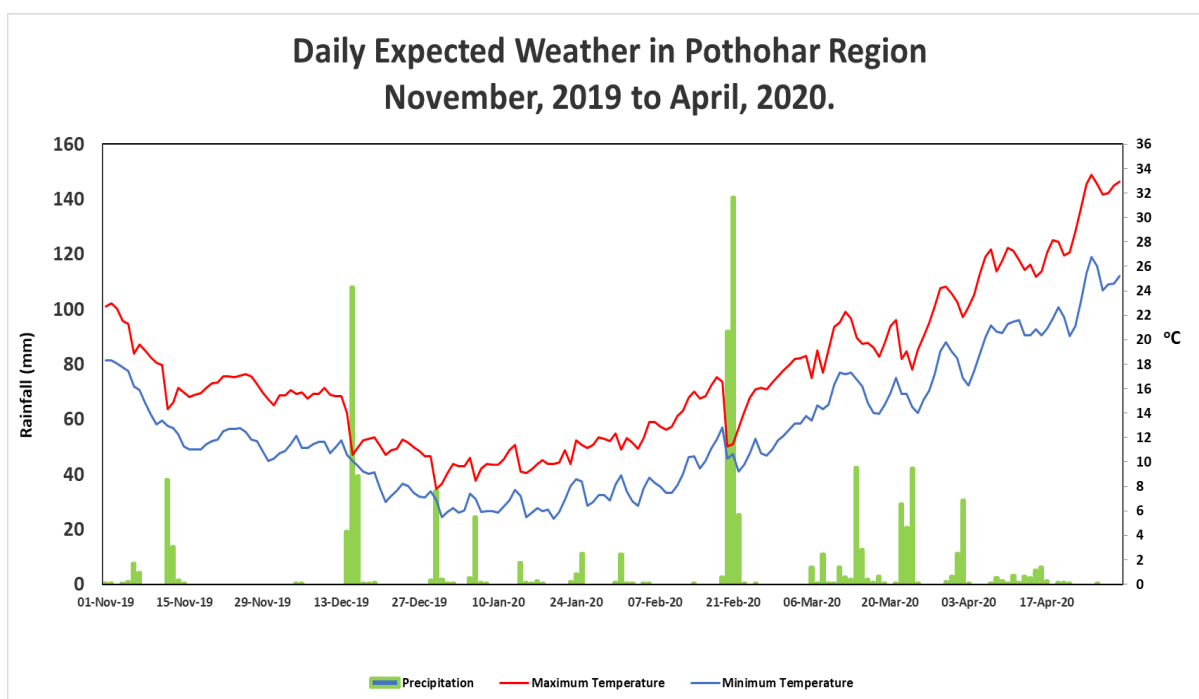


Seasonal Agro-Climat outlook for Rabi Season 2019-20

Seasonal climate outlook for Rabi season 2019-20 is based on the coupled forecast system models. The outlook is depicted in figures in terms of daily fluctuations of Maximum and Minimum Temperatures and Precipitation with a focus on major agriculture zones. The main purpose of seasonal outlook is to facilitate agriculture community for pre-planning their field activities as per expected weather conditions. Dry/ wet spells during the season as well as periods of cold-waves are highlighted. This forecast is a careful estimation of aforementioned weather parameters averaged over a specific area.

The seasonal outlook for **Potohar Region** is presented in Fig-1. This area may receive light to moderate rainfall with days of heavy downpours primarily during 2nd decade of December (crossing 100 mm) and in the 3rd decade of February approaching 150 mm. At this particular time wheat in the region is generally at grain formation stage, accordingly cloudiness and heavy rains may cause some stress to the crops. More rainy days are expected during the months of March till mid-April, i.e. at the final stages of wheat crop. The expected weather conditions may prolong the crop season as well as may impact final production of the crop.





