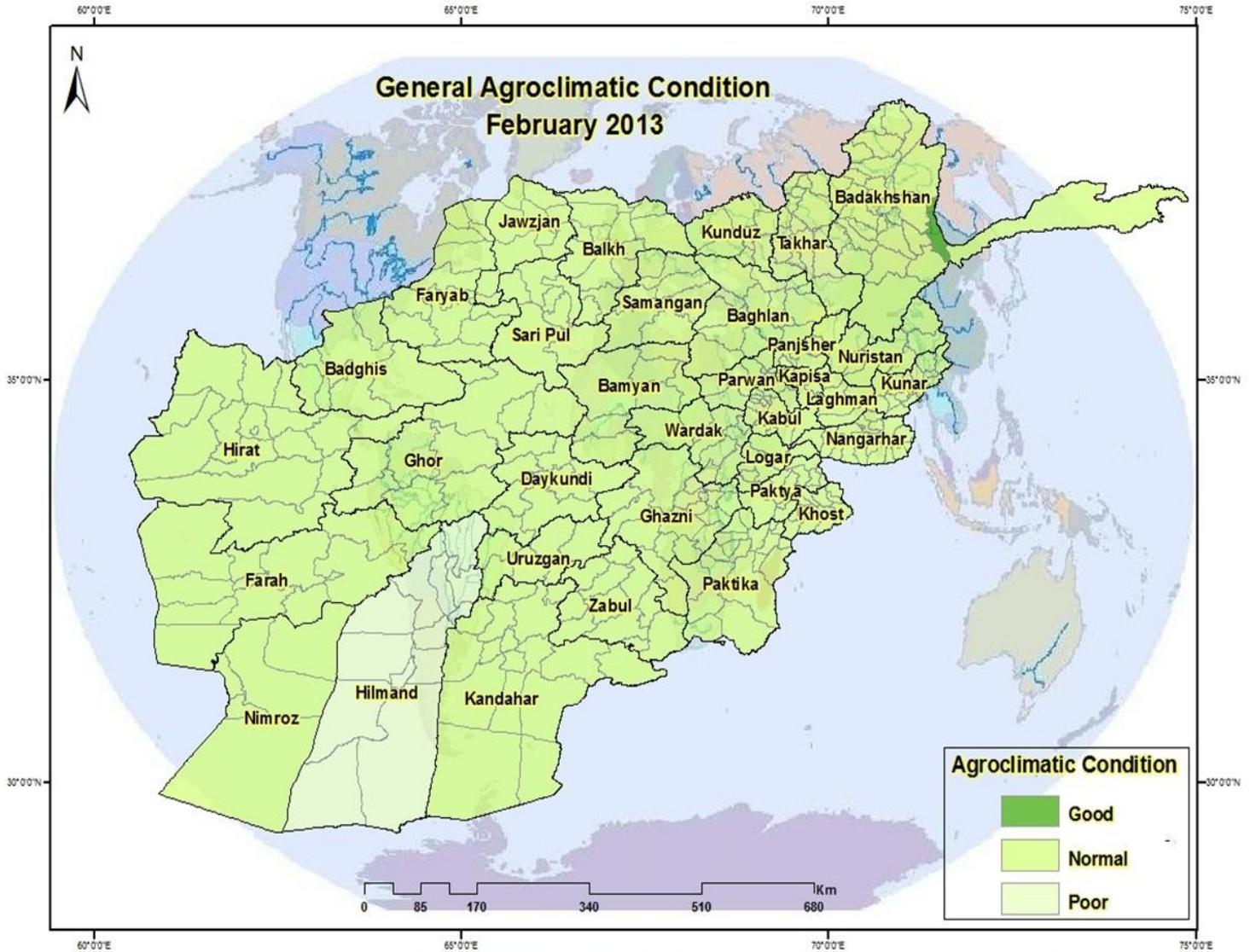




# The Afghanistan Agrometeorological Monthly Bulletin

Issue No: 96  
February: 2013

Topics Crop Information Precipitation Temperature NDVI



Snowfall

1



Crop Condition

2



Crop Stage

3



The Agromet Project of USGS, is working together with the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) and the Afghan Meteorological Authority (AMA) of Ministry of Transport (MoT)

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### Data Source:

Ministry of Agriculture , Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), Agromet Project , Afghan Meteorological Authority (AMA), United States Geological Survey (USGS).

## Summary

During the month of February 2013, low pressure system passed over the country and brought widespread precipitation in most parts of Afghanistan.

Rainfall was mostly accompanied with liquid precipitation, irregular distribution of rainfall resulted in low amount of rainfall in west parts of the Central Highland.

During the month of February 2013, temperature gradually raised in most part of the country, where minimum temperature was recorded between – 20 to – 22 degrees C in the Central Highlands, and the Northeastern high elevations and temperature had positive departure of around 4 – 6 C°.

### Crop Stage, Crop Condition and Adverse Factor

Zone	Province	District	Station	Wheat		
				Crop Stage	Crop Condition	Adverse Factor
Central	Kabul	Shakardara	Karizmir	Dormancy		
		Paghman	Paghman			
		Kabul	Darulaman			
		Surubi	Surubi	Vegetative	Normal	Weeds
	Panjsher	Dara	Dara	Dormancy		
		Dashtak	Dashtak			
	Parwan	Syagerd	Gorband	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Charikar	Charikar	Dormancy		
	Kapisa	Mahmoodraqi	Mahmoodraqi	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed
		Kohistan	Kohistan	Dormancy		
	Wardak	Maidan shehr	Maidan shehr	Dormancy		
	Logar	Pole Alam	Pole Alam	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
	Bamyan	Bamyan	Bamyan	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Yakawlang	Yakawlang	Dormancy		
		Panjab	Panjab			
		Shebar	Shebar			
		Kohmard	Kohmard	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
	Ghazni	Andar	Bande Sardi	Dormancy		
Daykundi	Nili	Nili	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed	
	Khideer	Khideer	Dormancy			
East	Nangarhar	Agam	Agam	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed
		Batikot	Ghaziabad	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed
		Jalalabad	Farm jaded	Vegetative	Normal	Weeds

