



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:

### **Sell immediately upon harvest of Gingelly**

In India, West Bengal alone contributes 40 percent of country's gingelly production followed by Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat. These four states contribute nearly 70 percent of the total Indian gingelly production. The remaining share is contributed by Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh.

In Tamil Nadu, Erode district is the major Gingelly producer. Apart from that, Karur, Thanjavur and Cuddalore are the major districts contributing to the total gingelly production of the state. In Tamil Nadu, gingelly is mainly grown as irrigated crop in Dec-Jan and harvested during Mar-May. In Thaipattam, the sowing area has increased in Erode district by 400 hectares in the same period of last year (it was 1608 hectares in 2013-14 and 2016 hectares in 2014-15).

The export market is not conducive for Indian gingelly as China sources gingelly from African countries with better quality at competitive price. Oil producers in Tamil Nadu source red gingelly from West Bengal at lesser price than the domestic price. The ruling red gingelly price for quality produce is Rs 6800-8000 per quintal in Sivagiri regulated market.

In this scenario, to advise the farmers regarding the sale of gingelly seed upon harvest during Apr- May 2015, Back office of Agro Market Intelligence & Business Promotion Centre (AMI & BPC) functioning in Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, has analysed 15 years historical prices that prevailed in Sivagiri Regulated Market and conducted the traders survey.

The analysis revealed that, the price of top quality red gingelly is expected to be around 7500-7700 during April –May, 2015 and limited chance for price increase further. Hence, Farmers are recommended to sell their produce immediately upon harvest during the above specified months.

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