

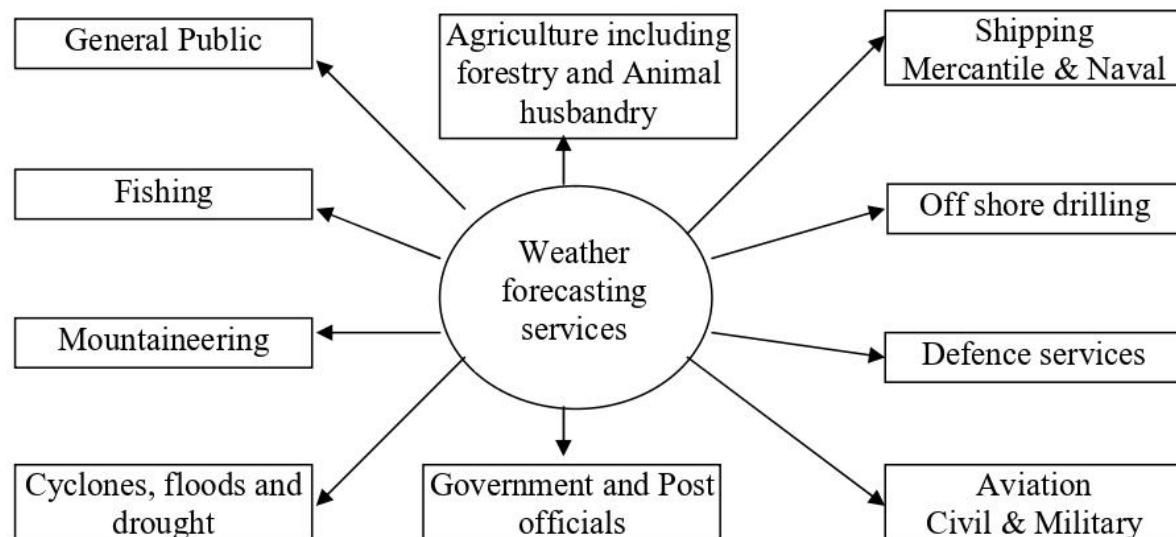
AGROCLIMATIC NORMALS, WEATHER FORECASTING – TYPES, IMPORTANCE – SYNOPTIC CHART – CROP WEATHER CALENDAR.

Climatic normals

The climatic normals are the average value of 30 years of a particular weather element. The period may be week, month and year. The crop distribution, production and productivity depend on the climatic normals of a place. If the crops are selected for cultivation based on the optimum climatic requirements it is likely that the crop production can be maximized.

Weather forecast

The prediction of weather for the next few days to follow. The Figure below depicts different weather forecasting services normally practiced in a country.



NEED / IMPORTANCE OF FORECAST

- ❖ Basically weather has many social and economic impacts in a place.
- ❖ Among different factors that influence crop production, weather plays a decisive role as aberrations in it alone explains up to 50 per cent variations in crop production
- ❖ The rainfall is the most important among the required forecast, which decides the crop production in a region and ultimately the country's economy.
- ❖ The planning for moisture conservation under weak monsoon condition and for flood relief under strong monsoon condition is important in a region.
- ❖ A reliable weather forecasting when disseminated appropriately will pave way for the effective sustainability.
- ❖ One can minimize the damage, which may be caused directly or indirectly by unfavourable weather.
- ❖ The recurring crop losses can be minimized if reliable forecast on incidence of pest and diseases is given timely based on weather variables.
- ❖ Help in holding the food grain prices in check through buffer stock operations. This means that in good monsoon years when prices fall, the government may step in and buy and in bad years when price tend to rise, it may unload a part of what it had purchased.
- ❖ Judicious use of water can be planned in a region depending up on the forecast.

Type of weather forecast

	Types of forecast	Validity period	Main users	Predictions
1	Short range a) Now casting	Up to 72 hours 0-2 hours	Farmers marine agencies, general public	Rainfall distribution, heavy rainfall, heat and cold wave conditions, thunder storms etc.
	b) Very short range	0-12 hours		
2	Medium range	Beyond 3 days and upto 10 days.	Farmers	Occurrence of rainfall, Temperature.
3	Long range	Beyond 10 days upto a month and a season.	Planners	This forecasting is provided for Indian monsoon rainfall. The outlooks are usually expressed in the form of expected deviation from normal condition.

Accuracy, usefulness and main limitations of weather forecasts for agriculture

Type of weather forecast	Accuracy ^a	Usefulness		Main limitations
		Real	Potential	
Nowcasting	Very high	Very low	Low	Unsuitability of broadcasting system; insufficient flexibility of agricultural technology
Very short-range forecast	Very high	Low	Moderate	Unsuitability of broadcasting system; insufficient flexibility of agricultural technology; farmers do not know how to make the most use of available forecasts
Short-range weather forecast	High	Moderate	High	Further adaptation of forecasts to farmers' requirements is needed; farmers do not know how to make the most use of available forecasts
Medium-range weather forecast	High or moderate until 5 days; lower thereafter	High	Very high	Further adaptation of forecasts to farmers' requirements is needed; farmers do not know how to make the most use of available forecasts
Long-range forecast	Very low	High in warning of delays in arrival of weather systems. Very low otherwise	Poor	Reliability (The reliability of LRF is higher for the tropics than for mid-latitudes. This is because tropical areas have a moderate amount of predictable signal, whereas in the mid-latitudes random weather fluctuations are usually larger than the predictable component of the weather.)

