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To
The Editor,

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Sir,

I request that the following matter may kindly be published in your esteemed daily:

Price forecast for Vegetables – Brinjal and Bhendi

Brinjal

According to the Second Advance Estimates of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, during 2015 -16 in India the area and production of brinjal are expected to be around 6.48 lakh hectares and 123.03 lakh tones respectively. The major brinjal growing states in India are West Bengal, Gujarat, Nagaland, Chhattisgarh and Bihar. During 2014 -15, area and production of brinjal was 0.11 lakh hectares with 1.05 lakh tones respectively in Tamil Nadu. Dindigul, Coimbatore, Dharmapuri, Salem, Theni, Pudukottai, Vellore and Trippur are major brinjal producing districts. At present market brinjal arrivals are coming from local regions to Coimbatore Market. As per trade sources, currently Coimbatore and Ottanchatram markets are experiencing enough arrivals and brinjal would fetch better price in November - December months due to the commencement of social and festive occasion.

The result of the price analysis for Coimbatore market and traders survey conducted in Ottanchatram and Coimbatore market indicated that the average farm gate price of brinjal during harvest months would be around Rs.20-23/- per kg.

Bhendi

Bhendi is one of the major vegetable crops of India cultivated in an area of 4.68 lakh hectares with production of 53.06 lakh tonnes during 2015-16. West Bengal stands first with the production of 8.82 lakh tonnes followed by Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Odisha. In Tamil Nadu, bhendi grown in an area of 0.8 lakh hectares with production of 0.56 lakh tonnes during the year 2014-15. The major bhendi cultivating districts in Tamil Nadu are Dindigul, Coimbatore, Salem, Vellore, Kancheepuram and Dharmapuri. The Ottanchatram and Coimbatore markets are experiencing arrivals which will extend upto November month. Due to low rainfall, bhendi production has come down which leads to firming up of prices.

Hence, the Price Forecasting Scheme of Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University analyzed the past 13 years of bhendi prices that prevailed in Ottanchatram and Coimbatore Uzhavar shandies. The econometric analysis and market survey revealed that during harvest (November –December, 2016) farmers could get a farm gate price Rs.18 -20/-per kg. Based on the above the farmers are advised to take appropriate sowing decision.

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