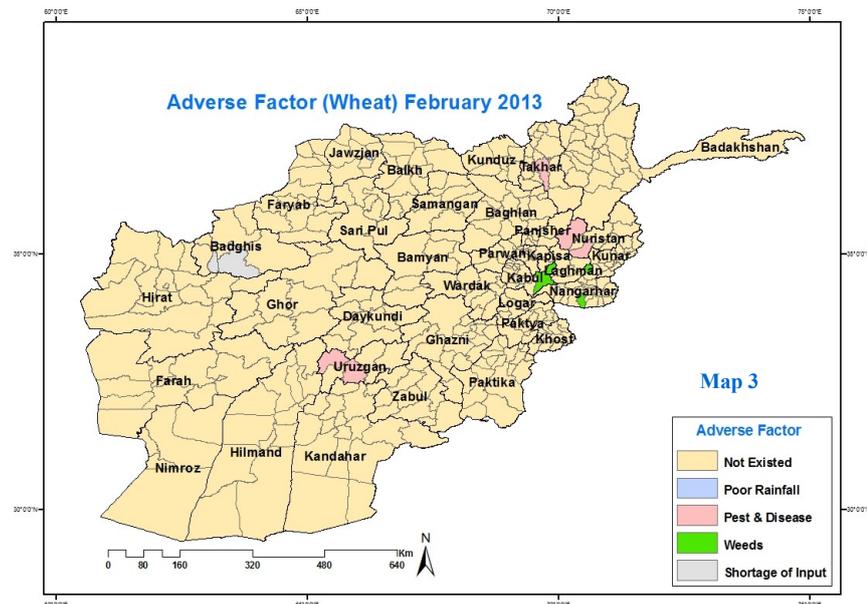
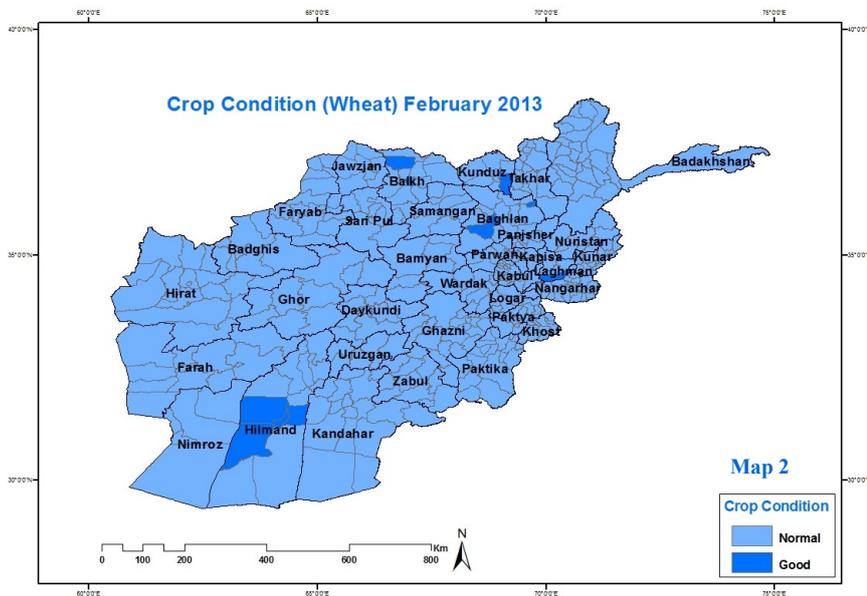
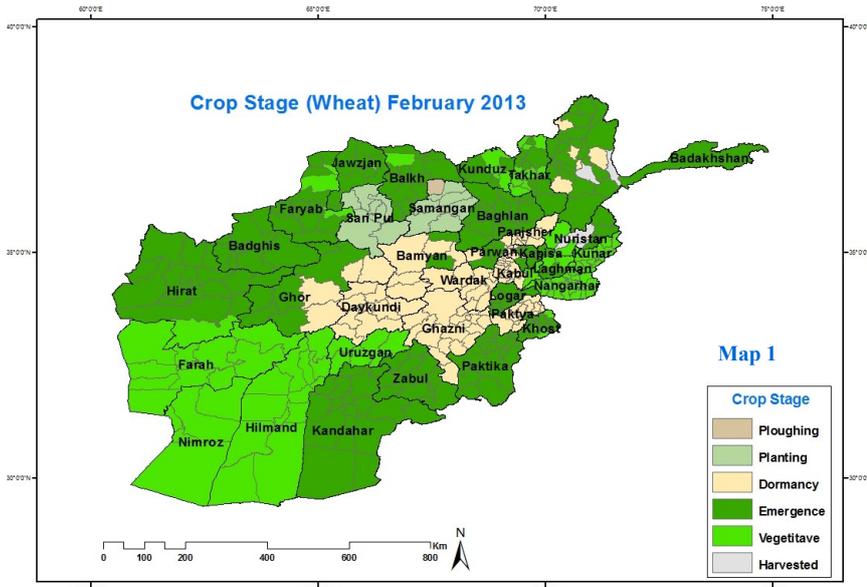
## Crop Stage, Crop Condition and Adverse Factor

Zone	Province	District	Station	Wheat		
				Crop Stage	Crop Condition	Adverse Factor
East	Kunar	Asmar	Asmar	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed
		Asad Abad	Asad Abad	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed
		Chawkay	Chawkay	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed
	Laghman	Mihtarlam	Mihtarlam	Vegetative	Normal	Weeds
		Qarghay	Qarghay	Emergence	Good	Not Existed
		Alengar	Alengar	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed
	Nuristan	Paroon	Paroon	<b>Harvested</b>		
		Do Ab	Do Ab			
		Norgaram	Norgaram	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed
		Waigal	Waigal	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Wama	Wama	<b>Harvested</b>		
	North East	Takhar	Taluqan	Taluqan	Vegetative	Normal
Rostaq			Rostaq	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
Aqmasjad			Aqmasjad	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed
Kunduz		Imam Sahib	Imam Sahib	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed
		Qaliazal	Aqtipa	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Khan Abad	Khan Abad	Vegetative	Good	Not Existed
		Kunduz	Kunduz	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed
		Archi	Archi	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Chardara	Chardara	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Ali Abad	Ali Abad	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
Baghlan		Pulikhomri	Pozaishan	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Doshy	Doshy	Emergence	Good	Not Existed
Badakhshan		Argo	Argo	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Baharak	Baharak	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Ashkashm	Ashkashm	<b>Harvested</b>		
		Khash	Khash	<b>Dormancy</b>		
		Faiz Abad	Faiz Abad	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
South East		Khost	Khost	Khost	Emergence	Normal
	Khost		Shimal	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
	Ali Sher		Ali Sher	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed
	Paktia	Zormat	Rohani Baba	<b>Dormancy</b>		
		Gardiz	Tera			
	Paktika	Urgon	Urgon	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Sharana	Sharana	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Khair kot	Khair Kot	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed

## Crop Stage, Crop Condition and Adverse Factor

Zone	Province	District	Station	Wheat		
				Crop Stage	Crop Condition	Adverse Factor
<b>South</b>	<b>Nimroz</b>	Zaranj	Zaranj	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed
	<b>Kandahar</b>	Kandahar	Kandahar	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Kohkaran	Kohkaran	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
	<b>Zabul</b>	Qalat	Qalat	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
	<b>Urozgan</b>	Tirin Kot	Tirin Kot	Vegetative	Normal	Pasts & Diseases
	<b>Hilmand</b>	Nad Ali	Nad Ali	Vegetative	Good	Not Existed
		Greshk	Greshk	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed
		Nawa	Nawa	Vegetative	Good	Not Existed
Lashkargah		Bolan	Vegetative	Good	Not Existed	
<b>North</b>	<b>Balkh</b>	Takhta pol	Dihdadi	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Mazar shareef	Mazare shareef	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Nahri shahi	Nahri shahi	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Dawlat Abad	Dawlat Abad	Vegetative	Good	Not Existed
	<b>Jawzjan</b>	Sheberghan	Sheberghan	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Darzab	Darzab	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Aqcha	Aqcha	Vegetative	Normal	Poor rainfall
	<b>Saripul</b>	Saripul	Saripul	<b>Planting</b>		
		Sancharak	Sancharak			
		Sozmaqala	Sozmaqala			
	<b>Faryab</b>	Maimana	Maimana	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Andkhoy	Andkhoy	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed
		Garzeewan	Garzeewan	<b>Dormancy</b>		
	<b>Samangan</b>	Aibak	Aibak	<b>Planting</b>		
		Dara Souf	Dara Souf			
Sar bagh		Sarbagh	<b>Ploughing</b>			
<b>North West</b>	<b>Badghis</b>	Maqur	Maqur	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Qalainow	Qalainow	Emergence	Normal	Shortage of input
	<b>Ghor</b>	Chaghcharan	Chaghcharan	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Dawlat yar	Dawlat yar	<b>Dormancy</b>		
	<b>Hirat</b>	Shindand	Shindand	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed
		Hirat	Hirat	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Zindajan	Zindajan	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Gwazara	Falahat	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
		Hirat	Farm Urdokhan	Emergence	Normal	Not Existed
	<b>Farah</b>	Farah	Farah	Vegetative	Normal	Not Existed

# Wheat Crop Stage, Condition and Adverse Factor Maps



Data Source: Agromet Network

Since Afghanistan is a mountainous country, so there are involved various factors in variability of precipitations, in particularly rainfall, on the other side from the view point of meteorological science it is located in the zone of high pressure area, and also there are four seasons weather influences and governing on the provinces of Afghanistan. Huge air masses which are coming from the north and north-west settled on the top and the skirts of Hindukush up to the Baba's mountains the central area which will cover the three shallows basins such as Aamu basin, Hilmand basin, and Nangarhar basins, and in the season of spring and in the mid of Mar up to last of May, there would be rainy weather in the central regions.

Synoptically process of the rainfall regime in the country can be obstructed as the following. Bamyan has an increase in rainfall in the air of 2013, that is because a cold front come down from Pamir and covered the valley and plane areas of Bamyan and due to convective thermals, and formed a low pressure center which was cause severe rainfall and also there was some another forming of low pressure due to convective thermals like Sarobi, Mehterlam, Gardiz, Ghazni and Urgan.

