



VII.1. Agro-Climatic Zones

TABLE VII.1.2: Details of Agro-Climatic Zones

Parameters	Scarcity Zone/ Western Maharashtra Scarcity Zone	Assured Rainfall Zone/ Central Maharashtra Plateau Zone	Moderate Rainfall Zone/ Central Vidarbha	Eastern Vidarbha Zone
Districts	Drought prone talukas of Nasik, Dhule, Ahmadnagar, Pune, Satara, Sangli, Solapur, Aurangabad, Bid, Osmanabad districts	Comprises parts of Aurangabad, Jalna Bid, Osmanabad, Akola, Amravati, Yavatmal, Jalgaon, Dhule & Solapur districts. Major parts of Parbhani & Nanded districts and complete Latur and Buldana districts	Entire Wardha, major parts of Nagpur, Yavatmal 2 tehsils of Chandrapur & parts of Aurangabad, Jalna Parbhani & Nanded districts.	Entire Bhandara & Gadchiroli and parts of Chandrapur and Nagpur districts. Almost 50% area is under forest.
Geographical Area (000ha)	7,323	7,500	4,988	3,270
Gross Cropped Area (000ha)	5,842	6,780	3,573*	1,080
Rainfall (mm)	500-700	700-900	900-1,250	1,250-1,700
Soil	Soils have Montmorillonite clay. Poor in nitrogen, low to medium in phosphate & well supplied in potash.	Soil colour ranges from black to red.	Black soils derived from basalt rock. Medium to heavy in texture alkaline in reaction. Low lying areas are rich and fertile.	Soils derive from parent rock granite, gneisses, and schists. Brown to Red in colour. PH 6 to 7
Crops	Bajra, Jowar, Groundnut, Safflower, Pulses,	Jowar, Cotton, Oilseeds, Pulses,	Cotton, Jowar, Tur, Wheat, Oilseeds	Paddy, Pulses, Jowar, Oilseeds

SOURCE: Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Maharashtra, and Report of the high level committee on balanced regional development issues in Maharashtra (2013), Planning Department, Govt. of Maharashtra

* Net sown area