THE HINDU

CHENNAI, May 26, 2012

Seminar on urban horticulture

The department of higher education, Science City, is organising a one-day seminar on ‘Urban Horticulture' (Rooftop Garden) for homemakers on June 6. The workshop will will comprise lectures on roof gardens, solid waste management and waste water recycling. For details, call: 044-24454054.

KARUR, May 26, 2012

Goats distribution target to be achieved in two months

2,891 beneficiaries identified in 38 panchayats

The Department of Animal Husbandry has already covered 22 per cent of its target for the current year under the scheme to distribute sheep and goats to farmers free of cost in the district. The department is poised to achieve the target in another two months under the scheme for 2012-13 comfortably.

The department has planned to provide sheep and goats free of cost to 2,891 identified beneficiaries in 38 panchayats in the current year. Of them, a unit comprising three sheep/goats and one buck has already been provided to 638 beneficiaries in five panchayats with each getting a unit in April and May, the first two months of the current fiscal constituting just over 22 per cent of the year's target. Last year, the department gave away 7,368 goats and sheep to 1,842 beneficiaries in 24 panchayats, according to Collector V. Shobana.

Under the State Fodder Development Scheme, it has been planned to cover 500 acres for irrigated fodder cultivation in the district and the selection of beneficiaries is underway. Dairy farmers can register their names either at Uzhavar Peruvizha or at the nearest veterinary dispensary, says Regional Joint Director of Animal Husbandry S. Sivaprakasam.

During 2011-12 under the scheme a sum of Rs. 34.07 lakh was allotted out of which Rs. 7.04 lakh was spent on beneficiaries covering 220 acres under irrigated fodder cultivation while another Rs. 9.60 lakh is being spent on covering rain-fed fodder cultivation. Since the scheme envisages rain-fed area coverage, the activity is currently underway and would be fully covered only during the monsoon, Mr. Sivaprakasam adds.

Also power-operated chaff cutters are being distributed to 15 beneficiaries at a cost of Rs. 3.38 lakh while rain guns have already been disbursed to 15 small and marginal farmers at a cost of Rs. 3.75 lakh involving 100 per cent subsidy. Another 25 other farmer beneficiaries got rain guns worth Rs. 4.69 lakh involving 75 per cent subsidy under the State Fodder Development Scheme, Ms. Shobana and Mr. Sivaprakasam point out. That apart, 50 beneficiaries will get grass cutters at a cost of Rs. 6.25 lakh involving 50 per cent subsidy under the scheme.

Under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Fodder Development Programme 2011-12, Karur district was sanctioned Rs. 31.69 lakh of which Rs. 15.75 lakh was spent on irrigated fodder cultivation while another R. 6.60 lakh is being advanced to undertake rain-fed fodder cultivation covering 300 acres, says Assistant Director of Animal Husbandry N. Kulandaisamy.

Twenty persons have been given hand operated chaff cutters at a cost of Rs. 1.28 lakh while another 45 beneficiaries have got power operated chaff cutters at a cost of Rs. 5.06 lakh. A sum of Rs. 3 lakh has been spent as subsidy under silage making to benefit 10 dairy farmers.

- ***Last year, 7,368 goats and sheep given away to 1,842 beneficiaries in 24 panchayats***
- ***Chaff cutters are being distributed to 15 beneficiaries at a cost of Rs. 3.38 lakh***

THRISSUR, May 26, 2012

Fruits of a farmer's labour

If the fruit festival attracts visitors for displaying a variety of mangoes, the credit goes to a farmer from Karnataka.

Syed Ghani Khan, a 36-year-old farmer from Kirugavulu in Malavalli taluk in Mandya district of Karnataka, has exhibited more than 120 varieties of mangoes. “I cultivate them in my 20-acre farm. They are grown with organic fertilizers. This is the third mango festival I am taking part in Kerala," he said

A graduate in Anthropology and Psychology, he also cultivates sugarcane, millets, vegetables and almost 500 varieties of rice including black and brown rice. He grows an indigenous variety of brinjal.

THE ECONOMIC TIMES

26 MAY, 2012, 03.01PM IST,

Groundnut oil remains weak on subdued demand

NEW DELHI: In restricted activity, groundnut oil extended yesterday's losses with prices falling further by Rs 50 to Rs 11,400 per quintal on subdued demand against increased supplies.

Traders said sluggish demand against increased supplies from producing belts mainly kept pressure on wholesale groundnut oil prices.

In the national capital, groundnut mill delivery oil (Gujarat) shed another Rs 50 to Rs 11,400 per quintal.

The following were today's quotations per quintal: Oilseeds: Mustardseed 2,950-3,050 and Groundnut Seed 2,150-2,900.