Comparison view points with respect to 2012, and its conclusions: Bamyan has an increase with respect to 2012 to extent of 49.5, this actually surplus water for vegetative affairs and feeding, in this regard there is another comparison like Mehterlam with having 79.4 millimeter surplus water with respect to 2012. This has a good conclusion in watering, keeping soil moisture, feeding livestock, growing green crops, filling the water reservoir and so on. And also Gardiz has 43.8 millimeter surplus water with respect to 2012, can be a positive sign for its irrigation affairs. In this regard Ghazni province has the surplus of water 291.8 which can be a great amount of water for using and keeping positively in various forms of living affairs.

And also if we have a look on the farm of Ghazi Abad high rainfall is seen with respect to 2012 and has the excessive water of 91 millimeter. Also in this we can name other provinces like Logar and Paghman which have the excessive rainfall in comparison with the year of 2012.

### High Rainfall Regions and their conclusions:

There are some provinces in which as unexpected have taken the value of high amount of rainfall, they are, Logar, Paghman, Sarobi, Ghaziaabad, Mehterlam, Gardiz, Ghazni, Urgan and Qala-e-naw. But GHAZNI is the province with having the highest amount of rainfall at same month in all over the country, namely (331mm).

### Low Rainfall Regions and their conclusions:

There are some regions with having low actual value of rainfall, like Zaranj, Uruzgan, Mazaar-e-sharif, Jawzjan, Saripul. It is worth mentioning that Zaranj is the region with having the least value of rainfall (2mm). so it can have negative conclusions in the near future that is because it shows absolute dryness, this dryness can be affected negatively in all parts of human livelihood.

### Effective Rainfall and its conclusions:

According to the science of CROP – WATER – REQUIRMEN, effective rainfall is important to be studied, the importance of this debate is to provide as much water as crop need it, no more of that and not less than that, actually such calculation is very difficult, and also there are some formula regarding effective rainfall which had been designed by Professor Koppen and Torrent wiet.



## Precipitation

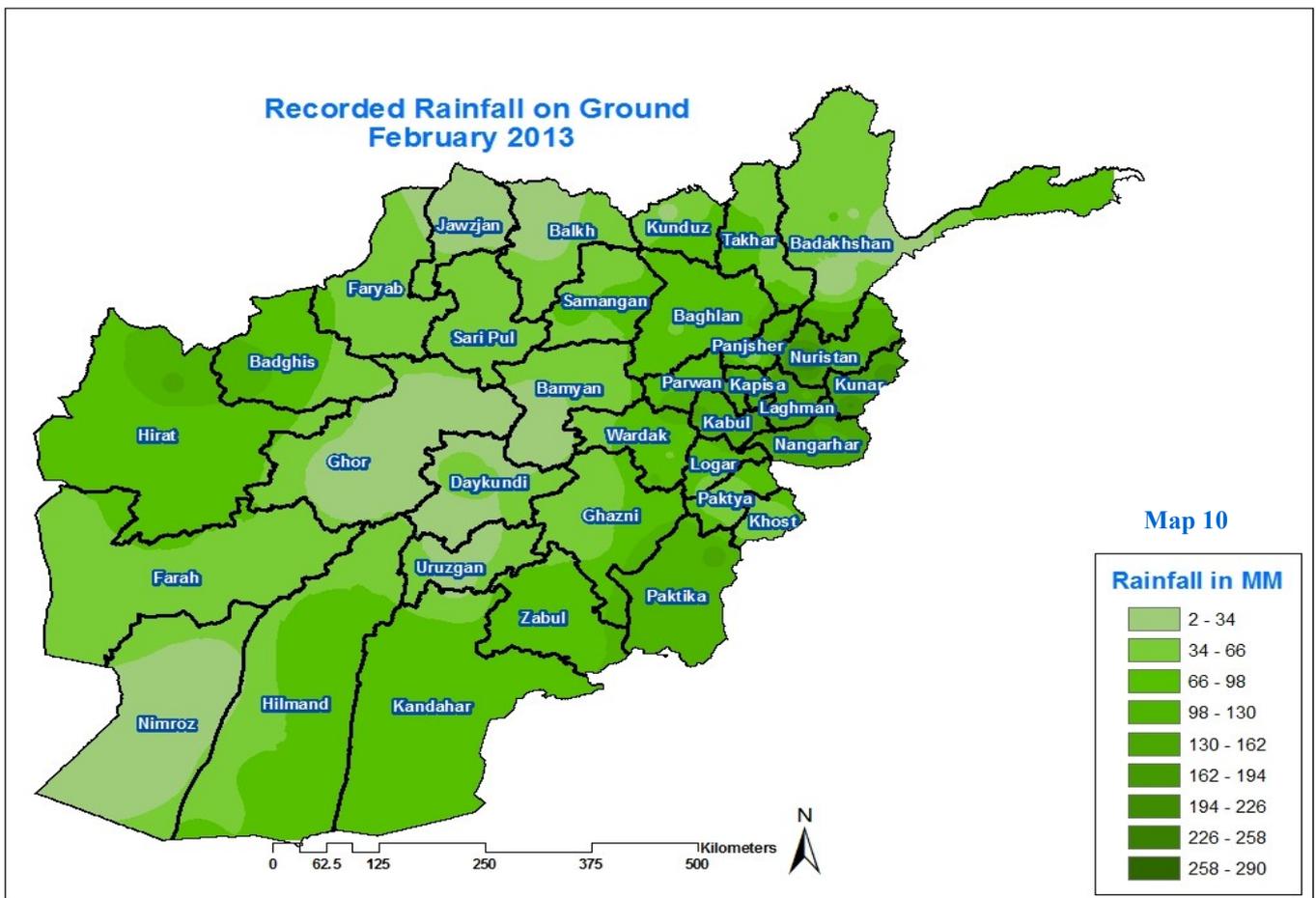
Station Name	February			Deviation	Comparison	Prediction <span style="float: right;">Table 3</span>
	2012	2013	LTA			
bamyan	5	54.5	16.7	-37.8	Above normal	No dryness.
Kabul	83.2	89.2	58.6	-30.6	Above normal .	No dryness.
Logar	38.3	105	34.9	-70.1	Above normal	No dryness.
Paghman	78	165	68.5	-96.5	Above normal	No dryness.
Sarobi	81.4	132	54.9	-77.1	Above normal	No dryness.
Asmar	100	191	56	-135	Above normal	No dryness.
<b>Rainfall in 2013 increasingly ascended with respect to 2012</b>						
Ghazi Abad	32	123	25.1	-97.9	Above normal	No dryness.
Jalalabad	23	152	24.3	-127.7	Above normal	No dryness.
Mehterlam	39	118.4	35.5	-82.9	Above normal	No dryness.
Paroon	93	103	40.4	-62.6	Above normal	No dryness.
Baghlan	83.2	46.5	63	16.5	Bellow normal	Dry.
Faizabad	71	46.5	63	16.5	Bellow normal	Dry.
.Kunduz	75.5	67	51.5	-15.5	Bellow normal	Dry.
<b>54% wetness is seen in comparison with 2012</b>						
Taluqan	73.5	74	78.1	4.1	Bellow normal	Dry.
Aibak	49	58	26.2	-31.8	Above normal	No dryness.
Dara-e-soof	56.5	73.5	32.6	-40.9	Above normal	No dryness.
Jawzjan	33.5	24.5	43.7	19.2	Bellow normal	Dry.
Mazar sharif	61.5	37	37.9	0.9	Bellow normal	Dry.
Sari pul	70	46	18.3	-27.7	Above normal	No dryness.
Kandahar	144.5	98	35.1	-62.9	Above normal	No dryness.
Lashkergah	44.9	69	20.2	-48.8	Above normal	No dryness.
Uruzgan	110	18	48.8	30.8	Bellow normal	Dry.
Zaranj	59.4	2	12.7	10.7	Bellow normal	Dry.
Gardiz	70.1	113.9	70.8	-43.1	Above normal	No dryness.
Ghazni	39.2	331	56	-27.1	Above normal	No dryness.
Khost	28	44.6	47.5	2.9	Bellow normal	Dry.
Sardi	34	48	52.9	4.9	Bellow normal	Dry.
Urgon	104.5	147	53.3	-93.7	Above normal	No dryness.
Farah	49.5	58	24.8	-33.2	Above normal	No dryness.
Hirat	53	71.5	39.9	-31.6	Above normal	No dryness.
Qala-e-naw	72	110	58.7	-51.3	Above normal	No dryness.
Shindand	64	92	35.9	-56.1	Above normal	No dryness.