Synoptic Charts

The word synoptic means a summary of the current situation. Therefore, in weather terms, a synoptic chart is a map that summarises what kind of weather is moving over places. Synoptic charts are a tool meteorologists use to observe and predict weather conditions over a large area, such as a country or continent.

Representation of Weather Elements

Air Pressure: One of the main elements displayed on a synoptic chart is air pressure, which is critical for forecasting weather.

Isobars: These are lines that connect areas of the same air pressure. They help identify high and low-pressure systems.

Wind Patterns: By studying the isobars, meteorologists can deduce the wind direction and speed.

Temperature, Rainfall, and Other Weather Symbols: These charts may also include specific symbols that represent different weather conditions like temperature, humidity, rainfall, etc.

Symbol	Precipitation	Symbol	Cloud cover	Symbol	Wind speed
,	Drizzle	○	Clear sky	○	Calm
▽	Shower	○	One okta	—	1-2 knots
●	Rain	○-	Two oktas	—	5 knots
★	Snow	○-	Three oktas	—	10 knots
△	Hail	○-	Four oktas	—	15 knots
↖	Thunderstorm	○-	Five oktas	—	20 knots
●●●	Heavy rain	●	Six oktas	—▼	50 knots or more
●●	Sleet	○	Seven oktas		
▽	Snow shower	●	Eight oktas		
—	Hist	⊗	Sky obscured		
≡	Fog				

High and low-pressure systems

High Pressure: This often means settled and clear weather. On the chart, it's represented by widely spaced isobars.

Low Pressure (Depression): This is typically associated with unsettled weather, like rain and storms. Closely spaced isobars represent low pressure.

Why are synoptic charts important in weather forecasting

Synoptic charts provide a big-picture view of the weather over a region, making them essential for weather prediction.

They help in understanding the movement and development of weather systems.

They are helpful for everyone, from meteorologists to pilots, sailors, and even ordinary people planning their day.

Synoptic charts

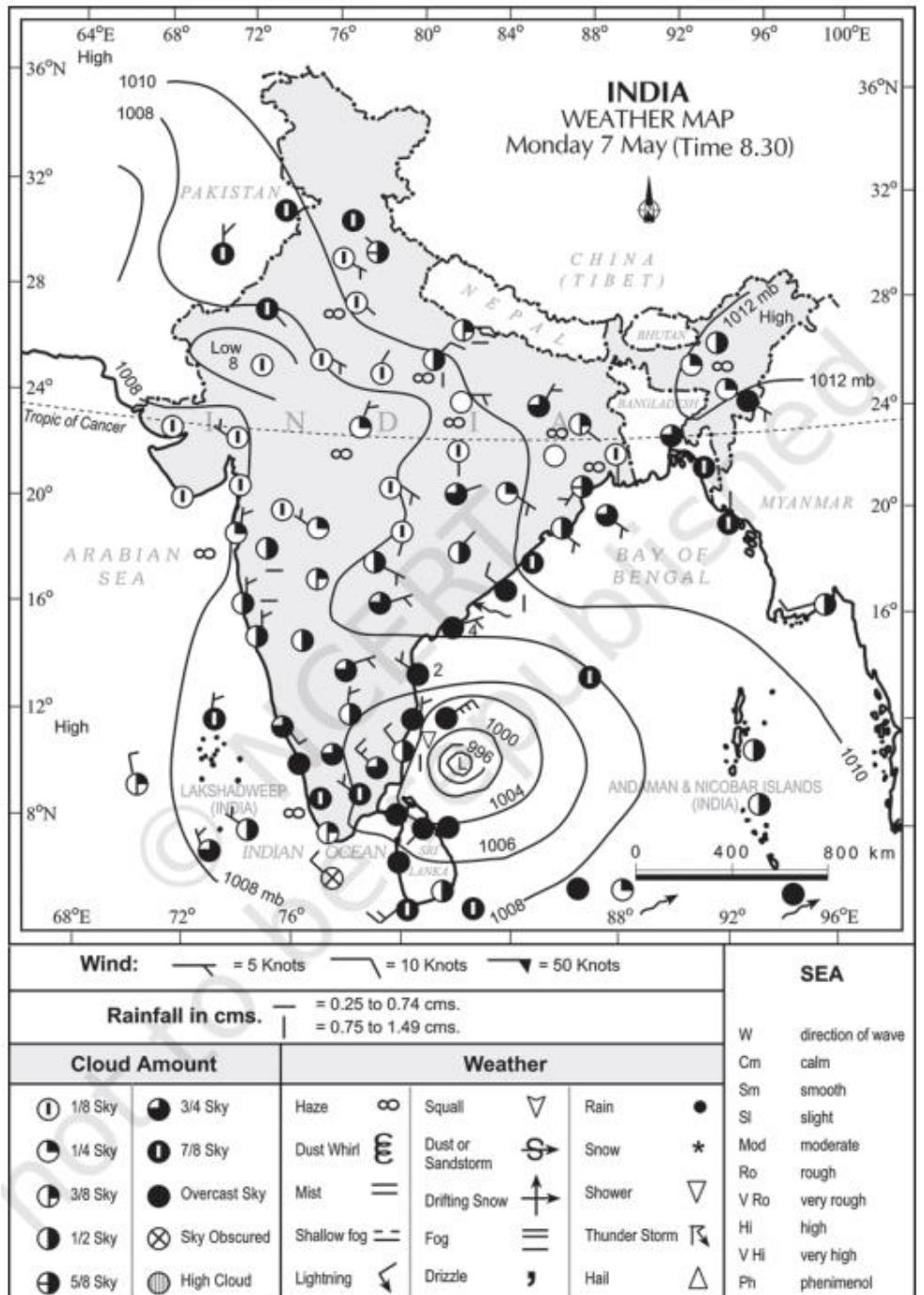
An enormous volume of meteorological data is being collected from all over the world continuously round the clock through various telecommunication channels. To assess, assimilate and analyse the vast data, they have to be suitably presented. For this purpose, the observations are plotted on maps in standard weather codes. These maps are called 'Synoptic maps or charts'.

