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جمهوری اسلامی افغانستان

وزارت زراعت و مواد غذایی

## **Agriculture Prospects Report**

**Ministry of Agriculture and Food  
Marketing, Economics and Statistics Division  
(FAAHM)  
Kabul, 15 June 2006**

## **1. Weather condition**<sup>1</sup>

The rainfall amount recorded in the period October 2005 through March 2006 was generally lower compared to the Long-term Average in most parts of the country. Temperature was also higher compared to the average in almost all parts of the country. The cumulative precipitation in October 2005 to February 2006 was above or near average in the north, north-eastern and south-western parts of the country. Other parts of the country received below average amounts in the said period. The cumulative rainfall amounts recorded in February were lesser compared to the average in all but the north, north eastern and eastern parts of the country. The amounts were lower than the last year in all but north, north eastern and eastern parts of the country. Temperature in February was much higher compared to February 2005, specifically in the south and the south-western regions. This season's snowfall amounts in most parts of the country were lower than the average in terms of depth, but much higher in terms of snow extent. Similar weather patterns like February were observed for March.

The rainfall amounts in April and May are important for the proper development and growth of wheat. The rainfall amounts in most parts of the country in April and May were very low.<sup>2</sup>

## **2. Crop condition**

Afghanistan is deficit in cereal production even in a good agricultural year like 2005, when it was 90% self-sufficient in cereal. About 60-80% of the cereal deficit in the country is covered through commercial import. The rest is either food aid or uncovered deficit.

Wheat has a major share in the cereal production and utilization in Afghanistan. In a normal year the share of rainfed wheat in the total wheat production is 35%. The north and north-east have the lion's share (three-fourth) in the area coverage under this crop, with a little over a half area coverage in the north. Other important regions for area under rainfed wheat are west (18%) and west-central (4%). The rest area under rainfed wheat (3%) comes from the central, south, east, south-west.

The 12 April Report of MAF reported quite good prospects for the standing crops. In fact it reflected the actual crop situation up to end-March. The MAF crop monitoring missions visited 14 provinces in the last two weeks of May. In April and May the crop situation had deteriorated a lot specifically for rainfed wheat. More missions will be fielded by MAF to provinces.

The rainfall amounts this year in most parts of the country in April and May were very low compared specifically to the total water requirement for the rainfed wheat in that period. Mainly due to this, considerable reduction in the yield of wheat was reported from the provinces. Compared to the last year about 50 to 60% loss in yield of rainfed wheat has been reported in the provinces in the north and north-east regions. The loss in yield of rainfed wheat was 10-20% in the west-central regions and 30 to 80% in other regions. The hardest hit areas due to crop failure

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<sup>1</sup> Source: MAF/USGS Agromet project

<sup>2</sup> Source: MAF/USGS Agromet project

of rainfed wheat are the provinces in the north and north-east regions. The condition of irrigated wheat was mixed across provinces but in near normal on overall basis.

Overall, the total production of the 2006 wheat is estimated at 3.71 million tonnes, a reduction of 13% compared to the last year's total wheat production of 4.27 million tonnes. The domestic production of cereal for the year is estimated at 4.8 million tonnes. Afghanistan would require 6 million tonnes of cereals for various utilizations. Hence, a short-fall of 1.2 million tonnes of cereals is expected in 2006. (Annex I: Summary Table)

Data are shown in Annex I to Annex V.

### **3. Issues of concern**

Without timely interventions from the government, some possible adverse consequences of the production shortfall will be:

- Risk of internal or external displacements
- Decrease in area under cereal crops/farmers and increase in the area under opium poppy
- Loss of livestock resources due to poor health
- Decrease in livestock products due to lack of proper animal nutrition
- Increase in the price of cereals, thereby decreasing market access to poorer farmers
- Adverse effect on country's peace, stabilization and development processes.

### **4. Areas of immediate interventions**

Following key areas have been identified for the immediate interventions:

- Food aid
- Donors' support for the implementation of Cash-For-Work projects to provide vulnerable farmers with cash to purchase food in the market
- Agricultural inputs distribution
- Provisions of feed concentrates to rural households to cope with the shortage of fodder and feed in the winter

### **5. Long-term Strategy**

In view of shortage of water and higher than normal short-fall in wheat production, following areas have been identified for future intervention:

- Building of Strategic Grain Reserve (SGR) of 100,000 – 200,000 tonnes
- Rehabilitation of market roads
- Rehabilitation of irrigation channels or other related facilities
- Reforestation

- Social work (e.g. maintenance of mosque, hospital, parks, etc.)
- Coordination of agricultural activities in vulnerable communities
- Coordination of Alternative Livelihood Program through Ministry of Counter Narcotics
- Capacity building to mitigate emergency

Support from the donors in the above areas will be needed.

