

Price Forecast for Oilseeds

A. Groundnut

According to the Fourth Advance Estimates of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare (2018-19), the area under groundnut is nearly 48 lakh hectares with a production of 66.95 lakh tonnes. The major groundnut growing states are Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh. The above states together contribute nearly 85 per cent of the total groundnut production in India. Tamil Nadu is one of the major groundnut growing states of the country accounting for a production of nearly 4.29 lakh tonnes annually. Tiruvannamalai, Villupuram, Vellore, Kanchipuram, Thiruvallur, Cuddalore, Namakkal, Krishnagiri, Salem and Dharmapuri are the major growing districts in Tamil Nadu. In most of these districts, groundnut is sown during July to August and January to February. TMV10 variety is mostly grown for oil purpose. TMV7, TMV2 and VRI2 are other major varieties widely cultivated by the farmers of Tamil Nadu. Groundnut production has declined almost in all the major producing states in India.

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 12 year historical prices that prevailed in Tindivanam Regulated Market for groundnut. As per the results of the analysis and market survey, the farmgate price of good quality groundnut during harvest (November'19) would be around Rs.85-88 per Kg. Based on the onset of monsoon in the ensuing season, there will be little fluctuations in groundnut prices. Hence, farmers are advised to take up the sowing decision accordingly.

B. Sesame

India is the largest producer of sesame in the world. According to the Fourth Advance Estimates of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare (2018-19), the area under sesame is nearly 15.80 lakh hectares with a production of 7.55 lakh tonnes. The major sesame growing states are Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal in India. It is grown in an area of 0.41 lakh hectares with a production of 0.23 lakh tonnes in Tamil Nadu during 2017-18. Sesame is largely grown in Villupuram, Erode, Thanjavur, Karur, Salem, and Cuddalore district in the following seasons: Chithirai pattam, Aadipattam, Karthigai pattam and Masi pattam.

Major sesame varieties cultivated in Tamil Nadu are TMV 3, TMV 4, TMV 5, TMV 6, TMV 7 (Brown gingelly), CO1 (Black gingelly) and VRI1 (White gingelly). Red gingelly varieties are used for oil purpose and black gingelly varieties are mainly used in confectionaries. White Gingelly mainly used for export. During the last season, area sown under sesame was less than the normal, owing to delayed monsoon.

TN-IAMP Price Forecasting Scheme funding at the Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University analyzed the past 12 year prices for sesame that prevailed in Sivagiri Regulated Market of Erode district. As per the results of the time series analysis, the farm gate price of good quality of sesame during harvest would be Rs. 115 to Rs. 120 /- kg. Hence, the farmers are advised to take appropriate sowing decision.

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