Synoptic charts display the weather conditions at a specified time over a large geographical area. The surface synoptic charts plotted for different synoptic hours (00, 03, 06, 09, 12, 15, 18, 21 UTC) depict the distribution of pressure, temperature, dew point, clouds, winds, present and past weather. In place of GMT, UTC (Universal Time Co-ordinate) is used. The upper air charts are also prepared at the standard pressure levels of the atmosphere (different heights) of the atmosphere wherein the pressure, wind and temperature are plotted. The surface charts together with the upper air charts provide a composite three-dimensional weather picture pertaining to a given time. Thus it gives a birds eye view of the state of atmosphere at a time over a large area and is an important tool used by operational meteorologists and scientists.

The surface synoptic charts are the most used charts. It contains the maximum number of observations with the largest number of parameters plotted and often forms the base on which the pressure level charts are built up. The pattern of the pressure distribution is brought out by drawing isobars, troughs, ridges, lows, highs, depressions, cyclones, cols, fronts and discontinuities. These systems are clearly marked and labeled using appropriate symbols and colours.

In synoptic charts different weather phenomena and atmospheric characters are marked with different symbols as mentioned below.

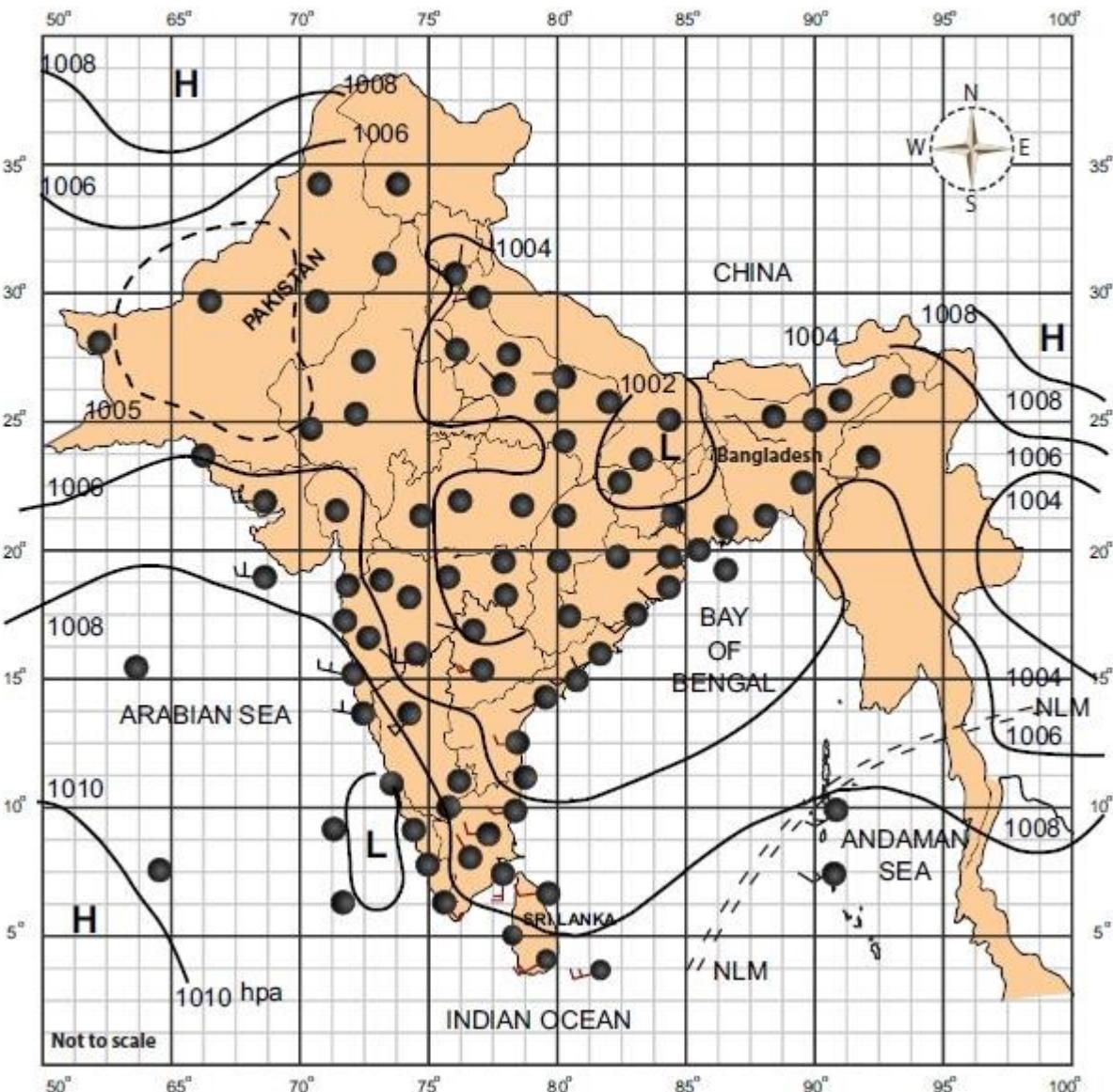
S.No	Symbols	Weather element/character/phenomenon
1.	Narrow black lines	Isobars
2.	Numbers at ends of isobars	Pressure values in hPa
3.	Shading	Precipitation
4.	Arrows	Wind direction
5.	Feathers in the arrows	Wind velocity
6.	Small circles with shading	Amount of clouds