## Precipitation

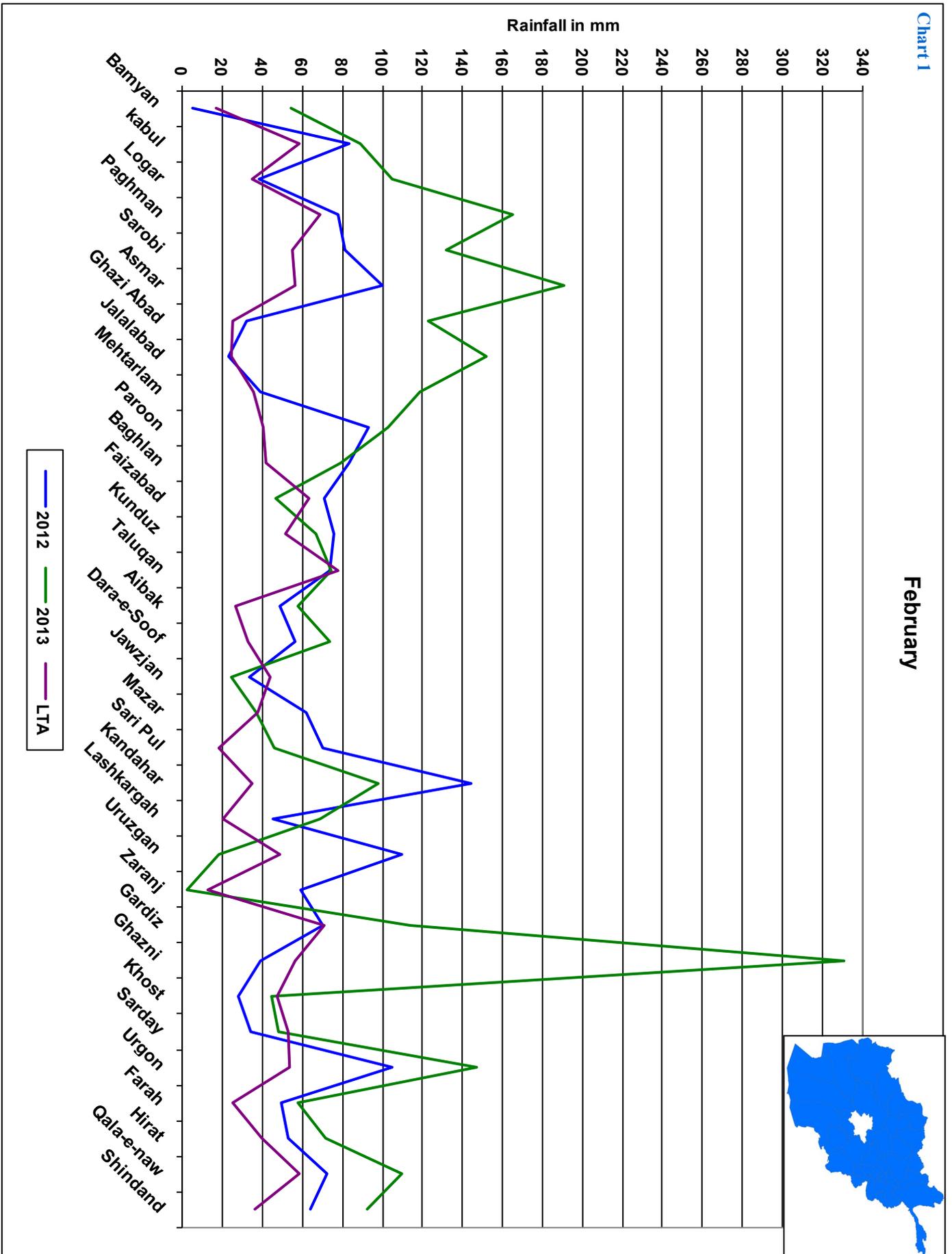
During the month of February 2013, low pressure system passed over the country and brought widespread precipitation in most parts of Afghanistan. Rainfall was mostly accompanied with liquid precipitation, irregular distribution of rainfall resulted in low amount of rainfall in west parts of the Central Highland.

Comparison of rainfall data for the month of February 2013 with the same month in 2012 (Chart 1) shows an increase of rainfall during the month of February 2013 over the same month of last year in most parts of the country except Fiazabad, Mazar, Kunduz, Baghlan, Kandahar, Urzgan and Zarange where rainfall had a decrease.

Comparison of rainfall data for the month of February 2013 with the same month of long term average (Chart 1) shows an increase of rainfall during the month of February 2012 over the same month of long term average in most parts of the country except Taluqan, Jawzjan, Uruzgan, Zaranj, Khost and Sarday where rainfall accompanied with decrease. During the month of February 2013, most amount of rainfall occurred in some parts of Northeastern, Eastern, Capital, Northwestern and some parts of Southeastern region but, the Central Highlands, Western and Southern, and some parts of the Northern region received moderate rainfall. The Southwestern and the west part of Central Highlands experienced the lowest amount of rainfall during this month.



# Rainfall Graphs for the Month of February 2013



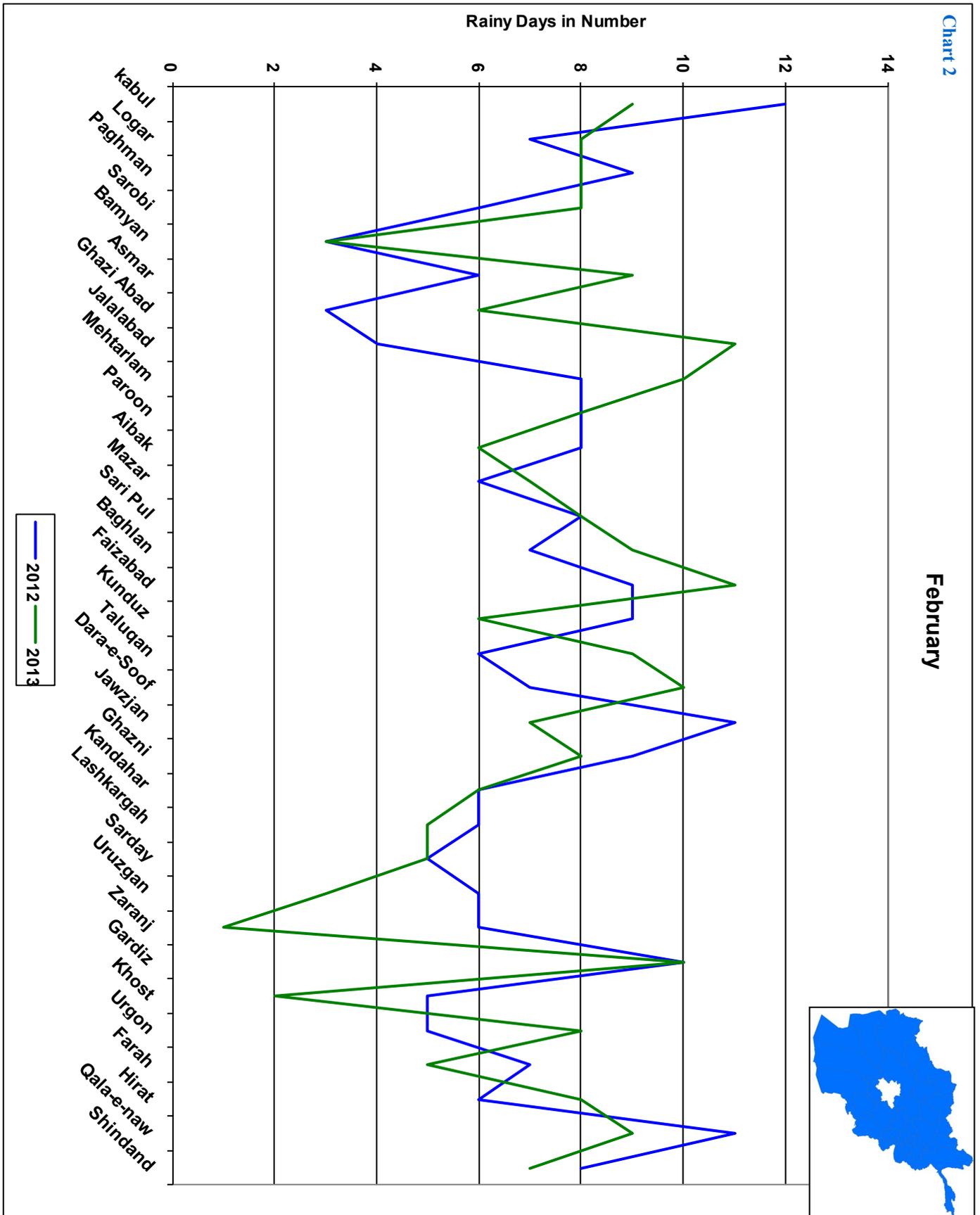
## Rainy Days

As it is obvious, rainy days is important for many aspects, for example, keeping soil moisture constant, and a systematic and regular irrigation period from all respects, and reservoir of water and basins are filled, vegetation surfaces and forestry's are systematically be grown on the other hand the number of rainy days importance much more feeling for underground water to rise up and filling the wells. As it is shown in the below table, Jalalabad , Mehterlam , Faizabad, Gardiz ,

