



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
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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:

Farmers can Take up Sowing of Sesame

Sesame is one of the major edible oil seed crops of India used mainly for edible oil and confectionary purpose. India is the largest producer of sesame in the world. The major sesame growing states are Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal in India. In Tamil Nadu, sesame is grown in Villupuram, Erode, Thanjavur, Karur, Salem, and Cuddalore district in the following seasons: Chithiraipattam, Aadipattam, Karthigaipattam and Masipattam. Main varieties cultivated are TMV3, TMV 4, TMV 6, TMV 7 (Brown), Co 1 (black) and SVPR 1 (white sesame). About 65 per cent of the annual sesame crop is processed into edible oil and 35 per cent used in confectionaries.

During the last season (Karthigaipattam), area sown under sesame was less than the normal, owing to delayed/extended monsoon. On the other hand, due to increase in health consciousness among the consumers about use of sesame oil extracted in conventional method (Marachekku) there is a demand for sesame. The ensuing season of MasiPattam would be favorable for sowing sesame.

In this situation, TN-IAMP Price Forecasting Scheme implemented at the Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University analyzed the past 17 year prices for sesame that prevailed in Sivagiri Regulated Market of Erode district. As per the results of the time series

analysis, the farm gate price of good quality of sesame during May, 2018 would be around Rs. 57 to Rs. 60/- kg. Hence, the farmers are advised to take appropriate sowing decision.

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