# **Monthly Agromet Bulletin for Pakistan**

(October, 2012)

Vol: 10-2012



NATIONAL AGROMET CENTRE PAKISTAN METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT SECTOR H-8/2, ISLAMABAD Phone: +92-51-9250592

Email: dirnamc@yahoo.com

Available online at: <u>http://www.namc.pmd.gov.pk</u>

Editor-in-Chief: - Dr. Khalid M. Malik Editor: - Muhammad Ayaz

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

- 1. This Agrometeorological bulletin is prepared on the data recorded in Pakistan Meteorological Department (PMD) observation stations. These stations, selected in consultation with the agricultural authorities, represent major agricultural areas of the country. There are still important agricultural areas which are not represented by the stations included in the bulletin. This may be (a) because there are no PMD stations in these areas and /or (b) the fact that we had to limit the number of stations due to the requirement of speedy data communication and processing (both of which are important for producing and dispatching timely Agrometeorological bulletins). About 80 stations data for precipitation and temperature whereas 15 stations for other meteorological parameters have been used in the analysis.
- 2. Due to the above, all inferences and conclusions hold true primarily for the above areas and not for Pakistan territory which include areas that may not be very important from the agricultural point of view and the climate of which may not bear directly on agriculture in the major producing areas.
- **3.** Seasonal surface water reservoirs have been computed by introducing accumulation of rainfall and reference crop evapotranspiration (ETo) of each agriculture seasons i.e. Rabi season from October to April and Karif season from May to September. For example during any month of Rabi season accumulation of rain means total rain received at any location form October to respective month.
- **4.** Water stress is calculated by subtracting reference crop evapotranspiration (ETo) from rainfall of the month reported.
- **5.** The normally expected weather of next two months is prepared on the basis of Ensembles of Global Climatic models (ECHAM4P5) and premise of normal or near normal weather prevailing during the coming month.
- **6.** In the tables, the values in the parentheses are based on 1981 to 2010 normal. Normal vlues (in parenthesis) of Soil Temperatures are based upon 10 years data. Dotted line (---) means missing data.

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# Highlights ---

• Above normal/satisfactory rains were reported from most of the agricultural plains in upper half of the country, which may help in time sowing of Rabi crops especially in rainfed areas of KP and Punjab. Mostly dry weather was reported in Sindh and Balochitan.

• Normal to cooler temperature trend was observed in most of the agricultural plains of the country.

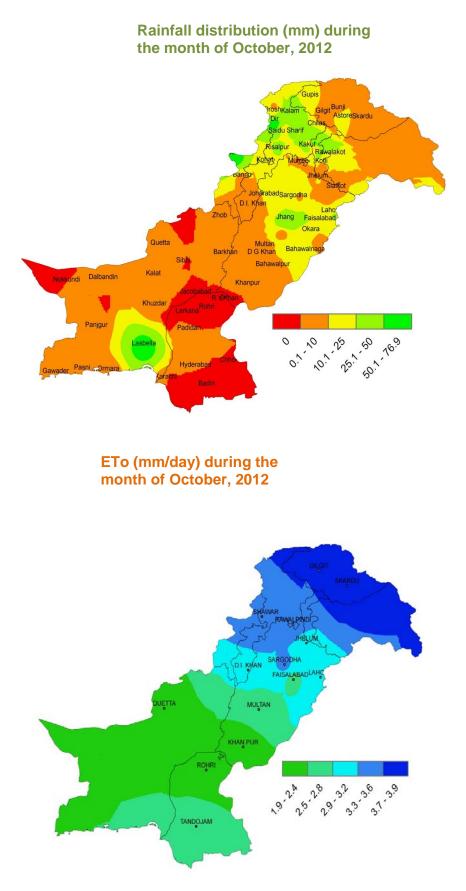
• ETo remained normal to below normal and R.H remained mostly normal to above normal in agricultural plains of the country.

• Agricultural soils showed mostly normal to cooler trend except agricultural soils of Sindh where significant rise in soil temperature at major root zone was observed during the month.

• Spraying of chemicals on cotton and picking/harvesting of early grown verities of cotton, rice and maize were the major field operations in most of the agricultural areas of the country during the month. Farmers have started land preparation and sowing of Rabi crops especially on fallow lands.