are having the number of rainy days more than the other provinces in the year of 2013, some questions could be raised in connection with this issue, from many aspects that is so. One is the pollution problems which is caused the local warming and finally causes precipitations, and the other is monsoon streams coming from Indian Ocean, both reasons of them are true for Jalalabad. Gardiz has the same number of rainy days in both 2012 & 2013.

No	Station Name	February		Comparison Prediction with respect to (2012) Table 2
		Rainy Days		
		2012	2013	
1	Kabul	12	9	Dry
2	Logar	7	8	No dryness.
3	Paghman	9	8	Dry
4	Sarobi	6	8	No dryness.
5	Bamyan	3	3	No dryness.
6	Asmar	6	9	No dryness.
7	Ghaziabad	3	6	No dryness.
8	Jalalabad	4	11	No dryness.
9	Mehterlam	8	10	No dryness.
10	Paroon	8	8	No dryness.
11	Aibak	8	6	Dry
12	Mazar	6	7	No dryness.
13	Saripul	8	8	No dryness.
14	Baghlan	7	9	No dryness.
15	Faizabad	9	11	No dryness.
16	Kunduz	9	6	Dry
17	Taluqan	6	9	No dryness.
18	Dara-e-soof	7	10	No dryness.
19	Jawzjan	11	7	Dry
20	Ghazni	9	8	Dry
21	Kandahar	6	6	No change is seen.
22	Lashkergah	6	5	Dry
23	Sardi	5	5	No change is seen.
24	Uruzgan	6	3	Dry
25	Zaranj	6	1	Dry
26	Gardiz	10	10	No change is seen .
27	Khost	5	2	Dry
28	Urgone	5	8	No dryness.
29	Farah	7	5	Dry
30	Hirat	6	8	No dryness.
31	Qala-e-naw	11	9	Dry
32	shindand	8	7	Dry

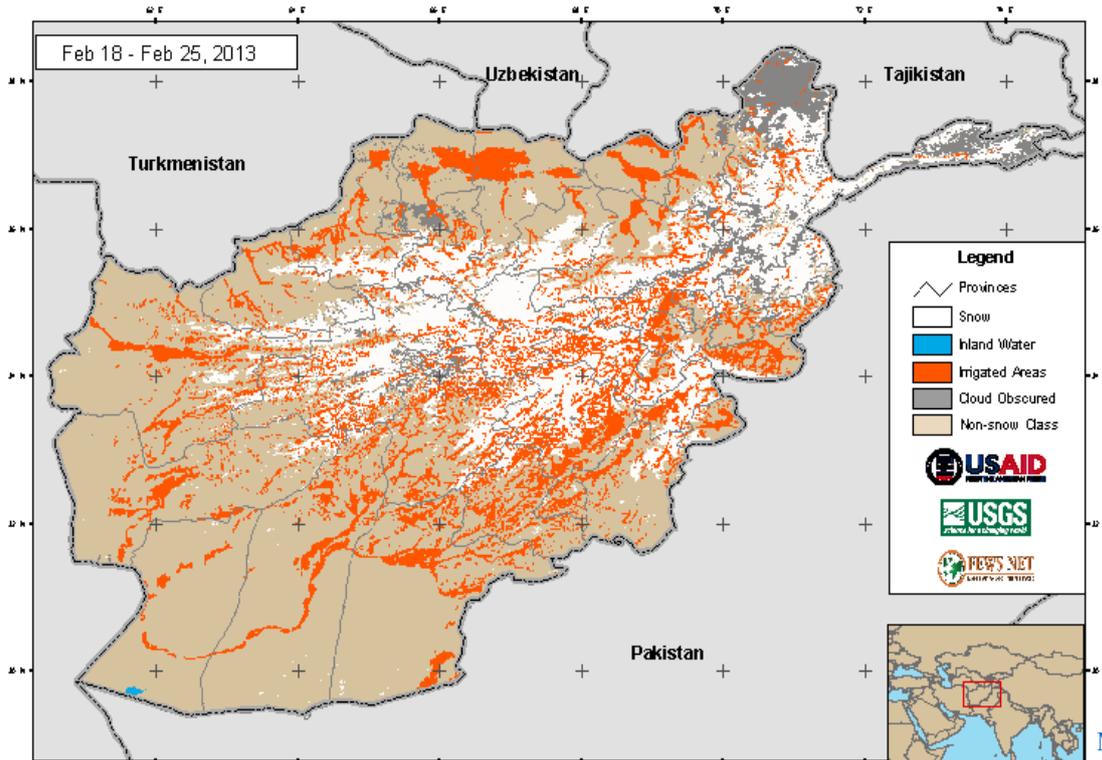
## Rainy Days for the Month of February 2013



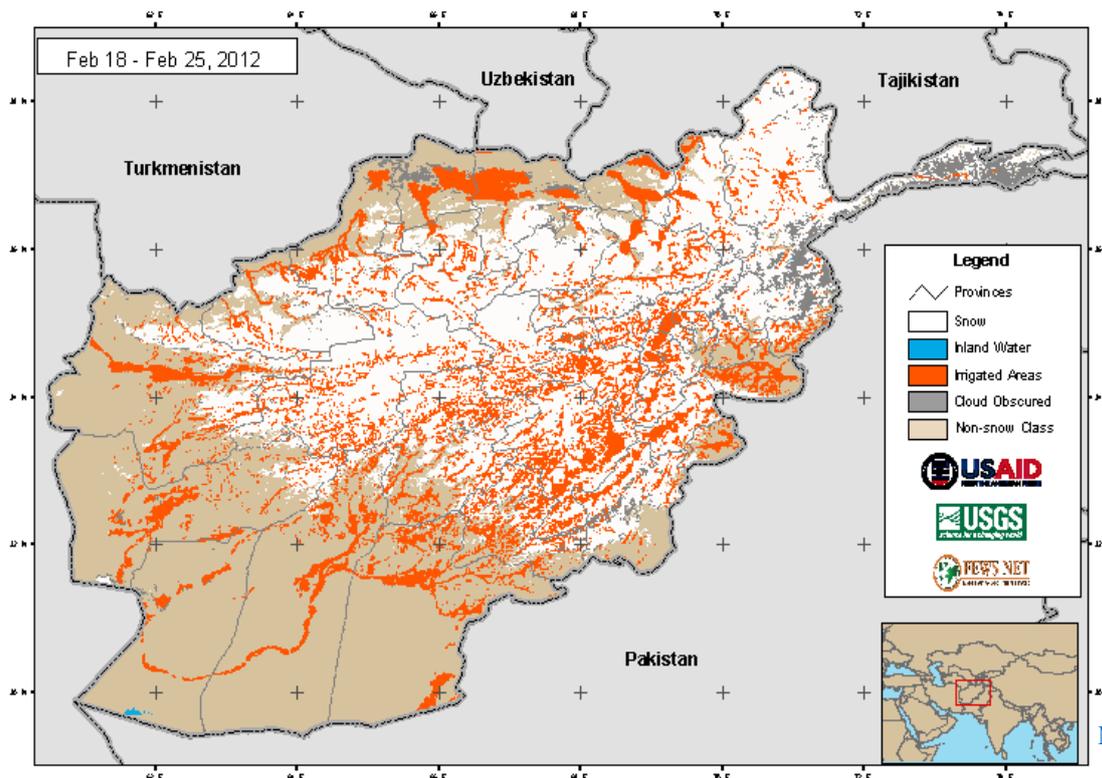
Comparison of rainy days for the month of February 2013 with the same month of last year (Chart 2) shows that rainy days had a small decrease during the month of February 2013 over the same month of last year.