### Summary Table

#### The 2006 Cereal Balance Sheet (Updated estimates; as of end May-2006) ('000 tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Maize	Barley	Total
<b>A. Domestic availability</b>	<b>3,731</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>4,811</b>
Food Aid	20	--	--	--	20
Domestic production	3,711	360	350	370	4,791
<b>B. Utilization</b>	<b>4,820</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>5,993</b>
Food use	3,857	410	48	24	4,339
Seed provision	306	18	16	28	368
Feed	--	--	233	262	495
Losses	557	25	53	56	691
Year ending stock (SGR)	100	--	--	--	100
<b>Commercial import (B-A)</b>	<b>1,089</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>1,182</b>

#### The 2005 Cereal Balance Sheet (Final estimate) ('000 tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice	Maize	Barley	Total
<b>A. Domestic availability</b>	<b>4,376</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>5,353</b>
Food Aid	110	--	--	--	110
Domestic production	4,266	325	315	337	5,243
Stock drawn down	--	--	--	--	--
<b>B. Utilization</b>	<b>4,723</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>5,803</b>
Food use	3,688	392	46	23	4,149
Seed provision	295	11	16	26	348
Feed	--	--	208	236	444
Losses	640	23	47	52	762
Year ending stock	100	--	--	--	100
<b>Commercial import (B-A)</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>--</b>	<b>450</b>

Annex 1: Area and Production of Wheat in 2006 by province (Estimates as of 28 May 2006)

REGION/ Province	Irrigated Wheat			Rainfed Wheat			Total Wheat		
	Area	Yield	Production	Area	Yield	Production	Area	Yield	Production
	('000 ha)	(t/ha)	('000 tons)	('000 ha)	(t/ha)	('000 tons)	('000 ha)	(t/ha)	('000 tons)
<b>NORTH</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>2.54</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>0.50</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>908</b>	<b>1.03</b>	<b>939</b>
Faryab	59	2.49	147	180	0.60	108	239	1.07	255
Juzjan	50	2.49	124	95	0.44	42	145	1.14	166
Sar-i-Pul	25	2.49	62	115	0.48	55	140	0.84	117
Balkh	87	2.62	228	154	0.47	73	241	1.25	301
Samangan	16	2.49	40	127	0.47	60	143	0.70	100
<b>NORTH-EAST</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>2.61</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>0.57</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>1.41</b>	<b>786</b>
Bughlan	54	2.62	141	74	0.68	50	128	1.49	191
Kunduz	100	2.60	260	20	0.63	13	120	2.28	273
Takhar	50	2.60	130	135	0.52	70	185	1.08	200
Badakhshan	25	2.63	66	100	0.56	56	125	0.98	122
<b>WEST</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>2.42</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>1.51</b>	<b>583</b>
Heart	97	2.50	243	140	0.96	134	237	1.59	377
Farah	24	2.40	58				24	2.42	58
Badghis	25	2.09	52	100	0.96	96	125	1.18	148
<b>WEST-CENTRAL</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>2.03</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>0.74</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>1.33</b>	<b>114</b>
Ghor	22	1.90	42	39	0.70	27	61	1.13	69
Bamyan	17	2.20	37	8	0.95	8	25	1.80	45
<b>CENTRAL</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>2.95</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0.50</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>2.68</b>	<b>340</b>
Kabul	21	2.66	56	1	0.32	0	22	2.55	56
Parwan	23	2.73	63	3	0.80	2	26	2.50	65
Panjsher	6	2.57	15	2	0.80	2	8	2.13	17
Kapisa	10	3.15	32				10	3.20	32
Logar	26	3.00	78	7	0.30	2	33	2.42	80
Wardak	27	3.31	89	1	0.63	1	28	3.21	90
<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>2.31</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.40</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>2.22</b>	<b>238</b>
Paktya	18	3.00	54	1	0.26	0	19	2.84	54
Paktika	16	2.25	36	2	0.53	1	18	2.06	37
Khost	12	1.90	23				12	1.92	23
Ghazni	56	2.20	123	2	0.26	1	58	2.14	124
<b>EAST</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>2.22</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>2.21</b>	<b>170</b>
Nangarhar	52	2.00	104				52	2.00	104
Laghman	14	2.64	37				14	2.64	37
Kunarha	8	2.88	23				8	2.88	23
Nooristan	2	2.40	5	1	0.53	1	3	2.00	6
<b>SOUTH-WEST</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>2.95</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0.50</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>2.77</b>	<b>541</b>
Kandahar	39	3.15	123	2	0.53	1	41	3.02	124
Helmand	80	3.15	252				80	3.15	252
Zabul	13	3.00	39	1	0.18	0	14	2.79	39
Nimroz	14	2.38	33	1	0.53	1	15	2.27	34
Uruzgan	29	2.50	73	2	0.63	1	31	2.39	74
Daikunde	6	2.38	14	8	0.53	4	14	1.29	18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,123</b>	<b>2.58</b>	<b>2,902</b>	<b>1,321</b>	<b>0.61</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>2,444</b>	<b>1.52</b>	<b>3,711</b>

Source: FAAHM/MAF

Annex 2: Wheat Balance in 2006 by Province (Updated Estimates)

