

MOISTURE REGIME DURING JANUARY, 2012

Normally January is a rainy month in winter season in the agricultural plains of the country but during this January rainfall remained normal but satisfactory especially in the northern parts of the country and north western high elevated agricultural plains of Balochistan. Dry and cold continental winds prevailed over the country for most of the days during dry weather. The highest amount of rainfall was reported 150mm at Malam Jaba followed by 136mm at Dir, 129mm at Kotli, 128mm at Muaffarabad and 109mm at Kalam.

Numbers of rainy days recorded in the country ranged from 1 to 12 days. The maximum number of rainy days in the country was observed 12 at Quetta followed by 09 days at Jhelum and 07 days at Peshawar and Kamra each.

The evaporative demand of the atmosphere represented by reference crop evapotranspiration (ET_o) remained normal to below normal in most of the agricultural plains of the country. Highest value of R.H was observed 2.0mm/day at Khanpur and Tandojam each due to mostly dry weather/clear skies observed during the month in these areas. Whereas lowest value of 0.6mm/day was observed at Skardu due to very cold climate of this region during the month.

The mean daily Relative Humidity (R.H) remained normal to below normal in most of the agricultural plains of the country except upper plains of KPK represented by Peshawar where it remained above normal. Maximum value of mean Relative humidity was observed 68% at Kamra followed by 66% at Sargodha and 62% at Rawalpindi. The minimum value was observed at Rohri due to clear skies and its dry climate in this month.

Maximum number of days with mean R.H greater or equal to 80% was observed for 12 days at Skardu, followed by 05 days at Peshawar and 04 days at Lahore.

From overall analysis of atmosphere and soil, it is evident that even though below normal rains have received in this month also but severe water stress conditions were not observed in the agricultural plains due to in time rains received during the month. Rain received during the month and the expected winter rains in the coming February may further improve the moisture content in atmosphere and soils in the agricultural plains of the country.

MOISTURE REGIME DURING JANUARY 2012

STATION	PRECIPITATION (MM)			REFERENCE CROP EVAPOTRANSPIR- ATION (ETo) (MM/DAY)	RELATIVE HUMIDITY	
	TOTAL	No. OF DAYS	OF ≥ 5 MM/DAY		MEAN	No. OF DAYS WITH MEAN R.H ≥ 80%
PESHAWAR	41.9 (26.0)	07	30.0	1.0 (1.8)	61 (59)	05
D.I. KHAN	0.3 (10.0)	04	0.0	1.5 (2.0)	51 (59)	00
KAMRA	41.0 ---	07	40.0	--- ---	68 ---	00
RAWALPINDI	44.6 (56.1)	03	44.6	1.1 (1.7)	62 (63)	00
JHELUM	63.8 (33.8)	09	63.8	1.3 (2.0)	58 (67)	02
SARGODHA	3.0 (13.0)	03	0.0	1.3 (2.0)	66 (67)	03
LAHORE	18.6 (23.0)	04	12.2	1.3 (2.1)	61 (65)	04
FAISALABAD	3.2 (11.5)	04	0.0	1.7 (2.0)	58 (66)	01
MULTAN	3.0 (7.2)	03	0.0	1.4 (2.1)	57 (63)	01
KHAN PUR	TR (4.4)	01	0.0	2.0 (2.3)	51 (57)	00
QUETTA	45.0 (56.7)	12	35.4	1.4 (1.0)	53 (66)	04
ROHRI	0.0 (3.5)	00	0.0	2.0 (2.6)	49 (53)	01
TANDOJAM	2.0 (1.2)	01	0.0	1.8 (3.5)	57 (64)	00
GILGIT	TR (4.0)	03	0.0	1.1 (0.8)	51 (66)	00
SKARDU	6.9 (21.0)	04	5.2	0.6 (0.6)	59 (72)	12