

Executive Summary:

- Cold store potato in various regions is almost over. Now retail markets will be dependent on fresh potato from Punjab and other states. Fresh potato from Punjab region has already started arriving in different markets. Potato from Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan is expected to arrive from December onwards
- Fresh potato of early-rabi season from different regions of Punjab is arriving in Delhi markets. Area under potato during late-rabi season could be lower by 10-15% as farmers have shifted to wheat.
- In Kanpur (U.P), area under potato is expected to be 15-20% lower as compared to previous year's area. According to trade sources, though the area is less, the production is likely to be more because of the good weather conditions and better rains at later stage.
- In West Bengal sowing has been completed in almost 55%-65% of last year's area. Farmers this season are preferring to sow potato in rabi season instead of early rabi season. Thus the early rabi acreage is likely to be lower than last year but it will be compensated by higher rabi acreage.
- As per market sources, Potato acreage in Kanpur, Fatehpur, Kannuj, Etawah and Unnao of Uttar Pradesh is expected to be 4-5% higher as compared to previous year's area.
- According to news reports, the Dutch potato mission to India (an initiative of Netherland Agriculture Department) would assess possibility of Setting up a "Potato Post Harvest Centre of Excellence "in Gujarat.

Monthly Wholesale Price Trend in different Producing & Consuming Centers:

Market	State	October 2012 Avg. Wholesale Price (Rs./Qtl)	October 2012 Avg. Wholesale Price (Rs./Qtl)	Absolute Change over Prev. Month (Rs./Qtl)	% Change over Prev. Month
Delhi	Delhi	1173	905	268	29.61
Agra	UP	964	892	72	8.07
Hathras	UP	998	886	112	12.64
Farrukhabad	UP	978	993	-15	-1.51
Kanpur	UP	966	943	23	2.44
Ludhiana	Punjab	780	646	134	20.74
Kolkata	W Bengal	1244	1130	114	10.09
Hyderabad	A.P	1391	1420	-29	-2.04
Guwahati	Assam	1400	1069	331	30.96
Jaipur	Rajasthan	928	827	101	12.21
Mumbai	Maharashtra	1197	1158	39	3.37
Bangalore	Karnataka	1431	1327	104	7.84
Ahmedabad	Gujarat	1044	1075	-31	-2.88

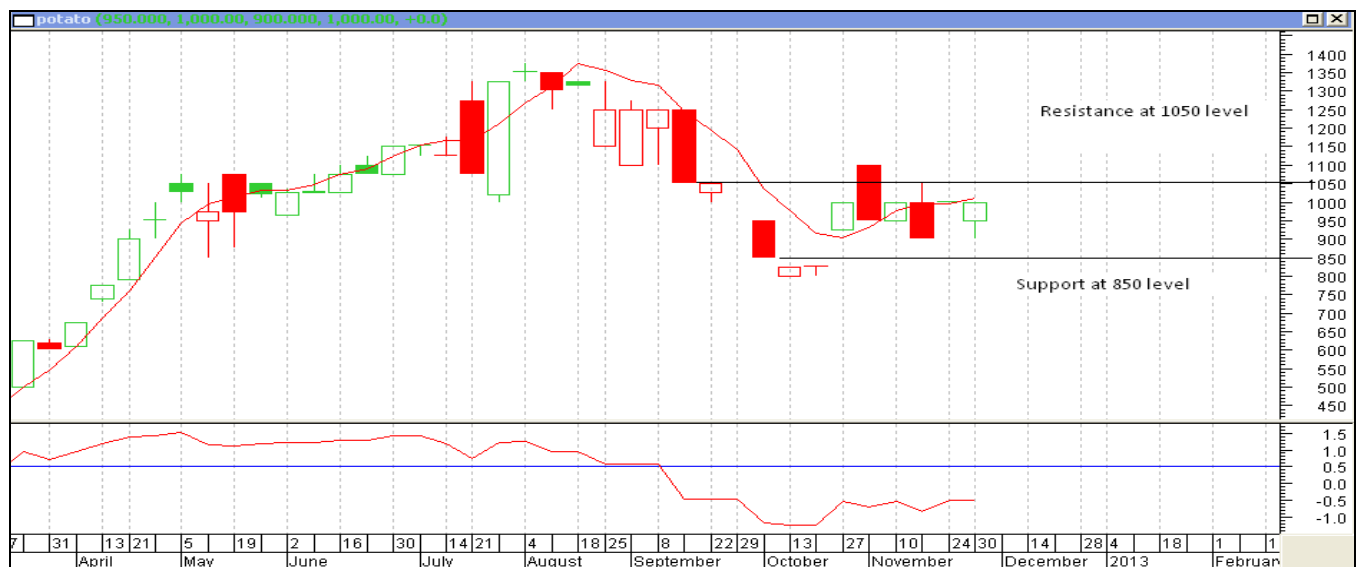
(Source: AGRIWATCH)

December, 2012

As evident from the table, potato prices have increased in most of the markets except Farrukhabad, Hyderabad and Ahmedabad. The reason for increase in prices of potatoes is because of fresh arrivals from Punjab and few parts of U.P (Kannauj). In Delhi, prices of fresh potato from Punjab and Una (H.P) are hovering in the range of Rs 1200-1400 per quintal whereas prices of stored potato from U.P are in the range of Rs 900 to 1100 per quintal. Fresh potato command high prices due to its high demand in retail market

Potato prices in West Bengal are hovering in the range of Rs 12-14/kg and are expected to fall once potato from Punjab starts arriving in the markets in full swing.

Technical Analysis of Potato Spot Prices in Khandauli (Agra): (Monthly Chart)



(Source: Agriwatch)

(Note: Each bar or "candle" in the chart shows the price movement in a particular month. The green candle signifies prices increased and red candle signifies prices decreased in that week. The length of the "candle" shows the upper and lower end of the price range for the week.)

The above chart shows the monthly spot price movement of potato in the benchmark Khandauli (Agra) market of U.P. In November month, modal prices were Rs. 964 /Quintal. Prices have breached the strong support level of Rs 1000. If prices trade below this level for a week, next support for prices would be Rs 850. On upper side, resistance could be found near Rs 1050 level. RSI is also stable which indicates that prices of potato are expected to remain range bound between Rs 1050 to Rs 850 per quintal for the next couple of weeks.

Disclaimer

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