## Afghanistan Snow Depth for month of February 2013

### MODIS 8-day Snow Cover Extent - Current Period 2013 vs 2012



Map 5

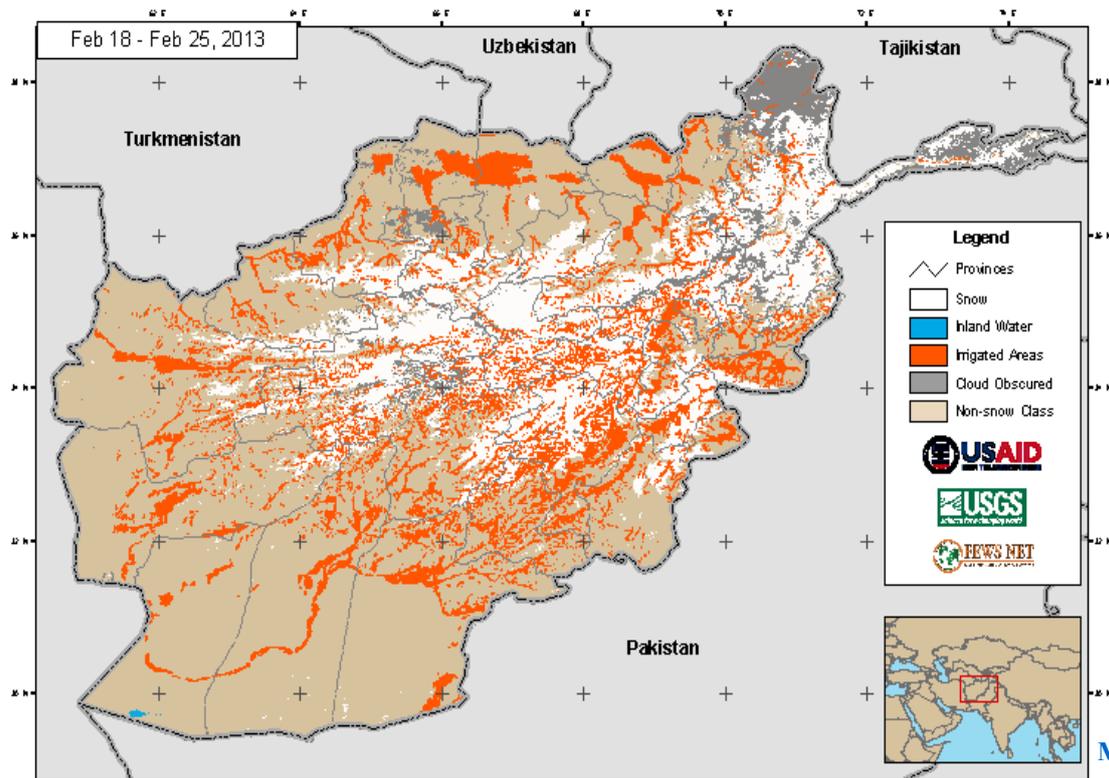


Map 6

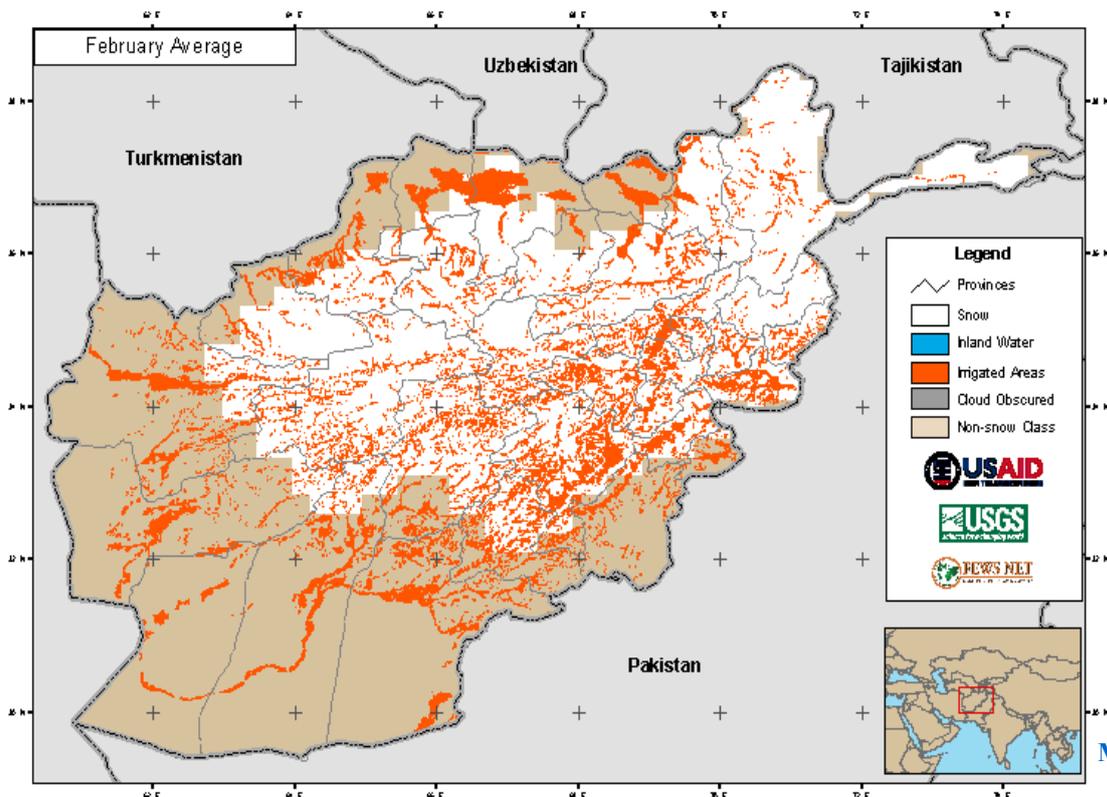
However widespread precipitation occurred during the month of February 2013, due to higher temperature which was mostly accompanied with liquid precipitation decreased the snow extent and depth in snow coverage areas.

Comparison of snow extent for the period of (February 18 – 25) 2013 with the same period in 2012 (Map 5 - 6 ) shows significant decrease of snow extent during the above mentioned period time in February 2013 over the same period in 2012.

