AGROMET ADVISORY BULLETIN

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102) Weather based Agromet Advisory committee meeting dated 24.03.2026

District: Nashik

Last Week Weather Summary (18.03.2026 to 24.03.2026)							Weather Parameters	Weather Forecast (25.03.2026 to 29.03.2026)				
18	**19**	**20**	**21**	**22**	**23**	**24**	**Date**	**25**	**26**	**27**	**28**	**29**
0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	**Rainfall (mm)**	0	2	0	0	0
33.0	33.0	32.0	31.5	32.0	33.5	35.5	**Max. Temp. (^{0}C)**	36	37	37	37	36
15.1	16.9	16.5	17.7	18.5	19.0	17.4	**Min. Temp. (^{0}C)**	19	20	19	18	17
Clear	Clear	P Cloud	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear	**Cloud Cover**	P Cloud	P Cloud	P Cloud	Clear	Clear
72	68	65	80	72	74	75	**Max. RH (%)**	69	73	69	78	94
30	26	29	28	28	25	26	**Min. RH (%)**	36	36	35	34	39
3.5	3.8	7.3	4.9	5.6	5.9	4.5	**Wind Speed (km/hr)**	6.5	7.1	10.2	10.5	7.2

Agromet Advisory Based on Weather Forecast Prediction

Crop	Stage	Advisory
Weather Summary		Considering the weather forecast there is possibility of light rain on 26th March 2026 also dry weather for rest of the days in Nashik district. The sky will partial cloudy for next three days also clear for rest of the days. Maximum Temperature staying in between 36-37 Degree Celsius & Minimum Temperature 17-20 Degree Celsius & the wind speed will remain between 6.5-10.5 kmph for the next five days.
Weather Alerts/ warning:		**No warning**
General Advisory		Cole Crops Transplanting To prepare the land, plow the field both lengthwise and crosswise using a tractor (to a depth of approximately 40 cm), break up any clods, and ensure the soil is loose and friable. Before the final harrowing pass, uniformly spread 8 to 10 tons (equivalent to 16 to 20 bullock cartloads) of well-decomposed farmyard manure or compost per acre. Depending on the land's slope, prepare flat beds of appropriate size or broad-ridge beds (if using drip irrigation) for planting. Transplant cauliflower seedlings at a spacing of 45 cm x 45 cm; plant cabbage at 45 cm x 30 cm; and plant kohlrabi at a spacing of 30 cm x 20 cm. Prior to transplanting, dip the roots of the seedlings for 15 minutes in a solution containing 1 gm of Carbendazim and 2 ml of Carbosulfan per liter of water. Plant only one seedling at each designated spot. While planting, ensure that the growing tip (apex) of the seedling is not pinched off or damaged in any way. Plant only healthy and vigorous seedlings to ensure the development of a good-sized head and to obtain a bountiful yield. Transplanting should be carried out during the evening hours. Provide irrigation immediately after planting.
SMS		**Considering light rainfall forecast on 26th March 2026, matured / harvested /threshed Rabi crops should be covered with plastic paper or tarpaulin or kept in a safe place.**
Rabi Sorghum	Harvesting / Storage	Harvesting of Sorghum should be done using the improved implements developed by M.P.K.V. Rahuri, Phule Sorghum Harvesting Machine and the grains should be dried in the sun for 8 to 10 days and threshed. After the grain is prepared by threshing, it should be sun-dried again before storage. Generally, if a 50 kg bag is kept full, it becomes easy to sell further in the market.
Rabi Maize	Maturity stage / Harvesting	Complete the harvesting of matured Maize (corns) crop. These corns should be dried well in the sun for two to three days. After that, the outer covering of the maize should be removed and the grains should be separated from the maize with the help of Maka Solani Yantra (an improved implement developed by M.P.K.V. Rahuri). The grains should be winnowed to separate the white husks and pieces of bitti. The seeds should be dried well in the sun and stored keeping the moisture content of the seeds up to 12 percent. Improved implements developed by M.P.K.V. Rahuri Maize shelling machine This machine is used to remove the kernels from the dried corn cobs. A one labourer peels 200 kg of corn cobs in a day. This machine is small in size and light in weight. It is easy to remove the kernels by holding it in the hand and turning it. This reduces labour. It saves time.

