



सत्यमेव जयते

Department of Agriculture
Bombay State

Season and Crop Report of the Bombay State

For the Year 1955-56

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Poona 1, 24th September, 1957.

From

SHRI S. P. MOHITE, I.A.S.,
Director of Agriculture,
Bombay State.

To

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Agriculture and Forests Department,
Old Secretariat, Bombay.

Sir,

I am to submit herewith the Annual Season and Crop Report of the Bombay State for the year ending 31st July, 1956.

I give below very briefly my remarks on the general agricultural conditions.

1. The monsoon rains were adequate, but the distribution of rains was unfavourable. There was inadequate rain in the early part of the season and excessive and untimely in the latter part. The kharif crops fared badly, but because of late rains, the season was very favourable in many parts for rabi crops.

2. Crop pests and plant diseases were reported from all areas, but no heavy infestation requiring special measures was reported.

3. The mileage of Government canals increased from 2,229 miles in 1954-55 to 2,329 and that of private canals from 4,674 miles to 4,976, showing an increase of 4.5 per cent. in the first case and 6.5 per cent. in the latter.

The total irrigated area during the year under report was 2,739,200 acres showing an increase of 6.5 per cent. over the corresponding figure of 2,572,100 acres during 1954-55.

4. There was an increase in the area under non-food crops in all parts of the State, but a decrease in the area under food crops in Gujarat and Deccan. In the whole state the area under food crops was 30,938,800 acres as against 31,419,000 in 1954-55 showing a decrease of 1.5 per cent. under food crops. The area under non-food crops was 14,310,900 acres as against 13,804,100 in 1954-55 showing an increase of 3.7 per cent.

(G. C. P.) Mo-A Q 4214-a

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5. The average yield per acre of crops for which surveys were carried out showed that it was less than what it was in the previous year. In certain regions, however, some crops showed an increase as in the case of paddy in Deccan, Bajri, Wheat, Rabi Jowar, Rape and Mustard, Sugarcane and Cotton in Karnatak, gram in all regions except Gujarat and Tobacco in all regions except Karnatak.

6. Owing to low production of all crops, there was a general increase in the prices of all agricultural produce. There was a slight increase in the wages of skilled labour and a decrease in the wages of unskilled labour.

7. There is an increase in the number of cattle and buffaloes. The number of breeding bulls, however, went down by 65·7 per cent. The number of goats increased, while there was a decrease in the number of sheep. The number of horses and ponies, mules and donkeys also went down. The poultry showed an increase of 48·2 per cent.

8. The number of tractors and oil engines showed an increase of 47·1 and 36·0 per cent. respectively. The number of sugarcane crushers, electric pumps and ghanies declined by about 25·0 per cent. each (compared with 1951 census figures).

Yours faithfully,

S. P. MOHITE,
Director of Agriculture,
Bombay State.

**SEASON AND CROP REPORT OF THE STATE OF BOMBAY FOR
THE YEAR 1955-56.**

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