

DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE SECTOR, DISTRICT BARNALA

At district level the department of agriculture functions under the guidance of Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO). The office of CAO is situated Pharwahi Bazar Barnala to sustain agriculture production, transfer of latest technology to the farmers and to implement various existing schemes and programmes, the CAO is assisted by 2 Agricultural officers (AO), 6 Agriculture Development Officers at focal point levels , six agriculture sub-inspectors along with one statistical assistant. The department also keeps vigil on the various input supply agencies to insure quality supply of inputs to the farmers.

Land use

The Geographical Area of district is 141000 hectares; out of which 125000 hectares is cultivable area cropping intensity is 200%. The net irrigated area is about 99% The main source of irrigation is through canals, tube wells the detail of land utilization statistics of the district is as under:-

Land Utilization Statistics (preceding 3 years average)

Block	Geographical Area (hact.)	Forest Area (hact.)	Land Under Non-Agri use (hact.)	Cultivable Waste (hact.)	Permanent Pastures (hact.)	Current fallows (hact.)	Net Sown Area (hact.)	Gross Cropped Area (hact.)	Cropping Intensity(%) (hact.)
Barnala	69856	12	8303	10	Nil	6	61525	123050	200%
Sehna	41495	17	4890	18	Nil	5	36565	73130	200%
Mehal-kalan	29614	3	3127	8	Nil	7	26469	52938	200%
Total	140965	32	16320	36	Nil	18	124559	249118	200%

Major Crops and Varieties in District

The major crops of the district are Wheat, Paddy and Cotton. The sugarcane crop is also cultivated in the district to some extent. The detail of varieties sown in the district is as under:-

Crop	Varieties
Wheat	PBW 343, DBW 17, PBW 550, PBW 542, PBW 509, PBW 373,
Paddy	PAU 201, PR 118, PR 116, PUSA 44, BASMATI 386, BASMATI 370, PUSA 1121, PUNJAB MEHAK -1
Cotton	RCH 134, MRC 6304, MRC 6301, LD 327

Special Projects /Schemes of Agriculture Department on going in the District

Sr.no	Name of Scheme	Sponsoring Agency	Type of Activity	Share of Subsidy	Budget allotted in lakhs	Budget used	Remarks
1	Centrally sponsored schemes(ISOPAM)	Centre and state	Demonstrations of oil seeds, Maize and Pulses	75%Centre and 25% state	1.67	1.67	-
2	Centrally sponsored scheme improvement of soil health (Soil testing)	Centre and State	Farmer training camps	90% central and 10% state	--	--	-
3	Centrally sponsored scheme for promotion of agricultural mechanization	Centre and State	Supply of equipments , promotion of mechanization through training camps, Demonstrations etc.	90% Centre and 10% state	6.0	5.94	-
4	Centrally sponsored scheme for promotion of agricultural mechanization-macro management	Centre	Promotion of machinery, work plan	25% central	1.7	1.7	-
5	Reclamation of salt effected (kallar) soils	Centre and State	Supply of gypsum	90% centre 10 % state	--	--	-
6	Agriculture Technology Management Agency (ATMA)	Centre	ATMA is an autonomous institution with participation of all the key stake holders involved in agricultural activities for sustainable agricultural development . ATMA has the main responsibility of all the technology dissemination activities at the District and Block level	90% centre 10 % state	19.61	2.52	Staff shortage is reason for non utilization of funds
7	National Food Security Mission (NFSM)	Centre	The holistic approach to increase the production of wheat through the area expansion and productivity enhancement is a sustainable manner	100% centre	10.33	7.99	Salaries of contractual staff remained unutilized
8	Mealy Bug		Awareness by way of advertisements printing of Polyvinyl boards and through village level camps is being done to control the Mealy Bug below ETL.	100% centre	2.25	1.2	Funds are being utilized.
9	SRTT		The Scheme started in District w.e.f 01-04-05. Ten villages are adopted . In each village	Tata trust	4.7	3.08	Funds are being utilized.

			information centre is setup and relevant literature is provided . FFS are being organized by ADOs. Scouts are also working in area.				
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Input Management

To ensure timely and quality supply of various inputs like fertilizer & seeds respectively in the district about 400 dealers are working. Besides this, there are two branches of Markfed, one Punjab Agro Food Grain Corporation & two Agriculture Marketing Societies to cater the need of farmer's. In addition, there are also 70 co-operative Agriculture Service Societies in the district which supplies these inputs to their members.

Markets and Storage Structure

At present the storage capacity of agricultural produce in district is as under.

Block	Storage Structures						Markets (numbers)	
	Rural Godowns		Cold Storage		Onion Storage		Main Market	Sub Market
	Nos.	Capacity (in tones)	Nos.	Capacity (in tones)	Nos.	Capacity (in tones)		
Barnala	-	-	4	40000	-	-	2	2
Sehna	-	-	2	20000	-	-	2	1
Mehal Kalan	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
TOTAL	-	-	6	60000	-	-	5	6

Farm Mechanization/Farm Equipments

Farm mechanization has played a pivotal role in improving agricultural production as well as productivity through timeliness of field operations and by enabling proper use of critical inputs. To ensure sustainability of agricultural by conservation of natural resources like water, soil, health and environments. It is very much essential to popularize the new technological interventions like raised bed planter , zero till drill technology, precision leveling of fields and manipulation of crop residue into the soil.