



GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA

ANNUAL SEASON AND CROP REPORT

MAHARASHTRA STATE

1979 - 80

**ANNUAL SEASON AND CROP REPORT
MAHARASHTRA STATE**

1979-80

Printed by :

The Manager,
Government Press and Stationery Stores,
Kolhapur-400 004.

Published by :

The Director,
Government Printing, Stationery and
Publications, Maharashtra State,
Bombay-400 004.

**SEASON AND CROP REPORT OF THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA
FOR THE YEAR 1979-80**

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No. SCR/1280/AG-19/497
DIRECTORATE OF AGRICULTURE
MAHARASHTRA STATE,
PUNE-411 001.
Dated 16th August 1985.

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
AGRICULTURE AND CO-OPERATION DEPARTMENT,
MANTRALAYA ANNEXE,
BOMBAY-400 032.

*Sub.—Annual Season and Crop Report of Maharashtra State,
for the year 1979-80.*

Sir,

I am submitting herewith the Annual Season and Crop Report of Maharashtra State for the year 1979-80.

This year, monsoon arrived in the State late by about ten days. Initially good rains were received in Vidarbha and Konkan regions but in the Deccan region and parts of Marathwada, it was not only weak but most of the districts did not receive rains at all till the last week of July. After onset of monsoon, the initial distribution of rainfall in Konkan and Vidarbha region the sowing of kharif crops was delayed. Fortunately, substantial and widespread rains received all over the State. This helped in improving the condition of sown kharif crops mainly kharif jowar, groundnut, tur, bajra and late varieties of paddy.

During the first week of August heavy rains were received in Vidarbha region causing floods in low lying areas, submerging standing crops on the banks of rivers and as a result the crops were washed out. During the second fortnight of August weather was generally dry. Also in the first fortnight of September the rainfall was inadequate. Due to this, paddy crop in the Konkan and eastern parts of Vidarbha was on the point of moisture stress. The kharif jowar and cotton in heavy soils sustained the dry spell but these in light soils, particularly in the draught prone areas were withering. Subsequently good rains were received during 12th of September and they were substantial and widespread except in south Konkan and of paddy zone in east Vidarbha. These rains were helpful for standing kharif crops and the sowing of rabi jowar, safflower, linseed and sesamum was in progress. Sowing of irrigated wheat and gram was completed by December end. Condition of rabi crops was generally satisfactory.

On the whole, the agricultural season was not normal as in the preceding year.

(ii)

The net cropped area in the State was 181.83 lakh ha. as against 182.48 lakh ha. in 1978-79. The area sown more than once increased to 17.82 lakh ha. as compared to 16.66 lakh ha. in 1978-79 *i. e.* by 7.0%. Thus the overall total cropped area in the State showed an increase from 199.14 lakh ha. in 1978-79 to 199.65 lakh ha. in 1979-80.

The area under food crops during 1979-80 showed an increase by 0.7% having gone-up to 147.53 lakh ha. from 146.54 lakh ha. in the preceding year. On the other hand the area under non-food crops decreased slightly during 1979-80 by 0.9%.

During the year under report, the gross irrigated area in the State increased from 24.04 lakh ha. in 1978-79 to 24.32 lakh ha. or by 1.1%. The net irrigated area also showed an increase by 1.8% having gone-up from 19.27 lakh ha. during 1978-79 to 19.60 lakh ha. in 1979-80.

The area under foodgrain crops in 1979-80 was 140.00 lakh ha. which showed, slight increase by 0.7% as compared to that in previous year. The foodgrain production was estimated at 102.80 lakh tonnes during 1979-80 and was increased by 3.4% compared to that in preceding year.

The State level area under bajri, wheat, groundnut crops decreased by 7.2%, 0.7% and 8.9% respectively as compared to that in the preceding year 1978-79.

The area under cotton during 1979-80 increased by 0.3% as compared to that in the preceding year. The production of this crop increased from 13.38 lakh bales during 1978-79 to 16.43 lakh bales in 1979-80 or by 22.9%.

During the year under report, State level area, yield per hectare and production of sugarcane crop decreased by 6.0%, 5.8% and 17.6% respectively than that in the preceding year 1978-79.

Yours faithfully,

(SURESH KUMAR)

Director of Agriculture,
Maharashtra State,
Pune-411 001.