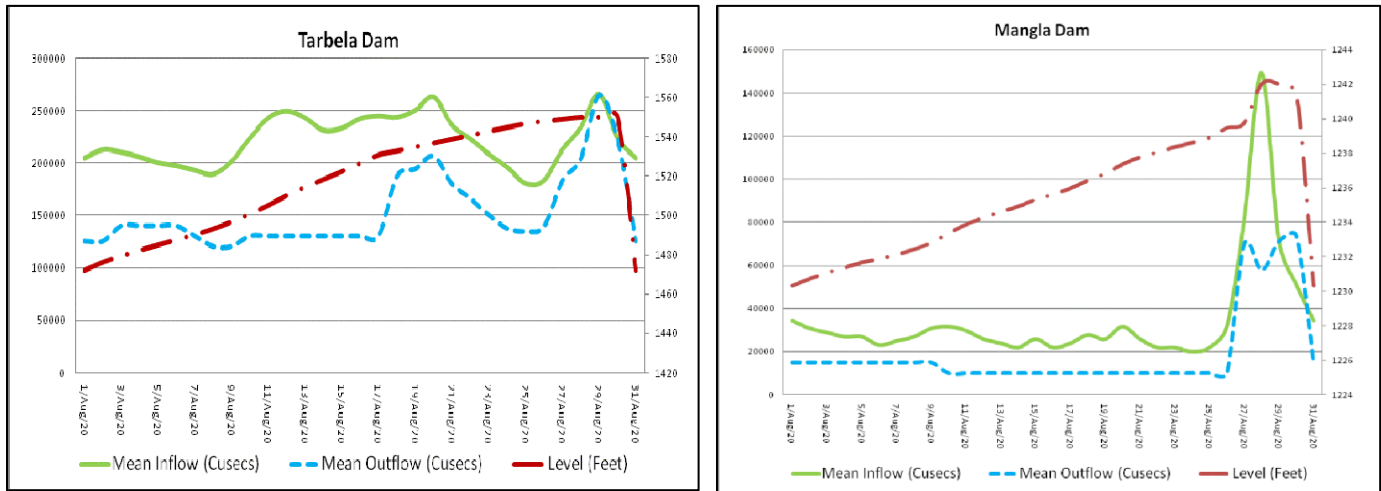
### 8. WATER AVAILABILITY/ DAMS FLOW DATA

#### Water availability/ Dams flow data:

During the month of August 2020, water inflow, outflow and levels of Rawal, Khanpur, Tarbela and Mangla dams are shown in below Figures. An overall increasing trend in inflow and levels has been observed in these dams.