Vanaspati Ghee (15-litre tin) 1,100-1,250. Edible oils: Groundnut Mill Delivery (Gujarat) 11,400, Groundnut Solvent Refined (per tin) 1,850-1,900, Mustard expeller (Dadri) 7,800, Mustard Pakki Ghani (per tin) 1,145-1,285, Mustard Kachi Ghani (per tin) 1,300-1,400, Sunflower 6,300, Sesame Mill Delivery 8,050, Soybean Refined Mill Delivery (Indore) 7,800, Soyabean Degum (Kandla) 7,350,Crude Palm Oil (Ex-Kandla) 7,300, Cottonseed Mill Delivery (Haryana) 6,300, Palmolein (RBD) Rs 8,000, Palmolein (Kandla) 7,650, Rice Bran (phy) 3,800 and Coconut(per tin) 1,350-1,400.

Non-edible oils: Linseed 5,100, Mahuwa 4,000, Castor 8,400-8,500, Neem 4,400-4,500, Rice Bran 3,280-3,380 and Palm Fatty 3,225-3,300.

Oilcakes: Groundnut Dehusk 800-850, Sesame 950-1,150, Mustard (New) 1,000-1,025, Mustard 1,200-1,210 and Cottonseed 1,075-1,175.

26 MAY, 2012, 02.43PM IST, PTI

Sugar ends quiet on some support

NEW DELHI: The wholesale sugar prices ended quiet in the national capital today following rangebound trading on the back of adequate stocks position.

Marketmen said sporadic buying by retailers and bulk consumers such as soft-drink and ice-cream making industries against increased arrivals, mainly held prices unmoved.

The following are today's quotations per quintal: Sugar ready: M-30 3,200-3,450, S-30 3,175-3,425. Mill delivery: M-30 3,000-3,230; S-30 2,975-3,205. Sugar mill gate prices (excluding duty): Mawana 3050, Kinnoni 3200, Asmoli 3160, Dorala 3030, Budhana 3020, Thanabhavan 3010, Ramala 2960, Bulandshar 3000, Morna 2960, Sakoti 2970, Chandpur 2975, Dhanora 3075 and Baghpat 2965.

26 MAY, 2012, 02.40PM IST, PTI

Mixed trend in edible oils

NEW DELHI: The wholesale oils and oilseeds market displayed a mixed trend as select edible oil prices continued to slide for the second straight week on increased selling by stockists on sluggish demand while a few rose on scattered buying by vanaspati millers.

However, a few oils in the non-edible section rose on fresh enquiries from consuming industries.

Traders said fall in offtake by millers and retailers, as demand during summer declined amid adequate stocks position, mainly kept pressure on select edible oil prices.

Scattered buying from vanaspati millers, however, helped few other oils to strengthen, they said.

In the national capital, mustard expeller oil dropped by Rs 330 to Rs 7,800 per quintal while mustard pakki and kachi ghani oils remained steady at Rs 1,145-1,285 and Rs 1,300-1,400 per tin in limited deals.

Sesame and cottonseed mill delivery (Haryana) oils fell by Rs 200 and Rs 350 to Rs 8,050 and Rs 6,300 per quintal.

Groundnut mill delivery oil (Gujarat) also declined by Rs 100 to Rs 11,400 per quintal.

Coconut oil weakened to Rs 1,350-1,400 against last close of Rs 1,550-1,600 per tin on lower advices from producing regions.

Soyabean refined mill delivery (Indore) and soyabean degum (Kandla) oils declined by Rs 50 and Rs 80 to Rs 7,800 and Rs 7,350 per quintal, respectively.

On the other hand, palmolein (RBD) and palmolein (Kandla) oils rose by Rs 50 each to Rs 8,000 and Rs 7,650, while crude palm oil (ex-kandla) oils edged up by Rs 80 to Rs 7,300 per quintal, respectively.

In the non-edible section, castor and neem oils rose by Rs 50 each to Rs 8,400-8,500 and Rs 4,400-4,500 per quintal respectively on increased industrial offtake.

Business Standard

May 26, 2012

Centre agrees to procure 50,000 MT of rice from FCI godowns

Assurance given by Union food & Public Distribution Secretary BC Gupta

Press Trust of India / Bhubaneshwar May 26, 2012, 18:12 IST

Appreciating Odisha's supply chain management under public distribution system, the Centre today assured the state government that FCI would procure 50,000 metric tons of surplus rice from godowns next month.

The assurance was given by Union food and public distribution secretary B C Gupta who reviewed the PDS mechanism in the state here.

"The FCI will lift 50,000 MT of rice from its godowns in June. Subsequently, surplus rice will be sent to other consuming states," Gupta told reporters.

A central delegation visited the state five days after Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik sought Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's intervention for moving at least one lakh MT rice every month from the state.

