

## **Maize Price likely to Decline**

The area under maize in India is 93 lakh hectares with a production of 272.30 lakh tonnes according to the Fourth Advance Estimates of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (2018-19). The leading states in the country for maize production are Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Bihar, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. In Tamil Nadu, it is cultivated in an area of 3.24 lakh hectare with 25.91 lakh tonnes of production during 2017-18. The major maize growing districts of Tamil Nadu are Salem, Dindigul, Namakkal, Pudukottai, Tiruppur, Villuppuram, Perambalur and Ariyalur.

According to the trade sources, maize arrivals to Tamil Nadu are from Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Bihar and these three states contribute nearly 30 per cent of the total demand of Tamil Nadu. Arrivals from Karnataka have already started from the month of September'19 and will extend up to February'20. While, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar arrivals started commencing from October'19 onwards. Domestic arrivals from Tamil Nadu will commence from Ariyalur, Perambalur, Theni, Kovilpatti and Kantharvakottai in December'19 followed by other major growing places from January'20 to April'20.

Maize is one of the major sources for poultry feed and its demand is ever increasing. The Fall ArmyWorm attack in the major maize growing states of the country reduced the supply and hence the price hike in previous months. But, current monsoon rains reduced the intensity of Fall ArmyWorm attack, while facilitating crop growth. Since the arrivals from Karnataka have already started, the maize price started declining and the price will not increase further if the supply is adequate.

The TN-IAM Project funded Price Forecasting Scheme of the Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University analyzed the past 19 years prices that prevailed in Udumalpet Regulated Market for maize. As per the analysis and market survey, the farm gate price of good quality maize during November'19 to January'20 will be Rs.1800 to 2000 per quintal, if maize crop escapes from further attack of Fall ArmyWorm in Tamil Nadu. Hence farmers are advised to take up appropriate marketing decision.

***For Marketing details contact:***

*Domestic and Export Market Intelligence Cell  
Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS)  
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University  
Coimbatore - 641 003.  
Phone: 0422-2431405*

***For Technical Details please contact:***

*Professor and Head  
Department of Millets  
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University  
Coimbatore-641003  
Phone: 0422-2450507*