• Keeping the present soil moisture and dry weather prevailing over most of the agricultural plains, farmers of both irrigated and rainfed areas are advised to cultivate wheat crop up to 20<sup>th</sup> of November.

(2)



#### Weather Summary for October, 2012

In Pakistan, October is considered as one of the driest months of the year. It is also the transition month between summer and winter seasons. In October 2012, light/moderate rain/thunderstorms have been reported from the agricultural plains of Gilgit Baltistan, KP, Kashmir, and Punjab and at a few places in Balochistan. Whereas dry weather reported from agricultural plains of Sindh.

#### **Crop Situation in October, 2012**

Spraying of chemicals on cotton and picking/harvesting of early grown verities of cotton, rice and maize were the major field operations in most of the agricultural areas of the country during the month. Farmers have started land preparation and sowing of Rabi crops especially on fallow lands. Farmers of flood affected areas of Punjab remained also busy in drainage of stagnant water from fields to cultivate Rabi crops on time.

#### In Punjab:

Major Field crops in Punjab were cotton, rice and sugarcane. Picking of cotton crop is in full swing. Attack of sucking pests like thrips, jassid and white fly was reported in some parts of Bahawalpur, D.G.Khan, Multan, Sahiwal and Faisalabad division. Light attacks of CLCV and Mealy bug has been reported at a few places. Rainfall reported during the month caused fruit shedding and also affected the quality of picked phutty at Bahawalpur and Bahawalnagar districts respectively. Harvesting of rice variety "irri" is in full swing. The basmati crop is heading towards maturity. Crop condition is reported satisfactory and better average yield is expected as compared to last year. The growth and development of sugarcane crop reported satisfactory. Mild attack of leaf roller has been observed at Faisalabad, Lahore and Sahiwal divisions. The crushing of cane for making 'gur' is reported to have been started at places in Bahwalpur and Rahimyar Khan Districts. Mild attack of top borer is reported on Ratoon crop in Rajanpur district. Condition of maize crop is normal and the harvesting at some areas has been started. Below normal condition of the crop is reported in Potohar region due to soil moisture deficiency during crop season. Land preparation/Sowing of wheat and gram is in progress especially in rainfed areas of the province.

#### In Sindh:

Picking/harvesting of cotton crop has been almost completed. Condition of rice crop is observed satisfactory. Harvesting of the crop is in progress. Sugarcane crop is reported in good condition and harvesting of early sown crop is started. Sowing of wheat crop was started during the month in some areas. Condition of oilseed crops like caster and sesame is reported well. Caster is reported to be at maturity stage and harvesting of sesame is in progress. Rape mastered is in germination stage. Sunflower is growing at seed setting stage. Jtropha is at flowering stage. Seasonal fruits are reported at good condition. Cheeko, bananas and other orchards are reported at flowering stage. Some of the early grown winter vegetables are at mature stage and are now available in the market.

#### In Balochistan:

Condition of standing crops and orchards is reported satisfactory. All varieties of apples have developed color. Sowing of Rabi crops has been started. Winter vegetables reported in normal condition and are now available in the market.

#### In Khyber Pakhtunkhawa:

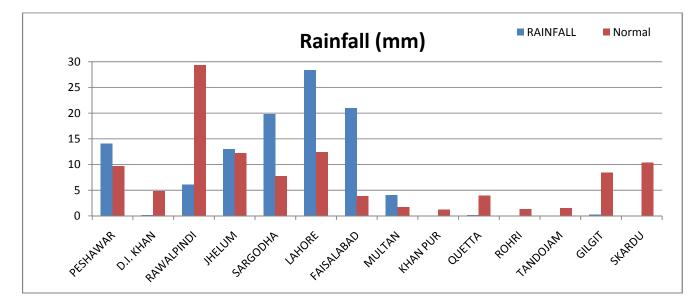
Crushing of the early grown sugarcane crop has been started in Charsadda and Mardan districts. Large scale crushing of the crop will take place in the months of January and February. Cultivation of canola crop has already been completed during the month. Harvesting of rice crop has started in the province. Harvesting and threshing of early growing varities of maize crop has almost completed in plain areas and is in progress in upper hilly areas of the province. However late growing varieties are in the field. Overall condition of orchards is reported satisfactory. Sowing of gram in rainfed and irrigated areas has completed and land preparation is in progress of sowing of wheat crop is in progress. Sowing of winter vegetables was in progress during the month. Picking of persimmon is in progress.