Water inflow, outflow and level of Rawal and Khanpur Dams

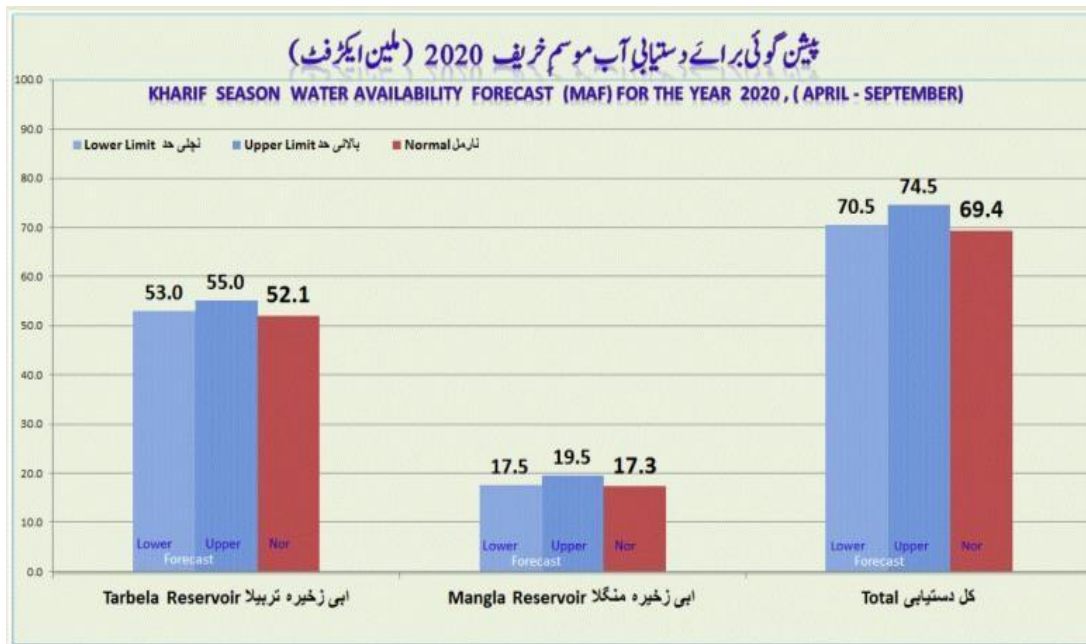


Water inflow, outflow and level of Tarbela and Mangla Dams

### Water availability outlook

Based on the expected rainfall, rising temperatures in the upper Indus basin it is expected that the sufficient water would be available in the major reservoirs for the Kharif season 2020 and sufficient amount of water available in the two major dams in the country. Taking advantage of water availability, the resource may be fully utilized for irrigation of early Kharif crop.

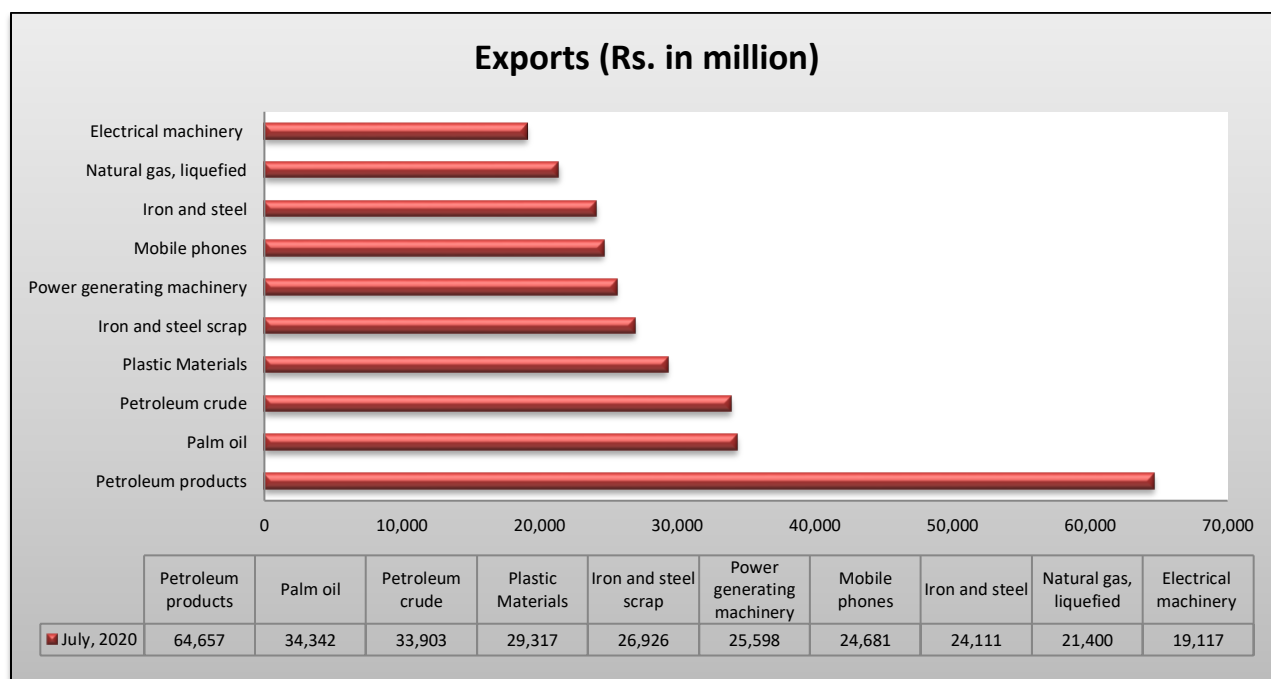
### Water availability outlook for the period Apr-Sep 2020



