

Bengal gram price will be stable

India is the major producer of Bengal gram in the world. In India, Desi and Kabuli are two main types of chick pea that are cultivated in the ratio of 3:1 contributing for over 75 per cent of total production in the world. Bengal gram accounts for about 45 per cent of total pulses produced in the country. Bengal gram is a major and cheap source of protein compared to animal protein.

Bengal gram is an important rabi crop mainly sown in September-November and harvested in February. Madhya Pradesh is the single largest producer in the country, accounting for over 40 per cent of total production. In India, during 2014-15, the area under Bengal gram is 85.91 lakh hectares with the production of 71.70 lakh tonnes.

Bengal gram contributes the largest share in India's export basket of pulses registering 85.64 per cent share in the total pulses export during 2014-15. The major export destinations for Bengal gram are Pakistan, Algeria, Sri Lanka, United Arab Emirates and Turkey.

In Tamil Nadu, Coimbatore and Tirupur districts are Bengal gram growing regions. The area under Bengal gram is 2000 ha in 2015- 16 rabi season which is comparatively less than previous year 2014-15. So, the production in these regions are likely to be low. The present market price in udumalpet regulated market is Rs 4800/quintal.

To help farmers in order to take proper selling decisions, an econometric analysis of Bengal gram prices were carried out by the Back office of Agro Marketing Intelligence and Business Promotion Centre (AMI & BPC), Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.

As per the results of the analysis, farm gate price of bengal gram will be around Rs.4300-4500 per quintal during March - April, 2016. Hence, farmers are advised to take appropriate selling decision according to the market advisory.

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