#### In Gilgit Baltistan:

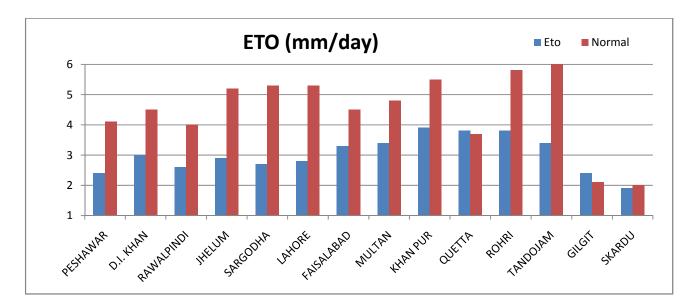
Harvesting of maize and red beans has almost been completed.

#### Moisture Regime during October, 2012

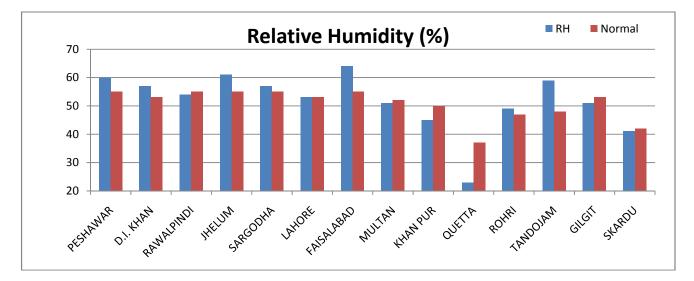
October is one of the driest months in the country. Monsoon weather systems completely retreat till the end of September and dry continental winds prevail in October over most of the agricultural plains. However during this October, three westerly waves passed across the country except agricultural plains of Sindh. Due to which satisfactory rains were reported in most of the agricultural plains in upper half of the country. Whereas dry weather was reported in Sindh and most parts of Balochistan.



The evaporative demand of the atmosphere represented by reference crop evapotranspiration (ETo) remained normal to below normal in most of the agricultural plains of the country except Quetta valley and Gilgit where it remained slightly above normal due to dry weather observed during the month in these areas. The highest value of ETo was estimated in Khanpur. Main reason for below normal ETo in major agricultural plains is the cloudy/humid atmosphere prevailing during the month.



The mean daily Relative Humidity (R.H) remained normal to above normal in most of the agricultural plains of the country. However significant drop in R.H was observed in areas of southern Punjab and Quetta valley. Maximum value of mean Relative humidity was observed 64% at Faisalabad followed by 61% at Jhelum and60% at Peshawar due to above normal rains in these areas, while the minimum value was observed at Quetta due to its dry weather and its dry climate in this month.

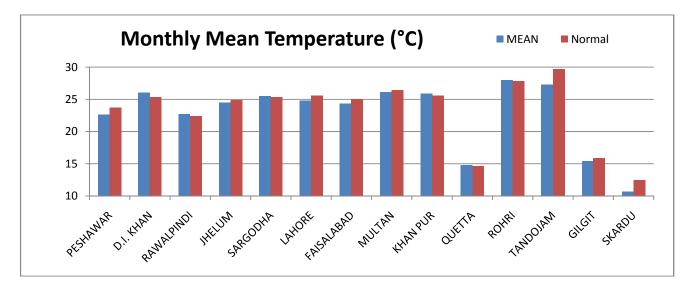


From overall analysis of the whole monsoon season of this year it is evident that satisfactory normal rains have been received in most parts of the country. These rains have produced. The moisture stress has finished and sufficient moisture is available in the atmosphere producing favorable conditions for the coming Rabi crops especially at sowing time. However stagnant water and unavailability of other resources like seed and fertilizer may reduce or delay the on time sowing of Rabi crops in flood affected areas of Punjab and Sindh.

