

## **Coconut and copra price will be static**

India stands third in the global coconut production behind Indonesia and Philippines. According to the First Advance Estimates of National Horticultural Board (2018-19), the area under coconut is 21.27 lakh hectares with a production of 163.83 lakh tones. The major states producing coconut are Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh accounting for 93 per cent of the total coconut production of the country. The major importers of coconut from India are United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Iran and Qatar.

Tamil Nadu state produced 36.12 lakh tones coconuts from the cultivable area of 4.41 lakh hectares in 2017-18. In Tamil Nadu, the major coconut growing districts are Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Thanjavur, Dindigul and Kanyakumari. The arrivals of copra to Perundurai market are from Pattukottai, Krishnagiri, Dharmapuri, Vellore, Pollachi, Salem, Kangayam, Mysore (Karnataka) and Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh). The fresh arrivals are comparatively lower than the previous season. The price of copra will be stable even though the edible oil market is not picking up and will not reduce due to firm demand by the upcoming festive season which continues till December.

The TN-IAM Project funded Price Forecasting Scheme of the Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University analyzed the past 18 years prices for coconut and copra that prevailed at Avalpoonthurai Regulated Market of Erode district and Perundurai Cooperative Marketing Society. As per the results of the analysis, the price of good quality coconut during October-December, 2019 will be Rs. 13-14 per nut. Good quality copra price will be around Rs. 100-102 per kg. Hence, farmers are advised to take selling decision accordingly.

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