

Price Forecast for Cotton

India is the major producer of cotton in the world and it sustains the Indian cotton textile industry by contributing 58 per cent in total fibre consumption. Major cotton producing countries are United States of America, Australia, India, Central Asia, Pakistan and Brazil. As per the USDA report, India stands third among the cotton producing countries with a production of 27 million bales (1 bale = 170kg) in an area of 12.3 million ha representing 23.20 per cent of global cotton production during 2018-19. In India, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Telangana, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh are the major cotton producing states.

According to the Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, cotton is grown in an area of 1.40 lakh hectares with 6 lakh bales of production during 2018-19 in Tamil Nadu. The major cotton producing districts are Perambalur, Salem, Dharmapuri, Ariyalur, Trichy, Virudhunagar, Madurai and Cuddalore. In Tamil Nadu, cotton is grown cotton under irrigated and rain- fed situations, whereas the sowing of the rain- fed crop in the Southern districts is extended up to October.

The Tamil Nadu -Irrigated Agriculture Modernization Project (TN- IAMP) funded Price Forecasting Scheme of the Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University analyzed the past 10 year historical cotton prices prevailed in Konganapuram Cooperative Marketing Society and conducted market survey to facilitate farmers to take up selling and sowing decisions.

Selling Decision

As per the results of the analysis and market survey, the farmgate price of good quality cotton during (September -October'19) would be Rs.5300-5400 per quintal. Hence, the farmers are advised to take selling decision accordingly.

Sowing Decision

Price of cotton sown during this season will fetch Rs. 5200 per quintal because of surplus cotton production in the world during current year. Hence, farmers are advised to take up sowing decision accordingly.

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