## MODIS 8-day Snow Cover Extent - Current vs Historical Average



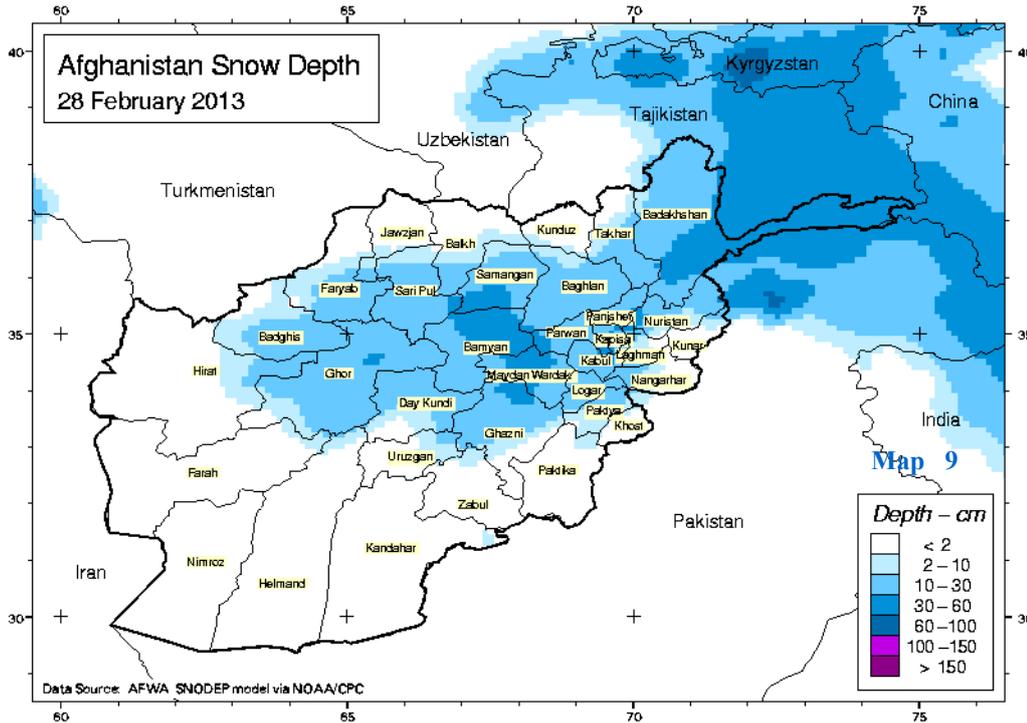
Map 7



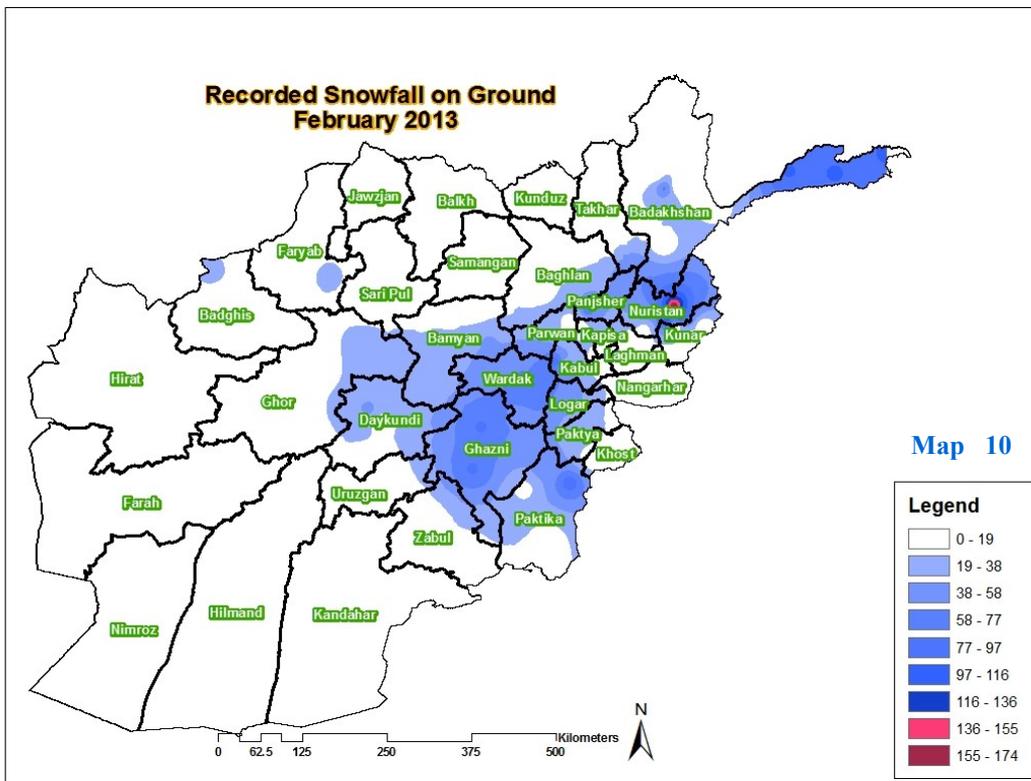
Map 8

Comparison of snow extent for the month of February 2013 with the same month of long term average (Map 7 - 8) shows significant decrease of snow extent during the month of February 2013 over the same month of long term average.

## Afghanistan Snow Depth for month of February 2013



Map ( 9) shows snow depth for the end of February 2013. As map (9) shows the snow depth has been recorded from 30 to 60 cm in the Northeastern and some parts of Central Highlands.



In this bulletin we do have two types of information on snow which are the remote sensing and the recorded data on the ground , the ground data is mostly from the lower During the month of February 2013, the most snow has

been occurred in Nuristan, as it recorded between 155 cm and 174 cm. For more information on the ground recorded data please, see the Map #10.

## Air temperature and thermal regime over Afghanistan

The surface air temperature is one of the important variables which influence all stages of the crop during its growth, development and reproductive phases. A short duration crop becomes medium or long duration crop depending upon its environmental temperature under which it is grown. Most of the crops have upper and lower limits of temperatures below or above which they may not come up also the crop productivity is related to temperature if other crop related environmental factors are not limiting. The influence of temperature on various phases of crops could be explained better through concepts like cardinal temperature points and growing degree days which are explained in brief in preceding section.

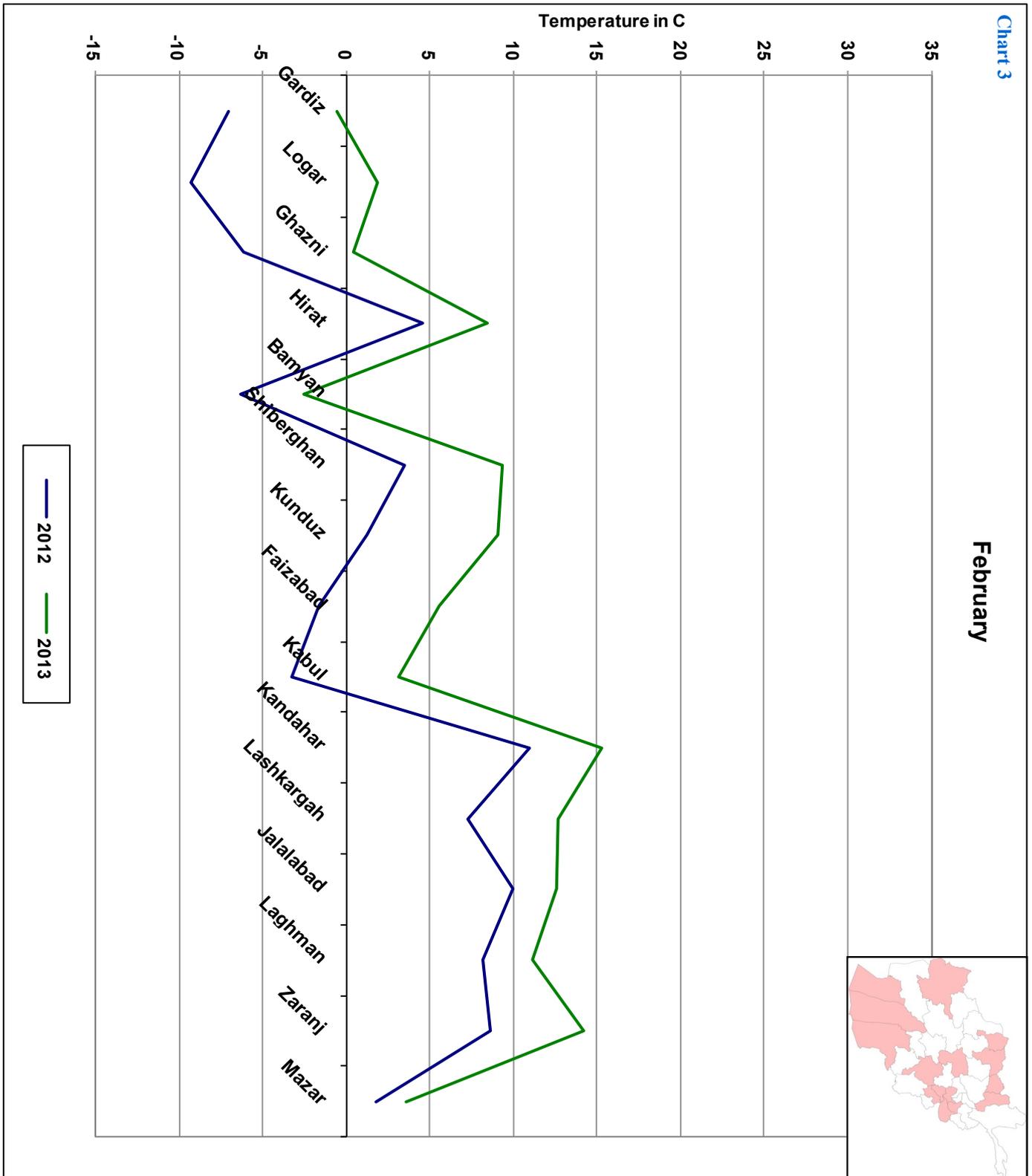
Every physiological plant process undergoes well-defined range of limits of temperature. There must be at least a minimum essential temperature to the initiation of activity. For example this activity variations are moving between two limits of temperatures namely Minimum-temperature, Maximum, temperature and optimum temperature, Minimum temperature contains chill wind called Frost that is very dangerous for fresh vegetable and the blossom of fruits in which at the beginning of starting hits the fruits, in this case Maximum temperature can be divided into two temperature namely Maximum high and Maximum low for example. The region of Lashkergah with having 25.4 degree Celsius is the region of maximum high temperature. Whereas its actual temperature is (12.7), in this way the Maximum low temperature region is Bamyan namely Bamyan is the region with having the Maximum low temperature of (8) degrees Celsius, whereas its actual temperature is (-2.53). We can say that it is not the right and optimum temperatures for both regions crops, that is