## 9. TRADE SITUATION

### Exports

- According to the provisional figures compiled by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics, exports from Pakistan during July, 2020 amounted to Rs. 333,677 million (provisional) as against Rs. 263,985 million (provisional) in June, 2020 and Rs.299,588 million during July, 2019 showing an increase of 26.40% over June, 2020 and of 11.38% over July, 2019.
- In terms of US dollars the exports in July, 2020 were \$ 2,001 million (provisional) as compared to \$ 1,599 million (provisional) in June, 2020 showing an increase of 25.14% and by 6.10% as compared to \$ 1,886 million in July 2019.
- Main commodities of exports during July, 2020 were Knitwear (Rs. 52,647 million), Readymade garments (Rs.45,734 million), Bed wear (Rs. 40,556 million), Cotton cloth (Rs. 24,911 million), Rice others (Rs. 15,875 million), Towels (Rs.12,978 million), Madeup articles (excl. towels & bedwear) (Rs.10,140 million), Cotton Yarn (Rs.10,093 million), Basmati rice (Rs.8,933 million) and Fruits (Rs. 6,967 million).

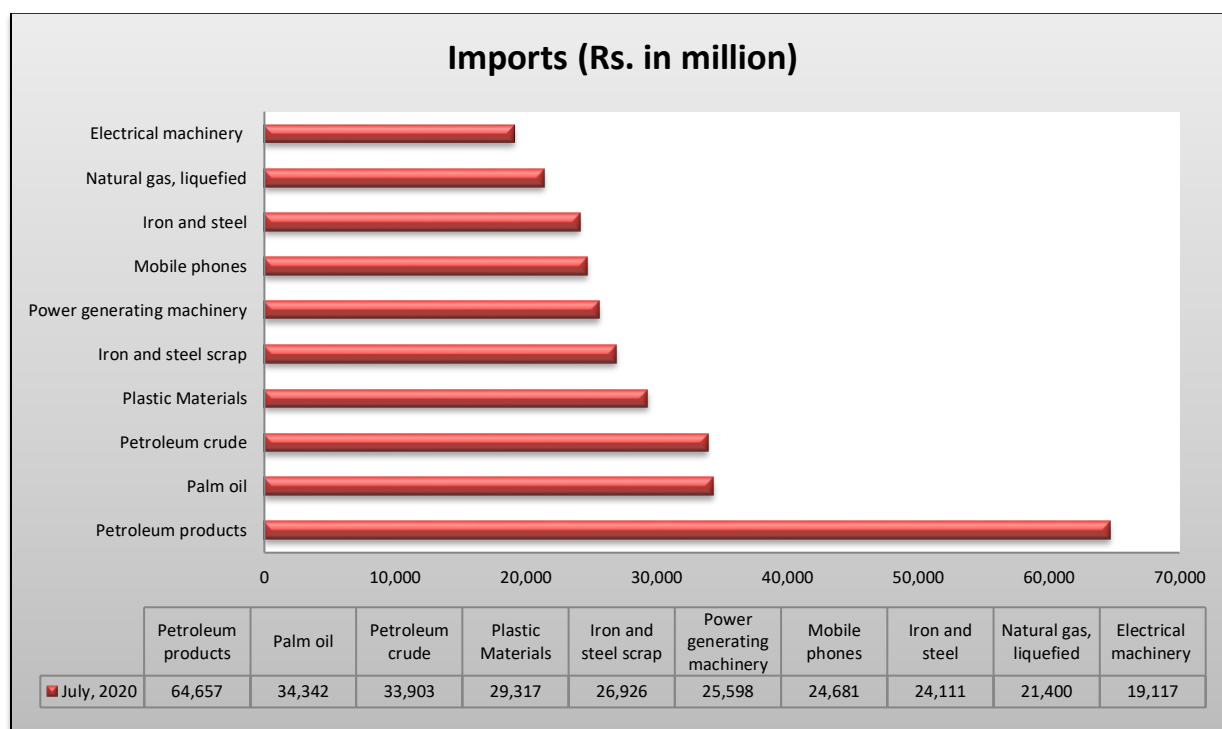


### Imports

- Imports into Pakistan during July, 2020 amounted to Rs. 614,934 million (provisional) as against Rs. 611,449 million (provisional) in June, 2020 and Rs.589,739 million during July 2019 showing an increase of 0.57% over June, 2020 and of 4.27% over July 2019.



- In terms of US dollars the imports in July, 2020 were \$ 3,687 million (provisional) as compared to \$ 3,703 million (provisional) in June, 2020 showing a decrease of 0.43% and by 0.70 as compared to \$ 3,713 million in July 2019.
- Main commodities of imports during July, 2020 were Petroleum products (Rs. 64,657 million), Palm Oil (Rs.34,342 million), Petroleum crude (Rs.33,903 million), Plastic Materials (Rs.29,317 million), Iron and Steel scrap (Rs.26,926 million), Power generating machinery (Rs.25,598 million), Mobile phones (Rs.24,681 million), Iron & steel (Rs.24,111 million), Natural gas, liquefied (Rs.21,400 million) and Electrical machinery & apparatus (Rs.19,117 million).