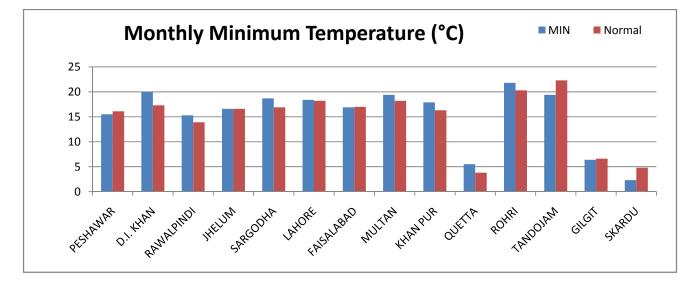
(6)

### **Temperature Regime during October, 2012**

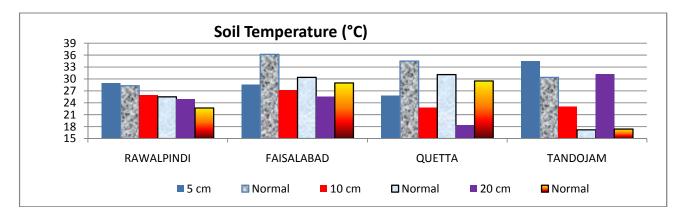
Temperature plays vital role in the growth and development of crops. Thermal regime in this month remained mostly normal/cooler in most agricultural plains of the country. The main reason for this trend is the cloudy/rainy weather which prevailed in most parts of the country during the month. Mean daily temperature remained normal or below normal by 1 to  $2^{\circ}$ C in all agricultural plains of the country except D.I.Khan, where it remained slightly above normal (by  $1^{\circ}$ C). Mean daily temperature ranged 23 to  $26^{\circ}$ C in Khyber Pakhtunkhawa, 23 to  $24^{\circ}$ C in Potohar plateau, 25 to  $26^{\circ}$ C in remaining parts of Punjab, 27 to  $28^{\circ}$ C in agricultural planes of Sindh, 11 to  $15^{\circ}$ C in Gilgit Baltistan region and it was observed  $15^{\circ}$ C in the high elevated agricultural planes of Balochistan represented by Quetta valley.



The night time temperature represented by mean minimum remained normal to above normal by 1-3°C in most of the agricultural plains except Peshawar in upper KP, Tandojam in lower Sindh and Skardu in Gilgit Baltistan region, where it remained below normal by the same extent. The lowest minimum temperature was recorded -3.8°C at Skardu.



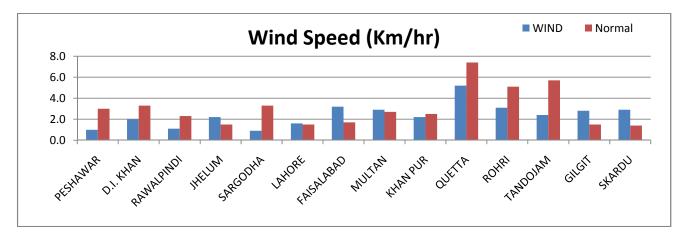
Agricultural soils showed mixed trend in the agricultural areas of the country. In Rawalpindi division and Tandojam in lower Sindh, soil temperature remained normal to above normal at root zones. The rise in soil temperature was observed more significant at Tandojam than Rawalpindi. In agricultural soils of Faisalabad are significant in Quetta valley than in Potohar region. In Faisalabad and Quetta valley, soil temperature at root zone remained normal to below normal by during the month.