INDIAN DAILY WEATHER REPORT

WEATHER MAP AT 08.30 HRS .I.S.T. (0300 HRS. G.M.T)

Monday 1 June 1992 (11 Jyaistha 1914 Saka)



Current weather Forecast

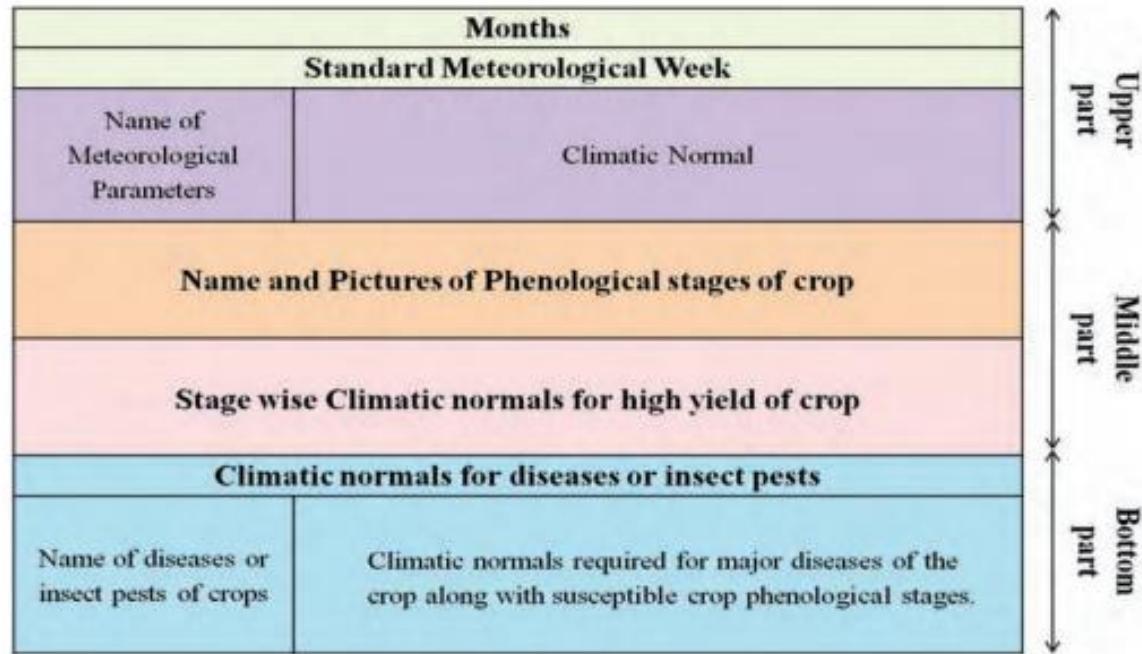
<https://www.weather-forecast.com/maps/India>

Crop-Weather Calendars

- Weather is one of the most important factors affecting the agricultural production.
- The increase in climatic variability and associated extreme weather episodes such as erratic rainfall distribution, abrupt change in day and night temperatures during crop season and sudden outbreaks in pest disease population, are throwing challenges to sustaining production levels of different crops.
- One strategy that farmers can adopt to sustain or increase crop yields in the face of a highly variable climate is to manipulate the crop environment through improved management strategies for adaptation.
- Agriculture is one of the most important sectors for India. Proper planning for this sector requires relevant and reliable information in timely manner. Information on crop, its stages and the week by week weather during the crop season is essential for proper management of agriculture.
- Farm operations planned in conjunction with weather information are very likely to curtail the costs of inputs and various field operations.
- Crop weather calendar is a comprehensive guide for farmers.
- It is a tool that provides information on average weather of every week, planting, sowing and harvesting periods of locally adapted crops in a specific agro-ecological zone.
- Further, stage-wise pest disease infestation information can also be added

- The weather calendar provides information on the sowing rates of seed and planting material and the main agricultural practices.
- This tool supports farmers and agriculture extensionists in taking appropriate decisions on crops and their sowing period, respecting the agro- ecological dimension.
- It also provides a solid base for emergency/contingency planning of the rehabilitation of farming systems after disasters.
- The concept of using crop-weather calendar provide information on the crop sowing and harvesting dates, seed rate, operation timings of mechanical equipment in the period etc.
- This calendar describes the month wise weather and operations to be taken up during the period

Structure of the Crop-weather Calendar



↑
 Upper
part
 ↓
 Middle
part
 ↓
 Bottom
part

- Structure of crop weather calendar consists of three parts.
- Climatic normals for location specific crop growing season is presented in the upper portion.
- Phenological events of the crop are represented in a weekly time frame in the middle portion together with favourable climatic parameters to realize potential or optimum yield.
- On the lower part of the calendar, the favourable weather conditions for development of pests and diseases are reported. The components of each part of the calendar are discussed here under.