### Balance Of Trade

- Based on the PBS provisional figures of imports and exports the balance of trade in July, 2020 was (-) 281,257 million in terms of Rupees and (-) 1,686 million in US dollars.

*Source: Provisional data provided by PBS*

## 10. FERTILIZER OFF-TAKE SITUATION

### Fertilizer Off-take during Rabi 2019-20

During Rabi 2019-20, total urea off-take was 2,872 thousand tons, which is 5.3 per cent less than Rabi 2018-19. The DAP off-take was also decreased by 7.3 per cent up to the level of 1,079 thousand tons against 1,164 thousand tons for Rabi 2018-19. There is slightly decrease in off-take of

potash (SOP/MOP) fertilizers. The overall off-take is estimated to decrease by 5.7 per cent.

### Fertilizer Off-take during Rabi 2019-20 (Oct-March)

(000 tons)

Province	Urea	DAP	MAP	SOP/MOP	Total
Punjab	1,896	753	9	28.0	2,686
Sindh	708	239	4	4.3	955
KP	139	36	0	1.3	176
Balochistan	130	51	0	0.6	182
Pakistan	2,872	1,079	13	34	3,999
<b>Rabi 2018-19</b>	<b>3,033</b>	<b>1,164</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>4,241</b>
Percent Change over Rabi 2018-19	-5.3	-7.3	47.7	-2.4	-5.7

Source: NFDC

### Fertilizer off-take Estimates for Kharif 2020

Urea consumption is estimated around 3,048 thousand tons against 3,024 thousand tons in previous season showing an increase of about 0.8 per cent over last Kharif 2019. DAP off-take is expected to decrease by 1.8 per cent over Kharif 2019. The total off-take of all fertilizers in the previous year Kharif season was 4,044 thousand against 4,052 thousand tons estimates for forthcoming Kharif 2020 with 0.2 percent forecasted increase.

