



DISTRICT LEVEL AGROMET ADVISORY SERVICE

BULLETIN FOR KASHMIR (J&K)

(Period 1st to 5th January, 2025)

Issued jointly by

AGROMET FIELD UNIT-SRINAGAR (AMFU- Srinagar)

Division of Agrometeorology & Indian Meteorological Department (IMD)

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Srinagar

Weather forecast until 08:30 hrs of 05.01.2025

Parameters	01	02	03	04	05
					
Rainfall (mm)	0	3	2	5	5
Max. Temp. (deg. C)	5	4	4	5	5
Min. Temp. (deg. C)	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1
Max. Relative humidity (%)	95	95	95	95	95
Min. Relative humidity (%)	90	90	90	90	90
Wind speed (kmph)	1	1	1	1	1
Wind direction (deg.)	55	55	53	60	40
Total cloud cover (octa)	4	2	8	2	8

General Advisory: Create surface drainage channels where there is apprehension of water stagnation during winter.

Brown Sarson, Wheat and Oats	Care/Maintenance	• Ensure there is no stagnation of water in the fields.
Pea	Care/Maintenance	• Provide proper drainage to facilitate the removal of excessive moisture from the field as pulses are susceptible to water logging.
Saffron	Harvesting	• For Saffron Repeat racking. • Picking of unopened or 2 day old saffron flowers in early morning hours preferably in willow baskets. • Pistil should be separated within 5-10 hours of flower Picking followed by quick drying through vacuum dryers. • Farmers can avail facility at IIKSTC, Dussu Pampore for stigma separation, testing, drying and packing for brand promotion of GI tagged Kashmiri Saffron.
Apple	Care/Maintenance	• To maintain good sanitation in the infested orchards, all the dropped/infested fruits of apple or other fruits should be collected and buried deep in the soil. • Heavily infested branches, twigs and completely dried trees should be uprooted, removed from the orchard and burnt/buried. • Water channels and drains should be cleared. • Test soil fertility Submit multiple soil samples from your field to get a more accurate picture of soil fertility. • This can help you identify areas with different nutrient needs so you can treat them accordingly.

		• Control measures against frost by providing mulching wherever possible. • Stop pruning activity during freezing temperature.
Vegetables	Care/Maintenance of fields	• Polyhouses may be utilised for growing leafy vegetables. • Transplanting of onion seedling may be continued till weather permits. • Mulching may be done to protect the less hardy crops from frost damage. • Maintain weed free conditions in all vegetable crop fields.
Cattle	Cow	• For prevention of mastitis keep proper and clean bedding material and ensure the cleanliness of udder and the animal in general in addition the hygiene of the milker should also be considered. • Bring the animals out of their sheds during the daylight for feeding, watering and exercise and avoid the dampness of sheds and paddocks. Pasture grazing should be avoided due to extreme cold and the animals may be stall fed and should be provided adequate and ad libitum clean and lukewarm drinking water and salt licks. • Feed extra mineral supplements and concentrates to avoid the occurrence of metabolic/production/deficiency diseases in the dairy animals in the harsh winter due of shortage of green grass and legumes. • Precautionary measures should be taken against Foot and Mouth Disease. • Keep the animals in suitable sheds particularly during night hours to protect them from the increasing cold conditions but due care should be given with respect to the suitable ventilation of sheds and to prevent them from respiratory complications. • Adopt suitable measures for preventing the newborn calves against neonatal hypothermia by providing suitable, comfortable and warm conditions in the calving sheds and by feeding them proper level of colostrum at the rate of 10 percent of their body weight. • Keep proper and adequate storage of fodder, silage, hay etc. for use in the winter months. • For prevention of urolithiasis especially in rams, the animals should be fed adequate drinking water, good source of Vitamin A diet and restricted amount of wheat bran and paddy straw.
Sheep and goat		• Precautionary measures should be taken against Foot and Mouth Disease, foot rot and contagious ecthyma. • Suitable and proper energy rich diets like molasses should be fed to advanced pregnant animals for preventing pregnancy toxemia in them. • Bring the animals out of their sheds during the daylight for feeding, watering and exercise and avoid the dampness of sheds and paddocks. • Pasture grazing should be avoided due to extreme cold and the animals may be stall fed and should be provided adequate and ad libitum clean and lukewarm drinking water. • Suitable measures should be taken to prevent animals from choke, esophageal obstruction and particularly acidosis by deliberate or accidental feeding of apples, turnips, and avoid sudden and abrupt change of feeds. . • Keep ready the stock of feed, hay, etc. for use in the approaching harsh winter. • Keep the animals in suitable sheds particularly during night hours to protect them from the increasing cold conditions