Top Portion of the Calendar

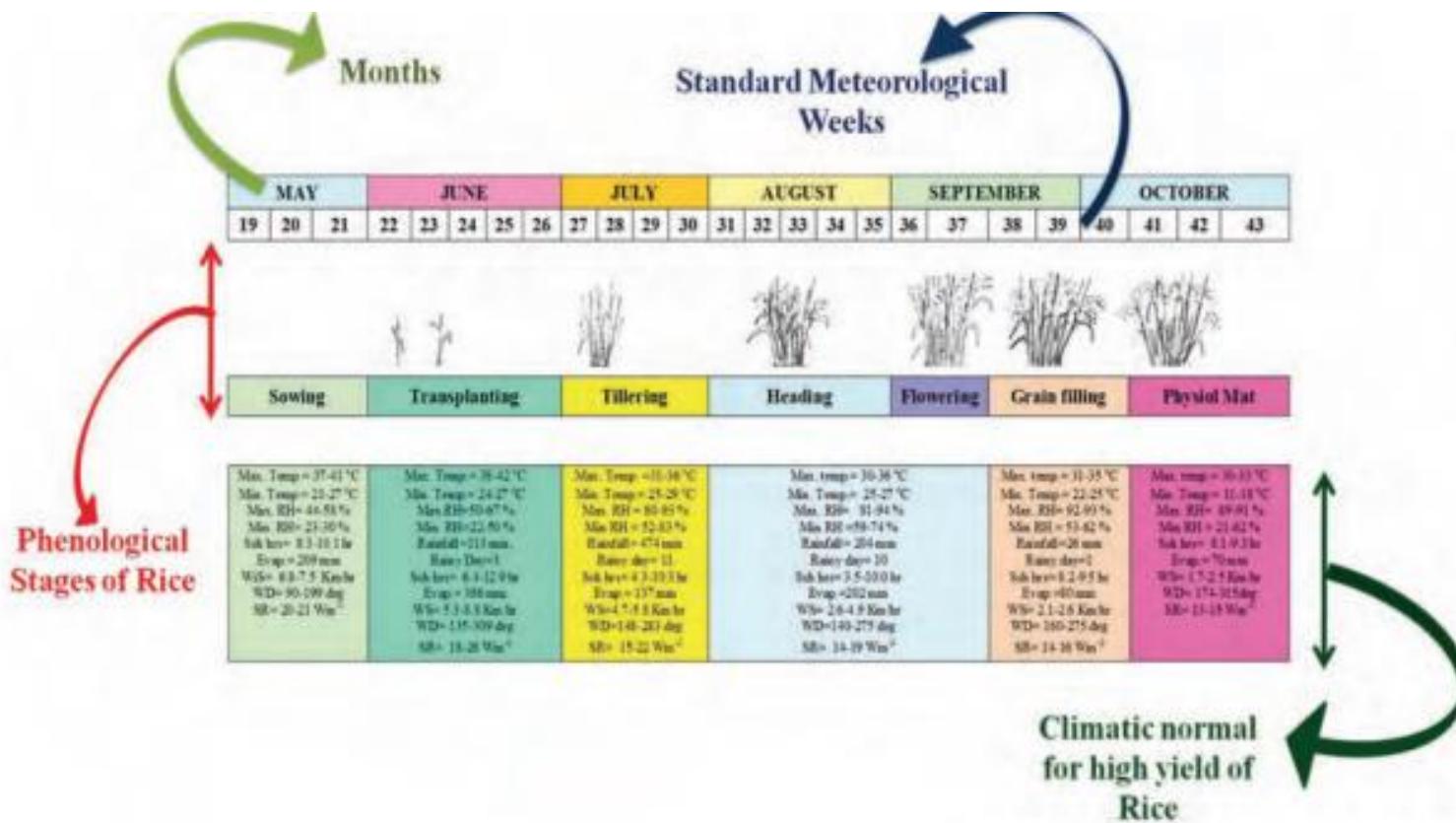
Part I - Climatic normals

These climatic normals of each centre computed for total weekly rainfall (mm), number of rainy days, evaporation (mm), weekly maximum temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$), minimum temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$), mean temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$), sunshine hours (hours), solar radiation, maximum relative humidity (%), minimum relative humidity (%), mean relative humidity (%), wind speed (Km/hr) and wind direction (degree) arranged in standard meteorological week wise in the upper portion of crop weather calendar

