

## **Coconut and Copra will Fetch Better Prices**

According to the Third Advance Estimates of National Horticultural Board (2017-18), the area under coconut is 20.79 lakh hectares with a production of 162.28 lakh tonnes. The major coconut growing states are Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. The above states together contribute nearly 81 per cent of the total coconut production in India.

Set back in coconut production due to cyclone Gaja and also the festive seasons in the forthcoming months will enhance the demand for coconut in the domestic market. In Perundurai, most of the copra arrivals are coming from Udumalpet, Palladam, Dharapuram, Gobichettipalayam and Pattukottai. Also, coconut arrivals from Karnataka have commenced from December, 2018 and will continue till February, 2019 end.

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 in Avalpoonthurai Regulated Market of Erode district and market survey at Perundurai Agricultural Produces Co-operative Marketing Society, Erode. As per the results of the analysis, the price of good quality coconut during January- March, 2019 will be Rs. 15-17 per nut. Good quality copra price will rule around Rs. 105 per kg. Hence, the farmers are advised to take appropriate selling decision.

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