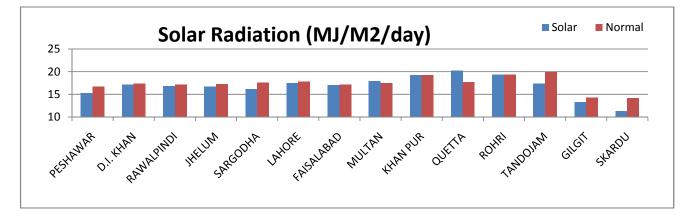


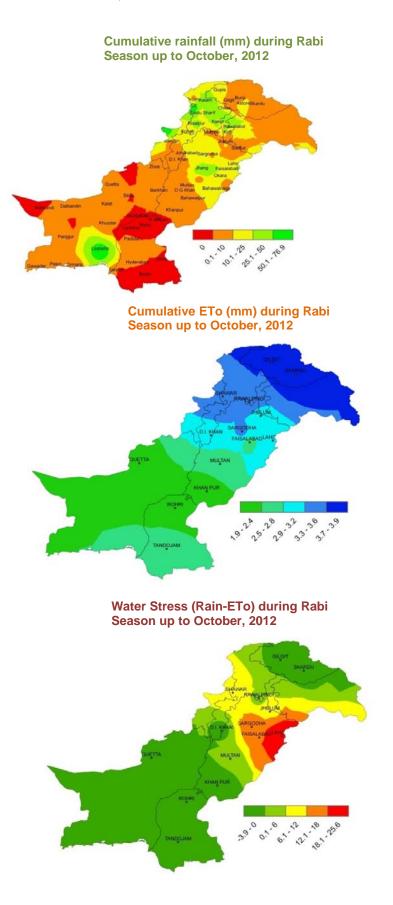
From the general analysis of soil behavior in this month, it is concluded that moisture has satisfactory status in the irrigated areas as well as in rainfed areas of the country. Satisfactory rains in October have much improved moisture situation in northern parts whereas in southern parts the situation is also satisfactory to some extent. Hence overall condition of moisture content both in irrigated and rainfed areas is satisfactory for sowing and initials growth of coming wheat and other Rabi crops and vegetables. But still rains are needed in rainfed areas for better soil moisture condition at early growth/cultivation of rabi crops.

## Solar Radiation and Wind Regime during October, 2012

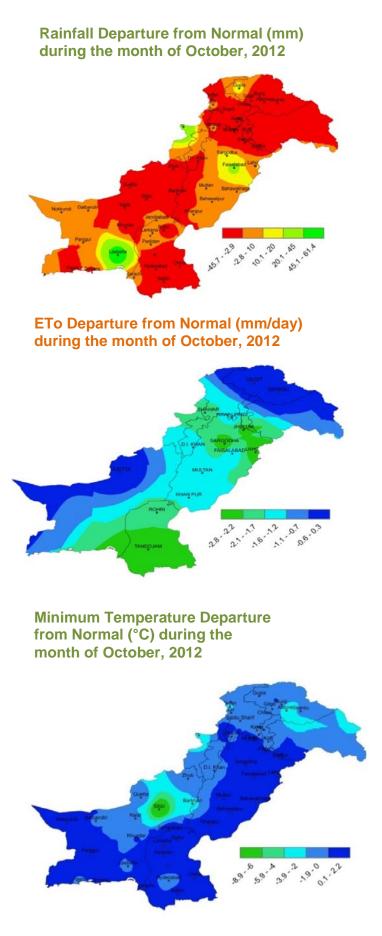
Total bright sunshine hours and solar radiation intensity remained normal to below normal in most of the agricultural plains of the country except Multan in southern Punjab and Quetta valley where these values remained above normal. This is mainly due to rainy/cloudy atmosphere in this month. Mean wind speed throughout agricultural plains of the country ranged between 1 to 5 km/h with North-east to North-west and South trend. Maximum wind speed was observed 5 km/h in Quetta.







Comulative Rainfall, ETo and water stress for Rabi Season (Oct to April, 2012)



#### (11) NORMALLY EXPECTED WEATHER DURING NOVEMBER, 2011

Normally, November is a dry month like October over Pakistan, northern parts of Punjab and Khyber Pakhtoonkhawa may receive some precipitation due to westerly troughs passing across the area. Northern parts of Khyberpakhtoon Khawa, Punjab and North Western parts of Balochistan generally receive rain from 10mm to 25 mm during November. Decreasing trend may be observed from North to Southward. Over rest of the agricultural plains of the country, generally, weather would remain dry during November.