MONTHS	MAY					JUNE					JULY					AUGUST					SEPTEMBER				
Std.Wk/ Normal	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43
Rain (mm)	5.7	6.0	5.2	3.0	13.6	13.7	16.2	30.4	51.0	58.4	66.4	46.8	56.4	63.4	33.3	41.1	67.9	37.0	17.4	21.8	10.6	3.3	1.9	5.8	0.2
Rainy Day	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Max T ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	38.1	38.8	39.1	39.7	39.5	38.0	37.4	36.1	35.3	34.2	34.0	33.6	33.0	33.4	33.5	33.5	33.3	33.3	33.7	33.4	33.5	32.9	31.4	30.6	
Min T ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	21.9	22.9	23.5	24.1	25.2	25.5	26.1	26.6	26.1	26.1	26.2	26.2	26.0	25.9	25.8	25.4	24.8	24.0	23.2	22.4	20.9	19.2	17.8	15.8	14.4
Mean T ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)	30.0	30.8	31.3	31.9	32.3	31.7	31.7	31.3	30.7	30.2	30.1	29.9	29.5	29.6	29.5	29.5	29.1	28.7	28.2	28.1	27.1	26.2	25.3	25.6	22.5
SShr (hrs)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.4	10.1	9.2	8.9	8.0	7.6	6.9	6.9	6.4	6.1	6.6	7.2	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.2	8.2	9.7	9.3	8.8	8.9	
SR (W m^{-2})	21.8	22.7	22.9	22.5	25.0	22.1	21.5	20.0	19.3	17.8	18.2	17.4	16.8	16.8	17.2	17.7	17.4	17.5	17.4	17.4	17.2	16.7	15.8	14.8	14.2
Evap (mm)	67.3	70.5	70.8	75.8	71.9	63.8	61.4	50.2	44.2	38.2	35.7	41.3	31.4	29.2	30.7	30.6	30.5	31.2	30.1	30.8	29.8	30.0	28.8	26.7	24.3
RHmax (%)	55	57	56	54	56	65	68	75	80	85	85	86	87	88	85	88	88	89	88	89	87	87	86	86	87
RHmin (%)	26	27	26	26	31	19	44	57	58	64	66	67	70	70	65	67	66	67	60	54	48	41	36	35	31
RH avg (%)	40	42	41	40	44	52	56	64	69	73	75	76	78	79	75	78	77	76	74	71	68	64	61	60	60
WD (Deg)	208	197	215	232	239	201	197	172	167	146	159	171	140	161	176	176	188	199	205	209	240	234	223	253	238
WS (Km/hr)	6.8	6.6	6.8	7.0	7.4	7.0	7.3	6.8	6.0	5.8	5.5	4.9	3.7	4.4	4.1	3.8	3.6	3.3	3.0	3.1	2.7	2.8			

Middle Portion of the Calendar

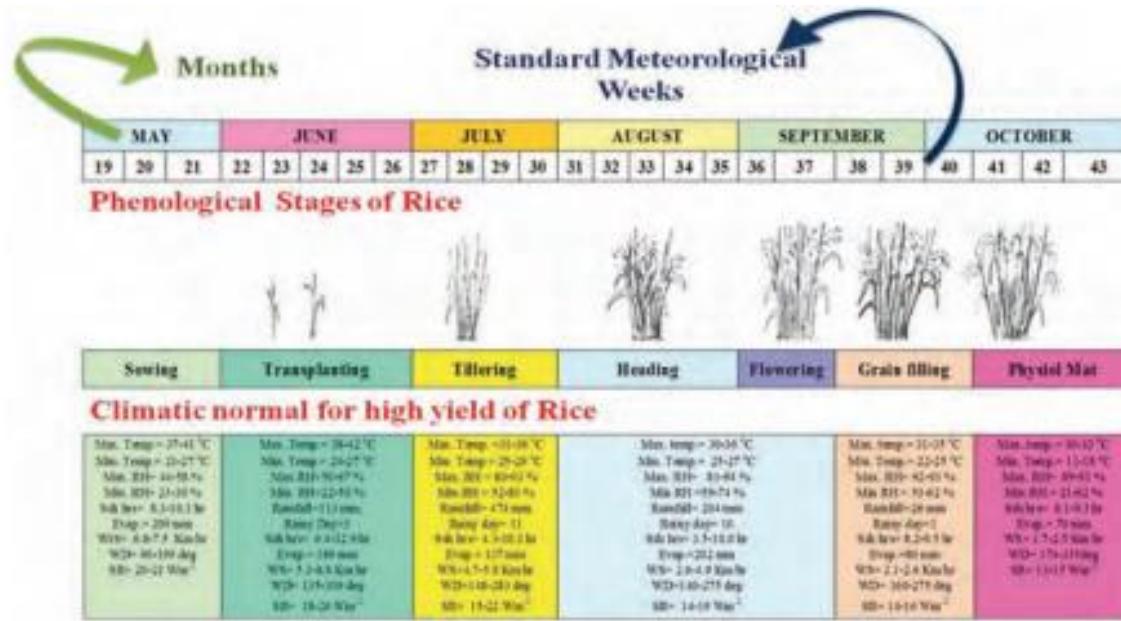
Part-II Phenological observations and Climatic normal of crops



Bottom Portion of Calendar

Part-III Climatic normal favourable for incidence of major pest

The Crop-Weather-Pest and Disease calendars comes as bottom part of the calendar which contain the climatic normals required for major pest or diseases of the crop as well as susceptible crop phenological stages. Thus if the climatic conditions are favourable and the pathogen is present, there are chances of occurrence of the pest and disease.



- These crop-weather-pest and disease calendars act as a guiding tool while issuing Agromet-advisory for the farmers of the region.
- These calendars can also be used for advising the farmers for need based spraying of the insecticides and pesticides

Crop weather calendar of Rice - Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh

Kanpur is situated in the hot moist semi-arid ESR of Uttar Pradesh with deep loamy alluvium-derived soils, medium to high AWHC and LGP of 120-150 days. Rice is the major crop in *Kharif* season.

Crop weather calendar of wheat - Ludhiana, Punjab

Ludhiana is situated in hot semi-arid ESR of Punjab state with deep loamy alluvium-derived soils medium AWHC and LGP of 90-120 days. This crop weather calendar is prepared for medium to long duration wheat crop.