### Fertilizer Off-take during Kharif 2020-21 (April-September)

(000 tons)

Province	Urea	DAP	MAP	SOP/MOP	Total
Punjab	1981	669	12	25	2687
Sindh	823	210	6	3	1042
KP	152	38	0	1	192
Balochistan	91	38	0	0	130
Pakistan	3048	956	18	30	4052
Kharif 2019	3024	974	17	29	4044
Percent Change over Kharif 2019	0.8	-1.8	5.4	2.3	0.2

Source: NFDC

## 11. NEWS TRENDS

- **Agri-dept to introduce wheat calendar:** South Punjab Agriculture Secretary has announced that a wheat calendar is being introduced for achieving a significant increase in production of the crop with improved quality. Chairing a meeting held to review the steps for keeping wheat free from rust attack, he highlighted that the wheat calendar was being

prepared for the first time in the history of Pakistan. He also informed meeting participants that 9,000 kg of rust-resistant wheat variety Ghazi-19 would be given to the Punjab Seed Corporation.

- **Govt. pledges to facilitate rice sector:** Provincial Minister for Agriculture announced that the government of Punjab is giving a 50% subsidy on micronutrients and its leadership is fully committed to introducing more measures to facilitate the rice sector. Farmers would be given transplanters and rice harvesters at 50% discount while relief would also be given on the purchase of rice choppers.
- **Farmers can obtain better yield by cultivating the approved desi varieties of tomatoes, Agriculture experts:** According to agriculture experts, farmers can get better yield by cultivating approved desi varieties of tomatoes. Farmers can cultivate approved varieties of tomatoes like Roma, Pocket, Naqeeb & Nigina, while the hybrid varieties are Money Maker, Jury, Yuki, T1359, Eden F1, Red Champion, Dominator and Fonto, which have excellent yield potential. In Central Punjab, tomato transplanting can be grown from 1st October to mid-November. Last year in Punjab, 96,269 tonnes were produced by cultivating 18,201 acres of tomatoes. Tomato is an important vegetable which is rich in vitamins A, C, riboflavin, thymine and mineral salts like iron, lime and phosphorus which are very beneficial for health.

Source: i. [tribune.com.pk/agriculture](http://tribune.com.pk/agriculture)

ii. [www.bakhabarkissan.com](http://www.bakhabarkissan.com)

## زرعی سفارشات برائے کسان

### کپاس

﴿ ستمبر کا مہینہ کپاس کی فصل کے لیے انتہائی اہم ہے۔ لہذا موسمی حالات کے مطابق آبپاشی سرانجام دیں۔  
 ﴿ کپاس کی چنائی شروع کرنے کا موزوں ترین وقت صبح 10:00 بجے کے بعد شروع ہوتا ہے۔ جس وقت فصل اور ٹینڈوں پر نمی خشک ہو جائے تاکہ کپاس بدرنگ نہ ہو پائے اور دھنائی کے دوران مشکلات کا سامنا بھی نہ ہو۔ شام 4:00 بجے تک چنائی بند کر دینی چاہیے۔  
 ﴿ چنائی ہمیشہ پودے کے نچلے حصے سے پکے ہوئے ٹینڈوں سے شروع کریں۔ اور بتدریج اوپر چنائی کرتے جائیں تاکہ پودے کے سوکھے پتے چینی ہوئی کپاس میں شامل نہ ہوں۔  
 ﴿ چنائی کے لیے استعمال ہونے والا کپڑا سوتی ہونا چاہیے اور چینی ہوئی پٹھی کو صاف اور خشک سوتی کپڑے پر رکھا جائے تاکہ پٹھی آلودگی سے پاک رہے۔  
 ﴿ ستمبر میں رس چوسنے والے کیڑے مثلاً چست تیلہ، سست تیلہ، سفید مکھی اور تھرپس کی سنڈیوں کا حملہ شروع ہو جاتا ہے۔ لہذا محکمہ زراعت کی ہدایات کے مطابق ایسی زرعی ادویات استعمال کریں جو ان اقسام کے کیڑوں کی تلفی کے لیے موثر ہوں۔  
 ﴿ فصل کو سفارش کردہ کھادوں کی مقدار دینے کے بعد اگر ضرورت محسوس ہو تو 2 فیصد یوریا صرف ایک دفعہ 2 فیصد پوٹاشیم نائٹریٹ 100 لٹر پانی میں کم از کم تین سپرے ہفتے کے وقفے سے کریں۔

