



Weekly Special Agriculture Bulletin



Punjab Agricultural University Ludhiana

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WEATHER FORECAST: Weather is expected to remain dry during next 4-5 days in Punjab.

EXPECTED WEATHER CONDITIONS:

| WEATHER PARAMETERS | SUB-MONTANEOUS ZONE | CENTRAL PLAIN ZONE | SOUTH-WESTERN ZONE |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Maximum Temperature (°C) | 23-26 | 23-26 | 23-28 |
| Minimum Temperature (°C) | 06-10 | 06-10 | 06-10 |
| Morning Relative Humidity (%) | 81-93 | 81-93 | 83-93 |
| Evening Relative Humidity (%) | 44-64 | 43-64 | 28-64 |

WEATHER CROP OUTLOOK: Weather is expected to remain dry during next 4-5 days in Punjab. Farmers are advised to carry out recommended land preparation, sowing and need based spraying/irrigation to the crops.

CROPS:

Wheat: Apply recommended irrigation to timely sown crop. Farmers are advised to sow varieties PBW 752, PBW 771 and PBW 757 under late sown irrigated conditions. For wheat sown after 15th December, apply 55 kg DAP or 155 kg single super-phosphate per acre at sowing. DAP is used as source of phosphorus however, if single superphosphate is used then apply 20 kg urea per acre. Broadcast 45 kg urea for timely sown crops and 35 kg per acre for wheat crop sown after mid-December each with first and second irrigation. In fields where paddy straw managed with happy seeder & super seeder sow wheat variety PBW 869 in entire state. To control *Phalaris minor* in wheat, apply pre-emergence herbicides Stomp 30 EC (Pendimethalin) @ 1.5 litre per acre or Awkira/Momiji 85 WG (Pyroxasulfone) @ 60 g per acre or use platform 385 SE (Pendimethalin + metribuzin) @ 1.0 litre or Daksh plus 48 EC (pendimethalin + metribuzin). Use any one of herbicide within 2 days of sowing by using 200 litres of water per acre. In medium fertility soils, apply 55 kg DAP/acre at sowing to irrigated wheat as a source of nitrogen and phosphorus

Sugarcane: Save the crop from frost by applying irrigation around mid-December. Start crushing/harvesting (for mill purpose) early maturing varieties. Soon after the harvesting, burn the trash and irrigate the fields. When the soil attains the optimum moisture condition, loosen it by inter-culture. Do not cover stubble with cane trash.

Oilseed: The harvesting of *toria* should be completed to avoid losses owing to shattering.

Pulses: Give hoeing to gram and lentil to keep weeds under check. Give irrigation to normal sown gram crop as per recommendation as dry and cold weather expected in coming 4-5 days.

Fodder: **Oats:** First cutting of early sown oats may be taken during this month to meet the fodder scarcity. Avoid taking 2 cuttings from oats where heavy infestation of the Poa is there. **Berseem:** In light textured soils in paddy-based system, the deficiency of manganese may appear in berseem crop. The mid stem leaves show pinkish brown spots which later on form necrotic lesions. To control this deficiency, spray the crop after two weeks of cutting with 0.5% manganese sulphate solution (1/2 kg manganese sulphate in 100 litres of water per acre). Two to three sprays are required at weekly interval on sunny days. In Berseem crop affected with stem rot, cut the crop and expose the soil to the sun. Apply irrigation at regular interval in view of possible dry weather during the period.

Vegetables:

- Plan irrigation as per requirement in view of possible dry and cold weather during this period.
- Monitor potato crop at regular interval for the late blight symptoms. On young potato crop, spray Indofil M-45/ Mass M-45/Markzeb/Kavach/Antracol to manage late blight if disease pressure is low. In case of high disease severity, spray the crop with Ridomil Gold/Curzate M8/Sectin/Equation Pro/Revus/Melody Duo.
- Complete transplanting of tomato seedlings in the first fortnight of this month. Provide *sarkanda* or polythene sheet to protect the plants from frost. Dwarf tomato varieties can be saved from frost injury by covering of individual plants with 100-gauge thick white plastic bags of 35 x 25 cm size.

Fruits:

- The temperature is decreasing day by day, so protect the cold sensitive and young fruit plants such as mango, papaya, guava, litchi, dragon fruit etc.
- Apply 1-2 irrigations to fruit trees laden with fruits e.g. guava, ber, citrus.
- Start application of well rotten farm yard manure in all fruit crops except guava and ber.
- For management of mango mealy bug, the nymphs of this bug must be prevented from crawling up the trunks of mango trees by fixing slippery bands one meter above the ground level in this month. Initiate the efforts in this direction.
- The soil preparation and layout of the field for planting of deciduous plants can be initiated.

Animal Husbandry: In winter, take care not to bathe the animals during morning and evening hours but bathe them during noon. Specially they must not be bathed when cold winds are blowing. For clean milk production, the area around udder should be cleaned thoroughly with a brush and later on wipe with a clean cloth. Also do not tie the animals outside during extreme winter as milk production and health of animals can be severely affected.

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