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Wheat	Maturity stage / Harvesting	Harvesting and threshing should be done in timely sown wheat crop. Harvesting the crop 2-3 days before the maturity of wheat crop, this prevents the shattering of wheat grains in the field. Harvest the wheat crop in the morning. Thresh the wheat crop with the help of a machine or harvest and thresh with a combine harvester machine. Care should be taken to ensure that the grains do not break while threshing.
Gram	Maturity stage / Harvesting	Complete the harvesting and threshing of chickpea varieties according to their maturity stages. Dry harvested gram crop in the sun and store in a dry and well-ventilated place. Do not harvest when the crop is wet. After the pods are dry, the gram should be harvested and threshed. After this, the grain should be dry for 6 to 7 days. Gram should be stored in a metal trunk box. If 5 percent neem leaves are added to it, there is no pest during storage. Gram Phule Vikram, PDKV Kanak are varieties growing two to two and a half feet above the ground, with pods starting at one to one and a half feet from the ground. Being tall, the combine harvester can harvest properly without any damage to the crop. As it can be harvested mechanically, the cost and time of crop harvesting is saved.
Summer Groundnut	Vegetative stage	<u>Water Management</u> Summer groundnut cultivation requires 70 to 80 cm of water. To ensure good germination, a light irrigation should be provided 4 to 5 days after sowing. Subsequently, depending on the soil type and moisture-holding capacity, ten to twelve rounds of irrigation should be applied at intervals of 8 to 10 days. The crop should be subjected to mild water stress until it reaches the flowering stage. However, the crop must not be allowed to suffer from water stress during the peg penetration stage (when pegs enter the soil) or during the pod development phase. Adopting the plastic mulching technique for cultivation results in a water saving of 40 to 50 percent. The sprinkler irrigation method proves beneficial for groundnut cultivation. Sprinkler irrigation not only conserves water but also creates a favorable microclimate around the crop, thereby aiding in its growth.
Summer Pearl Millet (Summer Bajra)	Vegetative stage	<u>Water Management</u> Provide a light irrigation (known as Ambaavni) 4 to 5 days after sowing. Subsequently, depending on the soil's moisture-retention capacity and during the critical growth stages of the crop, apply 5 to 6 rounds of irrigation at intervals of 10 to 12 days. If water availability is limited, apply the first irrigation at the tillering stage (20 to 25 days after sowing), the second during the booting stage (35 to 45 days after sowing), and the third during the grain-filling stage (60 to 65 days after sowing).
Grapes		<u>Possibility of Cracking</u> In some regions, the harvesting of black grapes is currently underway. If rainfall occurs, there is a possibility of cracking developing on the black grape berries, particularly near the stem attachment point. If rainwater accumulates around the roots of the vines, the roots absorb an excessive amount of water. Furthermore, due to the elevated relative humidity in the atmosphere, the rate of water transpiration through the leaves is significantly lower than usual. Consequently, the water absorbed by the roots is drawn directly into the berries. The resulting increase in internal water pressure causes the berries to crack. With black grape varieties, it is not always immediately apparent if cracking has occurred prior to harvest. However, once the grape bunches are packed into boxes and sealed, the internal humidity within the box rises. This leads to cracking of the berries inside the box, causing juice to leak out. This leakage creates an environment conducive to fungal growth, potentially leading to the complete spoilage of the entire grape bunch. <u>Preventive Measures</u> If, following rainfall, there is ample sunshine during the afternoon hours and a good breeze is blowing through the vineyard, the risk of cracking is negligible; in such cases, no remedial action is required. If the vineyard soil is black and possesses high water-retention capacity, a light irrigation should be applied to the vineyard at the first signs of impending rain. If only light rainfall occurs, provide just enough irrigation to ensure the soil around the roots becomes fully saturated. This saturation signals the roots to cease further water absorption. By ensuring that the soil moisture around the root zone does not deplete until the rainy and overcast weather conditions have passed, the risk of cracking can be significantly minimized. Note that this specific measure will not be effective in light-textured soils. Grape bunches should not be harvested while they are wet. Harvesting should be undertaken only when there is sufficient sunlight in the vineyard and when any dew, rainwater, or residue from pesticide sprays on the bunches has completely dried. If the perceived risk of cracking is high, a preventive spray application is recommended using a mixture of Chitosan (3 ml) and Trichoderma@ 2.3 gm per liter of water.