REGION/ Province	Settled population in 2006 (Projected) ( <sup>'000</sup> )	Irrigated wheat ( <sup>'000</sup> ha.)	Rainfed wheat ( <sup>'000</sup> ha.)	Wheat Production ( <sup>'000</sup> tonnes)	Required for human consumption (@160 kg/person) ( <sup>'000</sup> tonnes)	Required for Seed ( <sup>'000</sup> tonnes)	Post harvest losses ( <sup>'000</sup> tonnes)	Wheat Surplus or Deficit ( <sup>'000</sup> tonnes)
<b>NORTH</b>	<b>3,226.0</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>939</b>	<b>516.1</b>	<b>97.1</b>	<b>141.0</b>	<b>184.8</b>
Faryab	856.5	59	180	255	137.0	25.3	38.3	54.4
Juzjan	460.5	50	95	166	73.7	16.6	24.9	50.8
Sar-i-Pul	481.7	25	115	117	77.1	13.9	17.6	8.4
Balkh	1,093.3	87	154	301	174.9	28.0	45.2	52.9
Samangan	334.0	16	127	100	53.4	13.3	15.0	18.3
<b>NORTH-EAST</b>	<b>3,290.1</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>786</b>	<b>526.4</b>	<b>67.5</b>	<b>118.0</b>	<b>74.1</b>
Bughlan	777.0	54	74	191	124.3	15.6	28.7	22.4
Kunduz	849.1	100	20	273	135.9	19.2	41.0	76.9
Takhar	843.2	50	135	200	134.9	20.0	30.0	15.1
Badakhshan	820.8	25	100	122	131.3	12.7	18.3	-40.3
<b>WEST</b>	<b>2,439.4</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>583</b>	<b>390.3</b>	<b>45.5</b>	<b>87.5</b>	<b>59.7</b>
Heart	1,574.1	97	140	377	251.9	28.6	56.6	39.9
Farah	436.9	24	0	58	69.9	4.2	8.7	-24.8
Badghis	428.4	25	100	148	68.5	12.7	22.2	44.6
<b>WEST-CENTRAL</b>	<b>983.4</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>157.3</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>-71.2</b>
Ghor	597.1	22	39	69	95.5	7.1	10.4	-44.0
Bamyan	386.3	17	8	45	61.8	3.6	6.8	-27.2
<b>CENTRAL</b>	<b>5,070.7</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>811.4</b>	<b>21.0</b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>-543.5</b>
Kabul	3,130.0	21	1	56	500.8	3.8	8.4	-457.0
Parwan	571.5	23	3	65	91.4	4.3	9.8	-40.5
Panjsher	132.9	6	2	17	21.3	1.2	2.6	-8.1
Kapisa	381.6	10	0	32	61.1	1.8	4.8	-35.7
Logar	338.7	26	7	80	54.2	5.1	12.0	8.7
Wardak	516.0	27	1	90	82.6	4.8	13.5	-10.9
<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>2,409.0</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>385.5</b>	<b>18.3</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>-201.6</b>
Paktya	476.3	18	1	54	76.2	3.2	8.1	-33.5
Paktika	376.1	16	2	37	60.2	3.0	5.6	-31.8
Khost	496.6	12	0	23	79.5	2.1	3.5	-62.1
Ghazni	1,060.0	56	2	124	169.6	10.0	18.6	-74.2
<b>EAST</b>	<b>2,188.5</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>350.2</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>25.6</b>	<b>-219.2</b>
Nangarhar	1,285.8	52	0	104	205.7	9.1	15.6	-126.4
Laghman	385.4	14	0	37	61.7	2.5	5.6	-32.8
Kunarha	389.2	8	0	23	62.3	1.4	3.5	-44.2
Nooristan	128.1	2	1	6	20.5	0.4	0.9	-15.8
<b>SOUTH-WEST</b>	<b>2,911.1</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>541</b>	<b>465.8</b>	<b>32.8</b>	<b>81.2</b>	<b>-38.8</b>
Kandahar	1,009.1	39	2	124	161.5	7.0	18.6	-63.1
Helmand	797.0	80	0	252	127.5	14.0	37.8	72.7
Zabul	262.5	13	1	39	42.0	2.4	5.9	-11.3
Nimroz	141.2	14	1	34	22.6	2.5	5.1	3.8
Uruzgan	302.8	29	2	74	48.4	5.2	11.1	9.3
Daikonde	398.5	6	8	18	63.8	1.7	2.7	-50.2
<b>Total for settled</b>	<b>22,518.2</b>	<b>1,123</b>	<b>1,321</b>	<b>3,711</b>	<b>3,603.0</b>	<b>306.2</b>	<b>556.7</b>	<b>-754.9</b>
<b>Total for unsettled</b>	<b>1,588.1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>254.1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-254.1</b>
<b>Overall</b>	<b>24,106.3</b>	<b>1,123.0</b>	<b>1,321.0</b>	<b>3,711.0</b>	<b>3,857.1</b>	<b>306.2</b>	<b>556.7</b>	<b>-1,009.0</b>

Settled population in 2004: 21.678 million (Source: Central Statistics Office)

Nomads in 2003: 1.5 million (Source: Central Statistics Office)

Annual population growth-rate 1.92% (Source: Central Statistics Office)

Crop area and production data (Source: FAAHM/MAF)