### دھان

﴿ اگر کھیت میں پتہ لپیٹ اور تنے کی سنڈی کا حملہ نقصان کی معاشی حد تک نظر آئے تو محکمہ زراعت کے مشورہ کے مطابق سفارش کردہ زہروں کا استعمال کریں۔  
 ﴿ اگر پتوں پر سیاہی مائل بھورے دھبے نظر آئیں جو بعد میں زنگ آلودہ دکھائی دیں تو یہ زنگ کی کمی کی علامت ہے۔ ایسی صورت میں 10 کلوگرام زنگ سلفیٹ (21 فیصد) کا کھڑے پانی میں چھٹے دیں۔  
 ﴿ جڑی بوٹیوں کی تلفی کے لیے زہروں کے استعمال کی صورت میں ایک ہفتہ بعد تک کھیت سے پانی خشک نہ ہونے دیں۔

### مکاد

﴿ جن کھیتوں میں کانگیاری اور رتہ ورگ کا حملہ ہو تو ان کو موڈھی فصل کے لیے نہ رکھیں اور نہ ہی اس کا بیج آئندہ فصل کے لیے کاشت کیا جائے۔

﴿ ستمبر کاشت کے لیے زمین کو اچھی طرح تیار کریں نیز محکمہ زراعت کی سفارش کردہ اقسام کاشت کریں۔

﴿ اگیتی تیار ہونے والی اقسام

سی پی 77-400، سی پی ایف-237، اور سی پی ایف-246۔

﴿ درمیانی تیار ہونے والی اقسام

ایچ ایس ایف-240، ایچ ایس ایف-242، ایس پی ایف-213، ایس پی ایف-234، سی پی ایف-247، سی پی ایف-248 اور

سی پی ایف-249۔

﴿ بیج اس طرح تیار کریں کہ ایک سے میں 3 سے 4 آنکھیں ہوں۔ اور کھادوں کا استعمال تجزیہ زمین کے مطابق چار بنیادی اصولوں یعنی صحیح

مقدار، صحیح انتخاب، صحیح جگہ اور صحیح وقت کے مطابق کریں۔ اس ضمن میں آپ زرعی ماہرین سے مشورہ لے سکتے ہیں۔

### سبزیات

﴿ آلو کی کاشت کے لیے صحت مند بیج کا بندوبست کریں تاکہ بوقت کاشت پریشانی کا سامنا نہ ہو۔

﴿ سرخ مرچ برداشت جاری رکھیں۔ اگلی فصل کے اگاؤ کے لیے تندرست اور خوشنما مرچ کے بیج کا انتخاب کریں۔

﴿ مولیٰ گا جراور شامبھ کی اگین فصل کی کاشت کے لیے بیج بالترتیب 3، 8 اور 1 کلوگرام فی ایکڑ کے حساب سے استعمال کریں۔

﴿ آم کی دیر سے کاشت کی گئی اقسام کے پھل کی برداشت جاری رکھیں۔ اور موسمی حالات کو مد نظر رکھتے ہوئے ستمبر میں ایک آبپاشی ضرور

کریں۔

﴿ ترشادہ پودوں کو نائٹروجن کی تیسری قسط ڈالیں۔ اور کھادوں کا استعمال زمین کے تجزیہ کے مطابق کریں۔

Source: 1) Ziratnama Government Of Punjab (Farmer's Advisory)

2) Fauji Fertilizer Company Limited (Farmer's Advisory Services)

پلاننگ اینڈ ریسرچ ڈیپارٹمنٹ

ہیڈ آفس، زرعی ترقیاتی بینک لمیٹڈ

اسلام آباد