MONTHS	OCT	NOVEMBER					DECEMBER					JANUARY					FEBRUARY					MARCH					APRIL	
	Std. Week/Norm	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
Rain (mm)	0.5	3.8	0.7	0.9	2.5	1.6	0.5	2.8	6.1	5.9	2.9	3.4	3.2	8.1	7.2	4.9	11.7	7.9	6.4	9.8	2.5	6.3	7.5	2.9	6.0			
Max T (°C)	31.0	28.1	28.1	27.1	25.3	23.8	22.9	21.6	20.7	19.1	19.1	18.9	19.1	19.8	19.6	20.9	21.6	22.3	23.9	25.4	27.0	27.4	29.5	31.2	33.6			
Min T (°C)	14.2	11.3	11.3	10.3	8.8	7.4	6.4	6.3	5.6	5.9	5.0	5.1	5.0	6.0	6.0	6.2	7.9	7.7	8.8	10.1	11.2	12.1	13.5	14.6	16.2			
Mean T (°C)	22.6	19.7	19.7	18.7	17.1	15.6	14.7	14.0	13.2	12.5	12.1	12.0	12.1	12.9	12.8	13.6	14.8	15.0	16.4	17.8	19.1	19.8	21.5	22.9	24.9			
SShr (hrs)	9.5	9.1	9.1	9.0	8.8	8.5	8.2	7.6	7.0	6.9	7.3	6.8	7.1	6.8	7.5	8.3	7.6	8.1	7.9	8.1	8.1	8.6	9.4	9.1	9.7			
Evap (mm)	25.8	22.4	22.4	20.4	18.1	15.7	14.4	12.8	11.7	11.9	10.9	10.4	11.8	12.0	13.4	16.6	17.0	18.8	20.6	24.6	24.5	28.6	33.4	36.6	51.1			
RHmax (%)	78	83	83	86	86	87	87	90	90	91	91	91	90	91	89	88	88	88	84	82	82	81	78	73	70			
RHmin (%)	36	36	36	38	39	42	36	46	50	53	51	51	50	51	47	51	48	45	42	42	42	36	31	30				
RH mean(%)	57	60	60	62	63	65	62	68	70	72	71	71	70	71	70	68	70	68	65	65	62	62	62	57	52	50		

Phenological stages of wheat



Sowing & emergence	CRI	Jointing	Anthesis	Grain filling	Physiological Maturity
Climatic normals for potential yield of Wheat					
Max. Temp.=27-33°C Min. Temp.= 12-18 °C Max. RH= 84-93 % Min. RH= 32-45 % Ssh hrs= 3.7-8.0 hr Evap.= 94 mm WS= 1.3-2.2 Km/hr WD=90-276 deg SR= 9-13 Wm ⁻²	Max. Temp.= 13-24 °C Min. Temp.= 5-10 °C Max. RH= 91-100 % Min. RH= 30-81 % Rainfall= 36 mm Rainy Day=4 Ssh hrs = 2.2-9.4 hr Evap.= 81 mm WS= 1.5-5.4 Km/hr WD= 167-315 deg SR= 5-13 Wm ⁻²	Max. Temp.= 17-20 °C Min. Temp.= 4-9 °C Max. RH= 89-98 % Min. RH= 57-71 % Rainfall=54 mm Rainy Day=6 Ssh hrs= 5.0-9.0 hr Evap.= 53 mm WS=3.8-5.0 Km/hr WD= 174-289deg SR= 10-14Wm ⁻²	Max. Temp.= 19-25 °C Min. Temp.= 5-9 °C Max. RH= 86-96 % Min. RH= 38-51 % Rainfall= 9 mm Rainy day=1 Ssh hrs= 9.0-10.3 hr Evap.= 81 mm WS= 2.7-4.9 Km/hr WD= 231-302deg SR= 16-18 Wm ⁻²	Max. Temp.= 26-37 °C Min. Temp.= 10-16 °C Max. RH= 75-92 % Min. RH=17-42 % Rainfall= 12 mm Rainy Day=1 Ssh hrs= 8.0-12.0 hr Evap.= 190 mm WS= 3.2-5.3 Km/hr WD= 193-270 deg SR= 18-23Wm ⁻²	

Climate normals for wheat diseases

Flag smut	Temperature 18-24°C, RH >40%	
Leaf Blight	Optimum temperature 8-13°C for sp. A. triticina & 18-22°C for sp. D. sorokiniana	
Powdery mildew	Optimum temperature 15-20°C, RH > 40%	
Yellow rust		
Brown rust	Temperature 8-13°C, Saturated RH 6 hrs	
Loose smut	Temperature 20°C, Dew for 4 hrs	
Karnal bunt	Temperature 22-25°C,RH 60-85%	
Head scab	Temperature 18-22°C,RH >70%	
Black point	Temperature 22-25°C Rain during ripening	

Crop weather calendar of Mustard- Mohanpur, West Bengal

Mohanpur comes under hot moist sub-humid ESR with deep loamy to clayey alluvium-derived soils, medium to high AWHC and LGP ranges from 210-240 days.