		but due care should be given with respect to the suitable ventilation of sheds and to prevent them from respiratory complications. • Extra concentrate feeding should be done for increasing the weight gain in animals and to ensure safe and successful pregnancy. • For prevention of urolithiasis especially in rams, the animals should be fed adequate drinking water, good source of Vitamin A diet and restricted amount of wheat bran and paddy straw.
Poultry	For broiler farms	• Due to the onset of winters, the environmental temperature has decreased, therefore due care is required with respect to the maintenance of brooding temperature inside the sheds. • During the 1st week of rearing, 95°F temperature must be ensured. Thereafter, it should be decreased by 5°F every week. • However, the ventilation must not be compromised at the cost of maintaining the brooding temperature as it can lead to accumulation of ammonia gas in the sheds, wet litter and ascites in birds. • The quality of litter should be given due consideration. Litter needs to be raked, renewed and replenished regularly. • Adhere strictly to the vaccination schedule. • Providing lukewarm drinking water to birds during this time is highly beneficial.
	For backyard poultry	• Due to fall in temperature, birds must be provided with a shelter having proper bedding material like sawdust, wood shavings, chopped straw, dried leaves etc. • Additionally, birds should be supplemented with a grain mixture @ 1 handful for 5 hens. • Deworming of birds should also be done periodically. • Provide lukewarm drinking water.
Floriculture	Sowing/Planting/Transplanting	• Complete planting of spring flowering bulbous plants like tulip, iris, daffodil and hyacinth, and transplanting of winter flowering annuals at earliest if not done yet. • Remove all dead, diseased and damaged foliage from the house plants. • Inspect gladiolus corms in storage and discard diseased and rotten ones if any. • Protect house plants from cold. • Drainage channels should be dug and prepare bunds.
Apiculture	Care/maintenance	• Unit weak colonies with strong colonies. • Give winter packing to colonies. • Narrow the entrances of colonies. • Provide winter feeding in the form of sugar candies if required. • Migratory bee keepers may migrate their bee colonies to the plain areas.
Sericulture	Care/maintenance	• Since 2nd commercial silkworm rearing has ended farmers are advised to ensure complete disinfection of rearing rooms and rearing appliances by spraying with 2% formaline+0.5% slaked lime, Farmers can also spray with 5% solution of bleaching powder for disinfection of rearing appliances and rearing rooms. • Farmers are advised to dismantle low cost rearing huts and preserve the various accessories of the hut under well roofed shed for future use.

		• Complete sun drying of cocoons should be ensured before storage to avoid any fungal damage to the cocoons. • Sorting of the cocoons should be ensured before marketing to fetch maximum market price. • The cocoon preservation should be done in gunny bags by hanging them under tin roofs or at dry places to avoid any damage by the rodents.
Mushroom Cultivation	Button Mushroom	• Proper preventive measures should always be taken against the spread of any pest/disease, competitor mould and its further dissemination to other trays and bags. • Mushroom butts should not be left on the bags/trays and harvested portion should be ceased immediately. • Diseased mushroom fruits should be immediately harvested and dipped in formalin solution. • Disinfected tools should be used for harvesting. • Preparation for composting should be started in case of long method of composting.
Agro forestry/forestry	Care/Maintenance	• Branches of agroforestry species (Poplar, Salix, Robinia etc.) to be lopped to avoid uprooting/damage to the tree due to snowfall. • Fallen tree leaves to be composted in pits for manure. • Open polybag nursery of conifers to be shifted into polyhouses for the entire winter season. Seeds of conifers and some agroforestry species from proven sources to be sown in polybags after pre-treatment to establish polybag nursery. • Timely irrigation to be provided to seedlings under polyhouse conditions. • Diseased seedlings in nursery should be immediately isolated from the healthy ones and treated separately with the recommended fungicides. • Massive outbreak of disease/insect damage must be reported to the concerned scientist/expert for remedial measures.
Fisheries	Developmental stages	• For trout, maintain a stocking density of 8-12 kg per cubic meter, and for carp, limit the density to 1.5 fish per square meter of pond surface. • Cut back feeding by 40-50%, and only feed when water temperatures are above 10°C, typically during midday. • Ensure pond depth is at least 1.8 meters to help maintain temperature stability. • Continuously monitor water temperature and aim to keep it above 8°C, as fish metabolism slows in colder water. • Use aerators to ensure dissolved oxygen remains above 5 mg/L, particularly during the night when oxygen levels can drop. • Regularly check pH levels and maintain them between 6.0 and 7.5 to prevent stress on the fish. • Raise dykes to ensure they are at least 0.6 meters higher than the water level to account for potential flooding from winter storms.

For LSDV queries contact Telemedicine portal on SKUAST K website: skuastkashmir.ac.in

(Nodal Officer)