"Despite a request by the state and my food minister's meeting with Union food minister, FCI has not moved a single grain from the state in April and May," the chief minister said in a letter to Manmohan Singh on May 21.

Patnaik said as the FCI godowns were full, the state was facing difficulties in storing fresh procurements.

Gupta appreciated the state government's supply chain management saying Odisha consumed its own rice after their procurement in the state. It required shifting of additional rice to other consuming states due to lack of space in the godowns for storing of new procurement.

The state has 60 FCI godowns having 6 lakh mt storage capacity and 270 other godowns of 4 lakh MT capacity.

On the Centre agreeing to evacuate 50,000 MT of rice in June, state's food and civil suplies secretary M S Padhi said: "Something is better than nothing. At last they have decided to create space in FCI godowns."

FMC launches staggered delivery in soybean contracts

BS Reporter / Mumbai May 26, 2012, 0:33 IST

The Forward Markets Commission (FMC), the commodity derivatives market regulator, has approved soybean as the longest period staggered delivery contract on the National Commodity & Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX). With this, sellers of the soybean June 2012 contract set for expiry on June 20 would require to file their intentions 28 days prior to that date.

Until now, the longest period staggered delivery contract was for 15 days in barley, castorseed, chana, red chilli, cottonseed, oil cake, coriander, jeera, maize (industrial), sugar M 20, wheat, potato, rape/mustard seed, turmeric, pepper, rubber, steel long, gold 100g and PVC contracts.

“With regard to the staggered delivery system, the proposal is approved with near-month limit as 28 days prior to expiry date and no fresh open position is allowed during the last five days of contract expiry, including the date of expiry. FMC also conveys approval to launch October 2012 and November 2012 expiries with effect from June 11 in soybean,” an FMC circular said.

The revised system, some analysts say, is impractical.

For soybean, however, the tender period will start on the fifth of every month in which the contract is due to expire. In case the fifth of the month happens to be a weekend or a holiday, the tender period would start from the next working day. The seller shall have an option of marking an intention of delivery on any day during the tender period up to expiry of the contract and the corresponding buyer matched by the process put in place would have to take delivery.

If the tender date is T, then pay-in and pay-out would happen on T+2 days (excluding Saturdays). If such a T+2 day happens to be a Saturday, a Sunday or a holiday at the exchange, for clearing banks or any of the service providers, pay-in and pay-out would be effective from next working day.

Sellers can give their intention to give delivery during the tender period up to expiry of the contract. If a seller who has given an intention to deliver fails to meet the obligation, he would be penalised under the existing guidelines.

High wheat output in Madhya Pradesh stokes storage headache in Punjab, Haryana

The high procurement of wheat in Madhya Pradesh (MP) has a worrying implication for Punjab and Haryana ? the issue of storing their own surplus.

Komal Amit Gera / Chandigarh May 26, 2012, 0:22 IST

Wheat production in MP has almost doubled from last year. It is a consuming state and high output there means a lesser need to import from these northern states, otherwise known as the country’s wheat bowl. Punjab and Haryana already had a storage constraint for grain stocks; with the plethora of wheat arriving in the market, the authorities concerned in these states have a lot on their hands.

According to senior government functionaries, the huge quantities of opening stock, coupled with unprecedented arrivals this year, pose a big challenge for storage in good condition. Government officials are busy arranging rice and sugar godowns, depots and diverse other storage locations. Rice shelters are available, till October, when paddy procurement will begin; paddy cannot be stored in the open.

As on April 1, Punjab had an opening stock of 6.5 million tonnes (mt) and Haryana 4.5 mt. MP’s opening stock on April 1 was 700,000 tonnes. Its own consumption is about three mt a year.

[redacted]

State	Procurement 2011-12	Procurement 2012-13*	Own consumption	Total surplus
Punjab	11.00	12.80	0.9	18.0
Haryana	6.9	8.6	0.5	9.5
Madhya Pradesh	4.96	7.8	3.2	4.5

Uttar Pradesh	3.4	2.3	-	-
Rajasthan	1.03	1.3	-	-
** Projected*				

On the other hand, Punjab's own need for public distribution is only 900,000 tonnes and Haryana's 500,000 tonnes. Punjab has already procured 12.5 mt of wheat procurement, as compared to 11 mt last year. Haryana has crossed 8.5 mt, compared to 6.9 mt last year. MP has procured 6.5 mt, as compared to 4.9 mt last year. Uttar Pradesh, too, has done better, having crossed four mt, compared to 3.2 mt last year.

So, officials in the surplus states are getting nervous. Punjab has a covered storage capacity of 10.5 mt and Haryana of 5.3 mt. Another 9.9 mt in Punjab and five mt in Haryana is storage in open plinth. Without timely utilisation, this will spoil.