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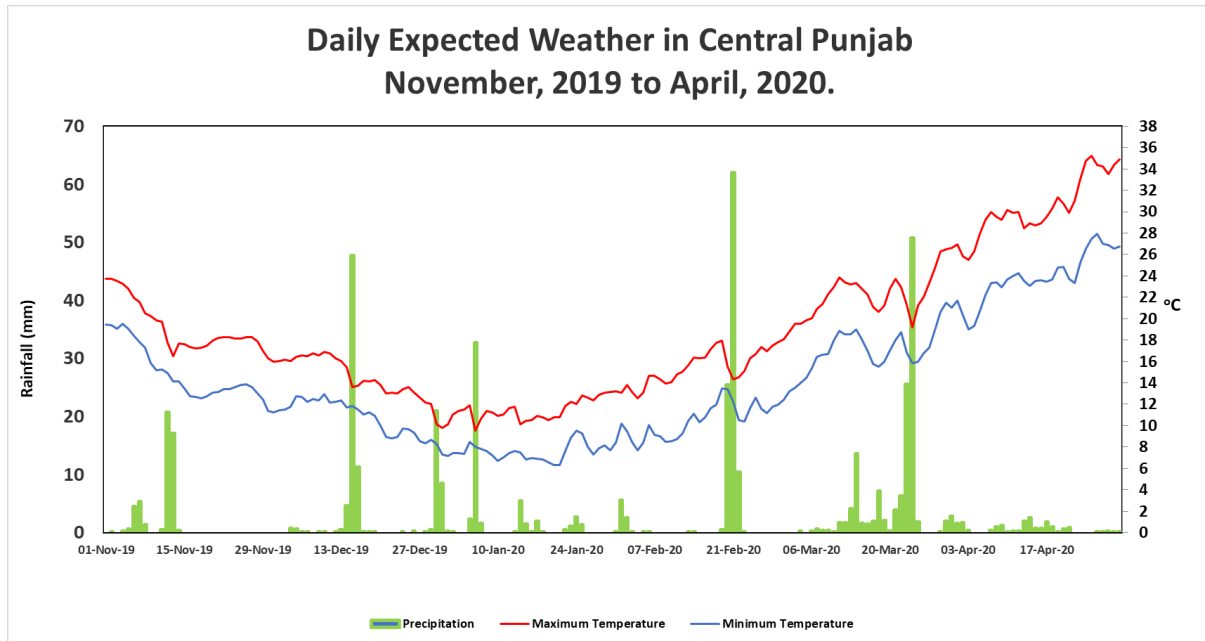
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The minimum temperature starts Rabi season with around 18°C then decrease gradually till January, reaching the lowest value of 5°C and would finally rise again up to 25°C. Therefore, it would not drop so to seize the growth of wheat crop. Similarly, maximum temperature follows the similar trend within the range of 10 to 33°C. The striking feature of the temperatures can be seen during heavy rainfall, as both the maximum and minimum temperature drops drastically with the events of rainfall. The main features of the expected climate for Rabi season 2019-20 are;

- 1 Early November is suitable for sowing of Rabi crop. Efforts may be made accordingly.
2. Two to three cold waves are likely from last decade of December 2019 till 3rd week of February.
- 3 After mid-April 2020, dry conditions may favour standing crops.

Central Punjab would receive spells of light to moderate rainfall throughout the period with peak value around 60 mm during the 3rd decade of February, second peak in 2nd decade of December (about 50 mm). Most rainy days would occur during the months of March and April, mainly after the mid of March. Here in this area the wheat crop is at final stages and normally leads the Potohar belt. Due to cloudy/rainy conditions at such an important stage the crop may take extra time to get mature.

The minimum temperature would start from 18°C, slowly decrease till the end of January reaching the lowest value of 5°C and finally rise again approaching 27°C. Therefore, same as in the case of Potohar, it may not drop as low to impact adversely on the growth of wheat crop. In the same way, maximum temperature would follow the seasonal pattern (starting from Fall/Autumn season, crossing the whole Winter and ends with Spring) within the range of 10 to 35°C. Both the maximum and minimum temperatures are expected to drop down after a spell of rainfall in the area and then normalized gradually as per prevailing season.



Southern Punjab, as per general pattern, would receive few spells of light rainfall occasionally during the period, with peak value around 16 mm during the end of December. It is expected that comparatively more rainy days would occur during the 3rd decades of March and April. The rains or cloudiness at the end of March may affect the maturity or dry matter production of wheat crop. However, the spells at the end of April would be insignificant for wheat in this area as the crop is harvested by the mid of this month.

The minimum temperature would start from 22°C, slowly decrease till the end of January reaching the lowest value of 10°C and at the end rise again up to 33°C. Similarly, maximum temperature may follow the seasonal curve within the range of 15 to 38°C. For this region as well both the maximum and minimum temperatures may drop after a rainfall spell in the area and then normalized gradually as per prevailing season.



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**Daily Expected Weather in Southern Punjab
November, 2019 to April, 2020.**

