## Blackgram Price to rule Higher

India, China, Brazil, Australia, Canada and Myanmar are prominent countries for production of pulses. India is the largest producer, consumer and also the largest importer of pulses in the world.

According to Directorate of Economics and Statistics, blackgram was cultivated in an area of 3.2 million hectare with production of 1.86 million tonnes during the year 2014-15. Blackgram production in the country is largely concentrated in five states viz, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra. These five states together contribute for about 65 per cent of total blackgram production in the country. The major consuming cum importing countries of black gram is India, China, Pakistan, Japan and Thailand.

Scarce rainfall and changes in cropping pattern has reduced blackgram production and led to price hike. Domestic demand would also lead to price increase during the harvest period.

In Tamil Nadu, blackgram was cultivated in an area of 4.0 lakhs hectare with production of 2.65 lakhs tonnes during the year 2014-15. Rice fallow pulses cultivation is a traditional practice followed in the delta region of the state. Blackgram was mainly cultivated in Cuddalore, Nagapatinam, Villupuram, Thanjavur and Thiruvarur districts. Main varieties cultivated are ADT 3, ADT 5 and T9.

Back office of Agro Marketing Intelligence and Business Promotion Centre (AMI & BPC) working under Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, has analyzed 13 years historical prices that prevailed in Villupuram Regulated Market for blackgram.

As per the results of the analysis the farm gate price of blackgram will be

around ₹ 90-95 during harvest (April- May 2016). Based on this price, farmers are

recommended to take their selling decision.

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