Crop- Mustard (Irrigated)		Duration- Short (95-105)							State - West Bengal					District- Nadia			
		OCTOBER			NOVEMBER			DECEMBER			JANUARY			FEBRUARY			
STD WEEK		42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	1	2	3	4	
Tmax (oc)		32.3	31.4	30.9	30.8	30.1	29.6	28.5	27.6	26.8	26.0	25.4	24.8	25.2	25.6	26.0	
Tmin(OC)		23.4	21.8	20.8	19.2	17.9	16.5	14.8	13.3	12.9	11.9	11.1	10.8	11.1	11.4	11.3	
RHm (%)		92	91	92	91	92	91	91	91	92	92	92	92	91	91	91	
RHe(%)		63	60	59	54	52	51	49	48	48	48	47	49	48	48	46	
WS(KMPH)		0.7	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	
RF(mm/wk)		22.9	19.1	8.4	7.7	3.3	1.7	1.9	0.4	1.9	0.6	1.7	2.4	2.8	2.2	3.8	
BSS(hr/day)		7.3	7.4	7.1	7.8	8.2	8.1	8.3	8.1	7.8	7.2	7.6	7.2	7.5	7.4	7.7	
Evap(mm/wk)		17.0	16.7	13.8	13.5	12.4	11.4	10.7	9.3	9.0	8.6	10.2	8.9	9.1	10.4	11.6	
																	

Crop weather calendar of Cotton- Parbhani

Parbhani is located in Marathwada region of Maharashtra and comes under hot moist semi-arid ESR with shallow and medium loamy clayey black soils. AWHC is medium to high and LGP ranges from 120-150 days.

CROP NAME : COTTON		DURATION: LONG (180-220 days)										STATE : MAHARASHTRA						DISTRICT : PARBHANI											
Cotton	MONTH	JUNE					JULY					AUG					SEPT				OCT				NOV				
	Std. week	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	
	Rain (mm)	4	7	6	6	5	6	6	11	7	9	7	8	8	8	5	6	5	6	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	
	Tmax(°C)	37	36	33	32	31	30	31	31	31	30	31	31	31	31	31	32	32	32	33	32	32	32	31	31	30	31	31	
	Tmin (°C)	25	21	21	22	21	21	22	22	22	22	23	23	23	23	22	22	23	23	21	20	22	19	18	20	21	20	17	16
	RHm (%)	76	72	73	71	71	67	65	63	62	63	61	59	59	60	63	64	63	61	61	58	55	49	47	48	44	42	40	
	RHe (%)	56	54	51	50	49	47	44	43	44	45	44	43	41	42	40	43	41	41	39	36	32	30	30	31	29	27	24	
																													
Phenophases		Emergence					Square formation					Flowering				Boll setting				Boll bursting									
Duration (Days)		4-7					29-38					20-25				42-72				73-140									
	Tmax(°C)	29.8-36.0					28-32.8					29.4-32.5				27.6-31.9				30.2-58.8									
	Tmin (°C)	20.4-23.3					20.1-23.6					20.2-23.4				19.6-22.7				7.6-17.1									
	RHm (%)	69-84					71-92					72-89				77-89				58-81									
	RHe (%)	40-66					61-77					55-70				60-79				37-52									
	BSS (hrs)	5.6					4.2					7.5				7.2				10.2									
	Rain(mm)	80					111					222				380				66									
Pest/Disease		Optimum Temp. 27-34°C, RH > 61																											
		Aphids										Aphids					Jassids												
		Whitefly															Whitefly												

WEATHER NORMALS FOR AGRICULTURAL CROPS

Sl. No.	Crops	Optimum Temperature ° C		Day length	Rainfall (mm)	Altitude above MSL (m)
		Germi nation	Growth stage			
1	Rice	Min 10 ° C	22-25 (flowering) 20-21(grain formn) 20-25(ripening)		1500	<3000
2	Maize		35-44 ° C			
3	Sorghum	7-10	25-30	Short day		
4	Pearl millet		28-32		400-750	
5	Finger millet				500-1000	
6	Kodo millet				400-500	
7	Wheat	20-22	16-22		250-1800	<3500
8	Barley		12-15 (growth) 30(reproduction)	Long day	400-500	
9	Oats		15-25		380-1140	
10	Ground nut		27-30	24-27	500-1250	
11	Sesame		25-27	Short day	500-650	<1250
12	Castor		20-26	Long day	500-600	<3000
13	Sunflower		20-25		500-700	<2500
14	Rape seed and Mustard		18-25	Long day	300-400	
15	Safflower	15-16	25-30	Day neutral	600-900	
16	Soybean	15-32	30-33		600-650	1200-2000
17	Pigeon pea		20-30			
18	Green gram	15	20-40	Short day	600-1000	
19	Black gram					1500
20	Cow pea	12-15	21-35	Short day	600	
21	Bengal gram		15-25		600-1000	
22	Cotton	18	21-27	Day neutral	500	
23	Jute		27-40	Short day	1500	
24	Tobacco	28	25-35		500-1000	
25	Sugar cane		24-30	Long day	2000-2500	
26	Sugar beet	12-15	22-30	Long day		
27	Potato	18-20	18-20			

Important Applications of Crop Weather Calendars

- Crop weather calendars are excellent examples of the type of compiled information that can assist forecasters in framing weather warnings and forecasts directed at farmers.
- District level crop weather calendars (CWC) for important crops viz., rice, wheat, groundnut, soybean, maize, mustard, rabi sorghum, cotton and chick pea in 22 states.
- With proper guidance as services provided by agricultural meteorologists, these calendars will also be of much interest to the agricultural professionals and to the various government departments concerned with Agriculture and Food Production, as well as educationally to the general public.
- Most importantly, it will be a worthy tool for preparation of crop contingency plans and identifying the growth stage specific thresholds for designing weather based crop insurance products