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Pomegranate		Hasta Bahar (September-October Crop management) Orchard Stage: Fruit Maturity and Harvesting Nutrient Management: Post-Harvest and Tree Dormant Phase After the fruit harvest is complete, undertake pruning operations to remove branches. For each tree, apply 20 to 25 kg of Farmyard Manure (FYM); alternatively, apply 13 to 15 kg of FYM combined with 2 kg of Vermicompost and 2 kg of Neem Cake. As another option, apply 7.5 kg of well-decomposed Poultry Manure combined with 2 kg of Neem Cake. Regarding chemical fertilizers, apply 205 gm of Nitrogen (446 gm of Neem-Coated Urea), 50 gm of Phosphorus (315 gm of Single Super Phosphate), and 152 gm of Potassium (254 gm of Muriate of Potash or 304 gm of Sulphate) per tree, followed by light irrigation. Prepare separate cultures of various bio-formulations, such as Azospirillum sp., Aspergillus niger, Trichoderma viride, and Penicillium pinophilum. To do this, mix 1 kg of the specific bio-formulation with 1 ton of well-decomposed Farmyard Manure. Prepare a compost bed using this mixture in a shaded area. Maintain a moisture level of 60 to 70 percent within the bed and turn/mix the material every other day. Generally, significant microbial growth is achieved within approximately 15 days. Apply this enriched mixture at a rate of 10 to 20 gm per tree. Apply Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi (AMF)—specifically Rhizophagus irregularis or Glomus intradelices—at a rate of 10 to 15 gm per tree.
Mango		Nutrient Management in the period of Climate Change The mango crop is highly sensitive to climate change. Fluctuations in temperature, humidity, cloud cover, unseasonal rainfall, or wind patterns directly impact flowering, fruit setting, and fruit drop. During periods of stress, nutrient translocation and photosynthesis decline, leading to the shedding of both flowers and fruits. Potassium is a crucial nutrient for enhancing stress tolerance; it helps in retaining flowers and fruits. Boron strengthens cell walls, thereby facilitating fruit setting even under stressful conditions. Magnesium sustains energy production. Zinc, copper, and manganese stimulate enzymatic activities. During cloudy weather, foliar application of potassium, magnesium, and micronutrients proves highly beneficial. If the tree's root system is not functioning optimally, nutrient uptake from the soil is delayed. In such stressful periods, providing nutrition through foliar sprays emerges as the fastest and safest option.
Onion		Pre-harvest Management for Effective Onion Storage Selection of Variety Onions from varieties grown during the Kharif (monsoon) season typically do not keep for more than one month. In contrast, onions from varieties grown during the Rabi (summer) season can remain viable in storage for up to five months. Even within this category, there are significant variations depending on the specific variety. Varieties such as N-2-4-1, Agrifound Light Red, and Arka Niketan can be stored successfully for six months without significant weight loss or deterioration. Newer varieties like Bhima Kiran and Bhima Shakti also demonstrate excellent storage longevity. Fertilizer and Water Management The dosage and type of fertilizers used, as well as water management practices, have a direct impact on the storage life of onions. As far as possible, nitrogen should be supplied through organic fertilizers. The entire nitrogen requirement should be applied within two months of planting. Late application of nitrogen leads to thickened necks in the onions, which subsequently compromises their storage quality. Potassium enhances the storage capacity of the onions; therefore, the dosage of potassium should be increased for the Rabi onion crop. Historically, the use of fertilizers such as Ammonium Sulphate, Sulphate of Potash, or Single Super Phosphate automatically fulfilled the crop's sulfur requirements. However, with the recent shift toward using complex granular fertilizers, the crop receives only nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. Consequently, to ensure good storage quality, it is now essential to apply a sulfur-containing fertilizer prior to planting specifically to meet the crop's sulfur needs. Both the method of irrigation and the quantity of water applied influence the storage potential of the crop. The onion crop requires water in moderate quantities, but the supply must be regular and consistent. If a large volume of water is applied all at once while the bulb is developing, it results in thickened necks and an increased incidence of 'double bulbs' (split onions). Irrigation should be completely stopped two to three weeks prior to harvesting.