Mean daily relative humidity may increase by 3 to 10% as compared to October. The increase of relative humidity in Sindh and Khyber pakhtoonKhawa would be less, whereas it is likely to be prominent in Punjab. Mean daily relative humidity may vary in the range of 45 to 60%. For the convenience of farming community of Potohar zone. The probability of occurrence of rainfall is given below:

Amount / Dates	Percentage probability of occurrence of different amounts of rainfall in November					
	1-5	6-10	11-16	17-20	21-25	26-30
10mm	16	8	2	12	4	10
15mm	6	7	2	12	4	8
25mm	0	3	0	6	0	2

Due to shorter days, lower solar intensities and light winds are expected as compared to October, the evaporative demand of atmosphere is expected to fall by 1 mm / day to 2 mm / day. They may range from 2.5 to 3.8 mm / day in northern Punjab and Khyberpakhtoon Khawa and 3.9 to 4.8 mm / day in southern Punjab and Sindh. The canopies of Rabi crops would be less dense during the period as it will be in early stage of its life cycle, therefore variations in ETo values will not be much as compared with the preceding month's ETo values. Chances of water stress are expected during November 2010 due to less precipitation in October.

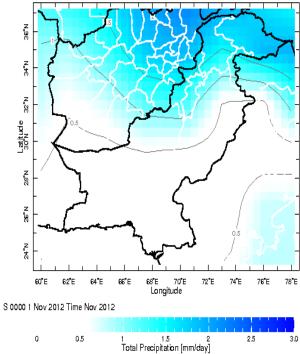
The mean daily temperature may fall by 6 to 8°C except high agricultural plains of Balochistan and lower Sindh where these may fall by 4 to 5°C respectively. These will range from 16 to 20°C Punjab, Khyberpakhtoon Khawa and about 10 °C at high agricultural plains of Balochistan. Mean maximum and mean minimum temperatures may fall by 5 to 8°C all over the country. Mean maximum temperature may range 25 to 28°C in Punjab and Khyberpakhtoon Khawa, 30 to 33°C in Sindh and about 18°C in high agricultural plains of Balochistan. Mean minimum may range from 7 to 10°C in Punjab and Khyberpakhtoon Khawa, 14 to 17°C in Sindh and about  $-2^{\circ}$  at Quetta representing the high agricultural plains of Balochistan. Highest temperature may not exceed from 40°C and minimum temperature may not fall beyond  $-10^{\circ}$ C. No heat stress day is expected anywhere in the county but some freezing nights in the later parts of the month are expected over high agricultural plains of Balochistan.

Due to seasonal shifting of the sun's position towards southern latitudes, the total numbers of bright sunshine hours are likely to fall by 20 to 35 hours as compared to October. These may range from 230 to 260 hours in Khyberpakhtoon Khawa and northern Punjab and from 260 to 290 hours in Southern Punjab and Sindh. The solar intensities may fall by 4  $MJ/M^2/day$  as compared to October and may remain close to 13  $MJ/M^2/day$  all over the country. Mean wind speeds are expected to remain less than 3 km/hr except high agricultural plains of Balochistan, lower Sindh and Islamabad where it may range from 4 to 7 km/hr.

Water requirement of full canopied, healthy and stress free crops is given in the following table:

		Water Requirement		
S. No	Region	(mm)	Cubic	
			Meter/Hectare	
1	Northern Punjab, Northern Khyberpakhtoon	110-160	1100-1200	
	Khawa and high agricultural plains of Balochistan	110-100	1100-1200	
2	Southern Khyberpakhtoon Khawa, and Southern	140-160	1400-1600	
	Punjab	140-100	1400-1000	
3	Sindh and Southern Balochistan	180-190	1800-1900	