because the high minimum temperature and low minimum temperature must be explored for both regions and another provinces also, for example Jalalabad is the region with high Minimum (5), and Bamyan is the region with low minimum temperature, whereas their actual temperatures degrees are namely Jalalabad recorded 12.6 in comparison with average increased and goes up warmer and Bamyan average is (-6.33) in comparison with the low minimum degrees, which is (-20.6) indicating a huge frost, in which no crop can tolerate such a cold temperature, in spite of all what is tolled, there is another temperature in the name of cardinal temperature, in which is proper and suitable for crops, this temperature is required to be found for crops phenological growing stages, and distributed into two sort of temperature one is the mean-temperature and the other is optimum temperature.

Mean temperature is a range of heat in which majority of plants can grow and feed, some exception may be included, for example the regions like Gardiz, Logar, Ghazni, Hirat, Bamyan, Shiberghan, Kunduz, Faizabad, Kabul, Kandahar, Lashkergha, Jalalabad, Laghman and Mazar-e-sharif are the ranges that can receive either of the observed data in the table. But the optimum temperature is something different, with respect to the above mentioned temperatures, for example optimum temperature for rice emergence is 16 and optimum temperature for rice tillering is 19 and optimum temperature for rice ripening is 38, so if we go through the table of Maximum temperature, rice can be grown in the regions of Jalalabad, Lashkergah, Laghman, although Maximum temperature of Zaranj is high and (26) but it is not a suitable temperature.

Stations	February								
	Temperature in Celsius Degree								
	Max. 2013	Avg.	Deviation	Min. 2013	Avg.	Deviation	Actual 2013	Avg.	Deviation
Gardiz	8.8	-7.03	-15.83	-16.4	-7.03	-9.37	-0.6	-7.03	-6.4
Logar	14	-9.31	23.31	-14	-9.31	-6.6	1.88	-9.31	7.43
Ghazni	10.5	-6.15	16.65	-12	-6.15	-5.85	0.43	-6.15	-6.58
Kandahar	22	11	11	0.3	11	-10.7	15.3	11	4.3
Hirat	20.9	4.61	16.29	-2.6	4.61	-2.91	8.44	4.61	3.83
Jalalabad	22	10	12	5	10	5	12.7	10	2.7
Laghman	20	8.13	11.87	3	8.13	5.13	11.1	8.13	2.97
Bamyan	8	-6.33	14.33	-20.6	-6.33	-14.27	-2.53	-6.33	-3.83
Shiberghan	20.4	3.48	16.92	0	3.48	-3.48	9.3	3.48	5.82
Kunduz	18	1.27	16.73	0	1.27	-1.27	9.03	1.27	7.76
Lashkergha	25.4	7.26	18.14	1.1	7.26	6.16	12.7	7.26	5.44
Zaranj	26	8.66	17.34	1	8.66	7.66	14.2	8.66	6.54
Mazar	19.6	1.74	17.86	-4.4	1.74	-2.62	3.54	1.74	1.70
Kabul	12.5	-3.25	9.25	-7	-3.25	-4.25	3.1	-3.25	6.35

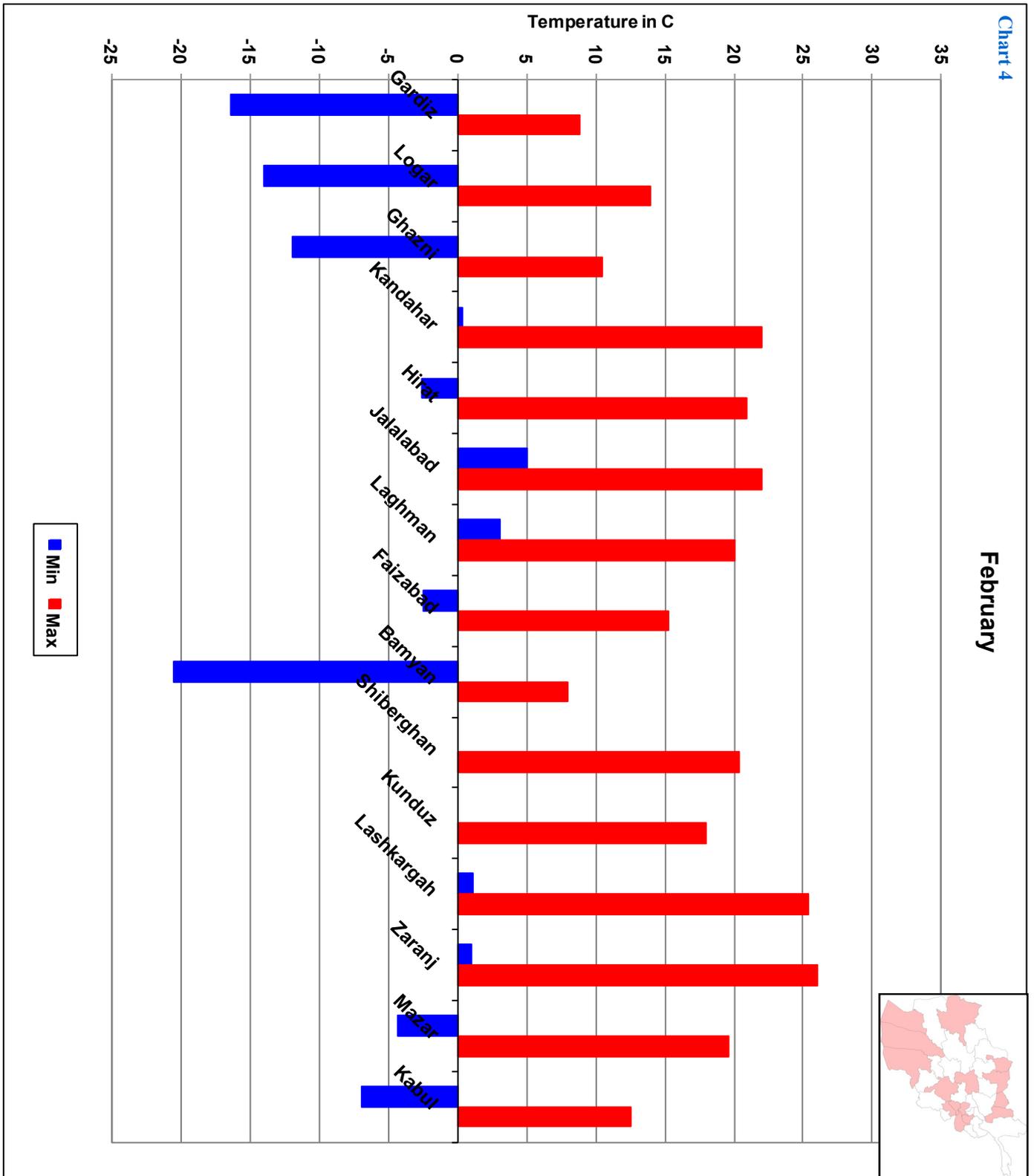
## Average Temperature for the Month of February 2013



During the month of February 2013, temperature gradually raised in most part of the country, where minimum temperature was recorded between  $-20$  to  $-22$  degrees C in the Central Highlands, and the Northeastern high elevations and temperature had positive departure of around  $4 - 6$  C°.

Comparison of monthly average of temperature for the month of February 2013 with the same month in 2012 (Chart 3) shows that temperature had an increase during the month of February 2013 compared to the same month of last year.

## Temperature for the Month of February 2013



**Zaranj with 26 C° was the warmest spot of the country during the month of February 2013**

Chart (4) shows maximum and minimum temperature for the month of February 2013. As chart (4) shows Zaranj with 26 C° was the warmest spot of the country, and Bamyān with -20.6 C° experienced lower temperatures.

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