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Tomato		Summer Tomato transplanting The fields should be dug up and prepared according to the slope of the land. After the tomato seedlings are ready, the planting beds should be irrigated a week before and kept moist. The beds should be irrigated again on the day of transplanting. The seedlings should be planted while the beds are still wet. The amount of water should be gradually reduced in the nursery about a week before transplanting. This means that the seedlings become strong. irrigated the beds one day before removing the seedlings from the beds for planting. This allows the seedlings to emerge easily without breaking their roots. For transplanting, 25 to 30-day-old, 10 to 15 cm. tall and about 6 to 8 leaves plants should be selected. Strong seedlings with suitable growth should be selected for planting. Wilted, damaged, with few roots, with crooked and thin stems, and diseased seedlings should not be used for transplanting. Before transplanting, the roots of the plants should be immersed in a solution of Imidacloprid (17.8 SL) 4 ml plus Metalaxyl M (31.8 ES) 6 gm or Carbendazim 10 gm per 10 liters of water for 10-15 minutes. The above solution should be applied to the tray of plants brought from the nursery. Tomato plants should be planted with a distance of about 30 cm between two plants and 90 cm between them. Do not put pressure on the stem of the plants while planting. Such plants should die later if the delicate stem is immediately crushed. Fermentation water should be given on the second or third day after planting. New plants should be planted in place of dead plants ten days after planting. If the Rabi season tomato crop is in flowering stage, the field should be cleaned by weeding and fertilizer should be applied. The stalking in the tomato crop should be completed.
Animal Husbandry (Cow, buffalo)		Considering the light rain forecast farmers should advice to keep the stored fodder of livestock in a safe place or covered with plastic/tarpaulin. Selection of good dairy cows and buffaloes When buying a new dairy cow or buffalo, reliable information about its current breed, proportion of foreign breeds in its blood, current health status, ability to adapt to the local environment, and previous records are required. Breed cows and buffaloes are beneficial for the dairy business. By using balanced animal feed, bypass fat, etc., cows and buffaloes that give high milk can be used to get milk production up to their potential. A five-year plan should be prepared to produce breed cows and buffaloes in the cowshed.
Goat		Management in goats in March and April Vaccination of four-week-old goats against enteritis and tetanus. Ear tagging of four- to six-week-old goats. Continue feeding of weaned goats for four weeks after weaning. Deworming of goats should be done when they start to follow the goats (after they start grazing).
Sheep		Management in sheep in March Sheep should be vaccinated for enteric disease control. Sheep should be washed with a solution of helminthicide two weeks after shearing.
Poultry	Health Management	Effect of temperature on chickens Chickens cannot regulate their body temperature like we do, because they do not have sweat glands. Chickens have a naturally higher body temperature (103 to 107 degrees Fahrenheit) than other domestic animals. Chickens require a temperature of 18 to 21 degrees Celsius for proper growth, but they can tolerate temperatures of 28 to 30 degrees Celsius. Their production does not make much difference. However, if the temperature goes above 30 degrees Celsius, it has an adverse effect on their production and reproduction. If the external temperature goes above 35 degrees Celsius, production decreases by 5 percent for every degree increase in temperature.

Source:

1) Weather Forecast : Research Section, Mumbai

2) Last week weather summary : GKMS Observatory, ZARS, Igatpuri, Dist. Nashik.

Place : ZARS, Igatpuri

Date : 24.03.2026

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