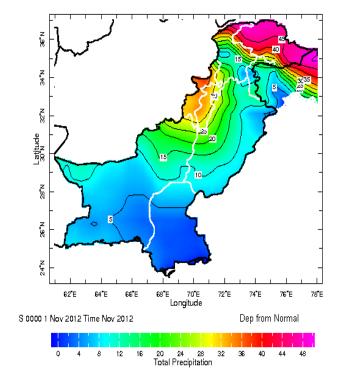
# Weather Outlook for November, 2012



2.5

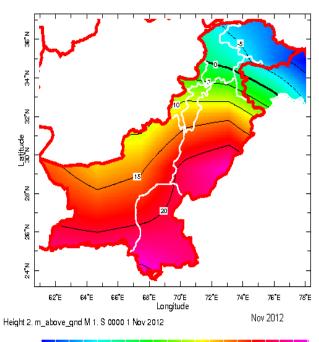
Expected Rainfall for November, 2012

Expected Temperature for November, 2012

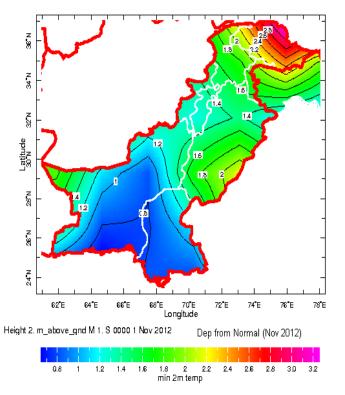


Expected Rainfall Departure for November, 2012

Expected Temperature Departure for November, 2012

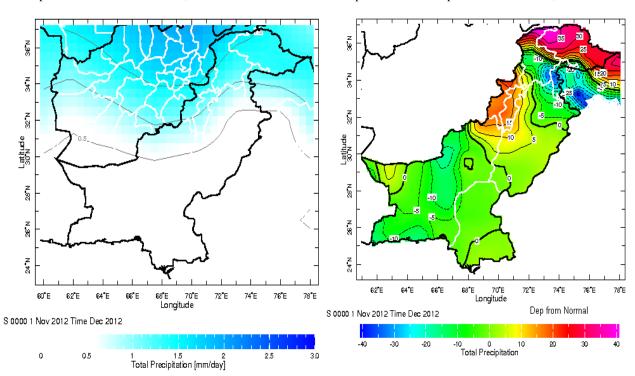




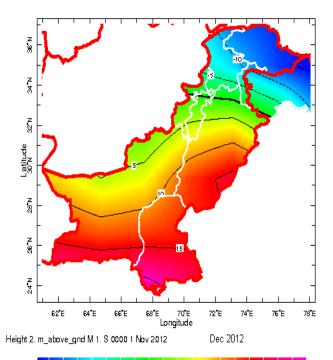


# Weather Outlook for December, 2012

Expected Rainfall for December, 2012

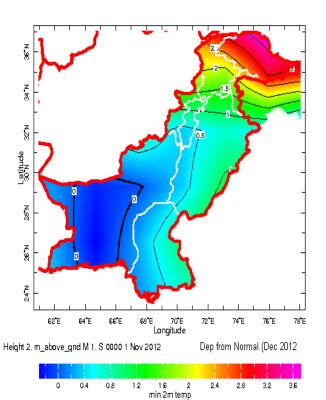


Expected Temperature for December, 2012





Expected Temperature Departure for December, 2012



(13)

Expected Rainfall Departure for December, 2012

نومبر 2012ء میں کاشتکاروں کے لئے زرعی موسمیاتی مشورے

اس سال اکتوبر شما ملک کے بالدنی ذرقی مید انی علاق وی شمول پڑھو ار ریکی ملک بعد ان اور خیر پخوشتو او شمار معول سے کم بارشی ملاکمی ۔ جمل ان بارشوں کے شیتی شما دیکی اچھی کی سوتھر بحد جار اور وقت ریچ کی نصلوں کو کاشت کر کے اس کی سے خاطر خواد کا کد وا تقلیل جا سکتا ہے۔ توہر کے مسینے شن تھی ملک کے ذرقی میدانی علاقوں شما بارش کی توضیح سے اس لیے توہر کے موج کی حالا سکتر موتھر بحض ملک کے بلاگ ملک کی اچھی پیدادار حاصل کر نے کہلیے ودوں سلمو بدندی کر ناد انتہ کی ایک میں میں ایک علاقوں شما بارش کی توضیح میں ایک کے توج میں ایک کے موج سے تعریک میں بلا میں بارش کی توضیح سے سال بلا سکتر میں م حوتھر بحض میں معرف کی ایک کی ایک کی تعالی کر اس کی سے خاطر خواد کا کہ واقع میں معرف میں بلا تھی بارش کی توقع ہے ماس لیے توہر موتھر کی محکوم میں کی اور کی تعالی کی کا تاج میں موج بندی کہ ماہ احت کی ایک میں میں میں میں میں بارش کی توقع ہے ماس کے تو اس میں میں بلا میں بارش کی توقع ہے ماس لیے تعد میں ک محل کہ است نہیں جو کی ان علاقوں کے کا شکار پانی کی تعاد کی معام سے وقت ہے میں میں میں میں میں بارش کی توقع ہے مال

ا۔ رہیسے کی تعلق کی بنائی کا آغا ذاکتور کے دستا سیٹرورنامیں چکابے رکند کا ترکام کی ایم ٹرین طل ہے ۔ بہترین پیداد ماس کرنے کیلیے شروری ہے کہ کند کی کا شت 20 نوبر تک پر صورت کمل کر کی جائے۔

۲۔ ۱۰ سیل دانی علاقوں شری جہاں زمین شراسا سب حد تک کی نیں اور بارٹ کا تھی اسکان زمین تروی ہے کہ گندم کے جنک کوایک رامنے پہلے پانی شرایعکو ویا جاتے اور تکن سور سے کا شت کر ویا جاتے گندم کرچن کو بوانی سے پہلے دوانی لکا تیرکز زبیجو کی سیارٹ کی مصورت شراوٹر سیاستفا وہ کیا جائے۔

۳۔ سس تحکیز دراعت محتق تعلوں کے ساتھ تندم کی تلوط کاشت کا مشور وویتا ہے۔ بیک و تت کھیت شک ایک سے زیاد و ضلوں کا میں تلوط کو ایا ہے جار کی اور و وارش کے علاقوں شک ریطر بقد معید ہے کیو تک بیدوں کیلیچانی وافر مقدار شکرا وہ وہوتا ہے۔

۳۔ موجود ہو می صورت حال کو مظفر رکھنے میں سی میں کی طاقع میں کے منظار جاول اور صحنا سے حال میں جلد از جلد کند میکی کا شت کم کریں یے کا شت کرنے سے بیداو ارش کی واقع موجاتی ہے۔

۵ - تومیر کانٹر کی یفتر علم میدانی علاقوں شراد حدر بنٹا المکان موتا ہے۔ جس کی وجہ سے چے ورمیز یا نہ شرائی گڑی نیا رکی (fungus) کا تحفر وموتا ہے۔ کسان تعفر ان ککر وزراعت کی متقور شدہ اود یا ت کا سہر کے کر کے فعل کو نیا رہے اس سے بیا بھتے ہیں ۔

۲. از اعت کی کامیالی شراموی حالات کا بہت عمل دخل ہے اور بہتر حکت عملی سے خیرمو ذو می موک حالات سے بھی استفادہ کیا جا سکانے یک کھر او سیات کی پیشکو کی کو طوط خاطر رکھ کر تعکر زاعت کے اہر ین کی مشاور سے سے معمولا سے کریں تو پیدادار شری خاطر خراہ اضافہ تکن ہے ہو کی حالا سے سے تعلق مو یہ مطومات کیلیے تعکر موجو سے راجد کیا جا سکانے جن کا پر دورج ذیل ہے۔

- ۲۔ سسم معطن فور کا سنگ سینٹر یا اے زراعت ، لی ۔او یکس ، 1214 بیکلون کی ایے ٹو ،اسلا آباد یکون ٹیر : ۔4۔0250363-65
  - ۳. بل الكرومية يشتر ما دولي غدى مرى دواندروليت كى فران ترو 051-9290635 ...
  - ۳. . . . رجبل المكرومين سيشر، ايم ب ريس مكالشيشية ف جعلك روا ، فيصل آباد فون نجرة 041-2657047
    - ٥ . . . ربيل الكرومين ينيشر، الكرليكجرر، يسريق المنيسية بنه، تُدُوم مام فون تجمر، 0222-766583

(15)

گندم کی پیدادار پربشمول موسم اثر انداز ہونے والے عوامل ۔

تر

V

1."An analysis of weather & Wheat Crop Development in lower Sindh (Tandojam) during the period 2000-01to 2010-11", MS-Dissertation by Muhammad Ayaz,

2."Monthly Zarat Nama, Agriculture department Govt of Punjab for the period 1-15 Oct, 2012."