

Executive Summary:

- NCDEX has re-launched the potato futures (basis center- Agra) for April, May and June delivery with additional delivery centers at Indore and Vadodara.
- In Agra district of U.P, cold storages are filled by 75%-80% of their cold storage capacities. According to trade sources price are picking up and market is expected to be firm ahead.
- In Begusarai, last year cold storages were filled by 100% of their capacities. But this year cold storages are filled by 13-14 lakh packets only though the capacity has increased to 20 lakh tons from 16 lakh tons. Market is expected to remain firm.
- In West Bengal, cold storages are filled by 95-97% whose total capacity is approximately 64 lakh ton. According to trade sources in West Bengal, market is expected to remain firm as prices are low by Rs 100 to Rs 150/ quintal compared to prices in U.P.
- In Delhi, onion is arriving in market from U.P and Punjab which are contributing approximately 85% and 15% respectively to the total arrival.
- In Punjab, area under potato crop this year was 84,600 hectares, which produced 21 lakh MT of potato as compared to 84,100 hectares under potato cultivation last year which produced 20 lakh MT of the crop.

Weekly Wholesale Potato Prices Analysis for 1st April- 8th April 2013

Market	State	Avg. Prices 1st April to 8th April 2013#	Avg. Prices 24th March- 30th March 2013#	Avg. Prices 1st April to 8th April 2012 *	% Change over Prev. Week	% Change over prev. Year
Delhi	Delhi	765	717	825	6.69	-7.27
Agra	UP	543	510	500	6.47	8.60
Kanpur	UP	783	700	733	11.86	6.82
Kolkata	W. Bengal	604	580	950	4.14	-36.42
Ludhiana	Punjab	543	497	1050	9.26	-48.29
Indore	MP	858	834	565	2.88	51.86
Mumbai	Maharashtra	1168	967	950	20.79	22.95
Bangalore	Karnataka	1250	1200	1100	4.17	13.64
Ahmedabad	Gujarat	940	809	800	16.19	17.50
Hyderabad	AP	1215	1059	1500	14.73	-19.00
Chennai	Tamil Nadu	1458	1334	922	9.30	58.13

(Source: #AGRIWATCH, * NHB)

The above table shows the weekly wholesale price variation across different markets in the country. Prices have increased in almost all the markets because potatoes are directly taken to cold storages from farm because of which arrivals are less in mandi.

09 April, 2013

If we will compare the prices with last year, we find prices are high in maximum markets because of high input cost and increase in rent of cold storages. These are the factors which are increasing potato crop prices. According to trade sources from U.P cold storages are expected to sell at a starting amount of Rs 1100/ quintal.

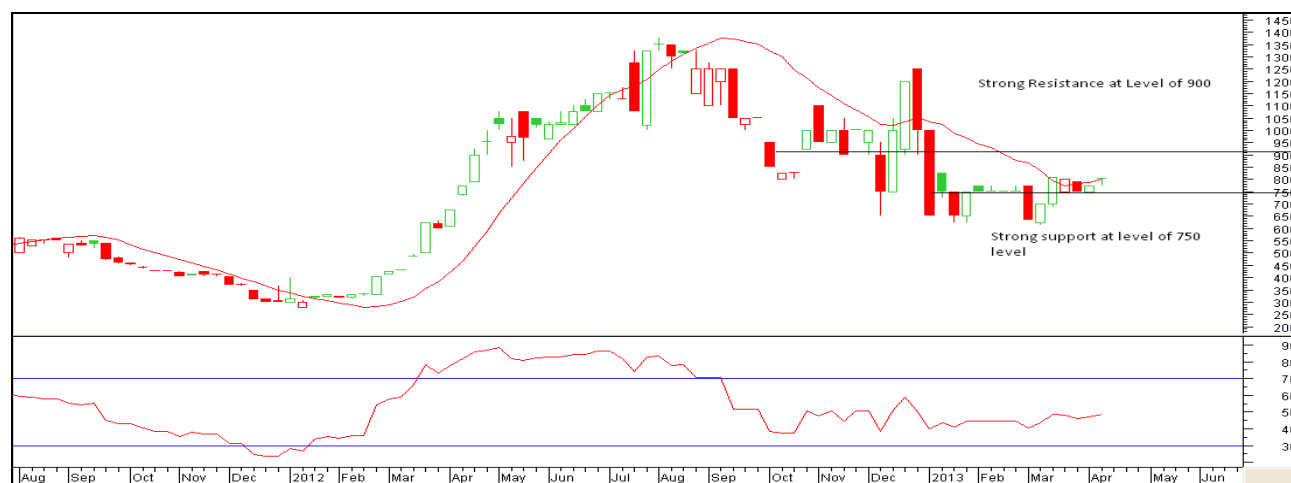
Weekly Retail Potato Prices Analysis for 1st April- 8th April 2013

Market	State	Price as on 08/04/2013	Price as on 30/03/2013	Price one year ago- 08/04/2012	% Change in Price Over Prev. Week	% Change in Price Over Prev. year
Bangalore	Karnataka	1800	1700	1525	5.88	18.03
Bhubaneswar	Odisha	870	784	1167	10.97	-25.45
Chennai	Tamilnadu	2000	2000	1600	0.00	25.00
Delhi	Delhi	1200	1200	1125	0.00	6.67
Guwahati	Assam	863	850	1600	1.53	-46.06
Hyderabad	AP	1800	1800	1160	0.00	55.17
Kolkata	W. Bengal	943	800	1225	17.88	-23.02
Mumbai	Maharashtra	1500	1500	1200	0.00	25.00
Patna	Bihar	872	800	1125	9.00	-22.49

(Source: NHB)

In Retail market, prices have increased in all the markets compared to previous week. Maximum retail prices have increased in Kolkata and Bhubaneswar by 17% and 10% respectively. The increase in prices is due to lower supply to market as potato from producing regions is directly going to cold storages.

Technical Analysis – Weekly Spot Price Chart of Potato- Khandauli, Agra:



(Note: Each bar or "candle" in the chart shows the price movement in a particular week. 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.)

09 April, 2013

The above chart shows the weekly price movement of Potato prices in spot market of Agra. In Agra, prices were trading between Rs 750-800/ quintal. On the lower side prices may found a strong support at a level of 700 whereas on higher side resistance at level of Rs 900/ quintal. Relative Strength Indicator (RSI) is hovering in the neutral zone and expected that prices may trade in the range of Rs 750 to Rs 900/ quintal.

MCX- Potato Futures Weekly Analysis: (1st April- 8th April 2013)

Symbol	Delivery Center	Expiry Date	Weekly Close Price	Previous Week Close Price	Net Change	This Week Open Interest	Previous Week Open Interest	Change in Open Interest
POTATO	AGRA	15-Apr-13	992	988.4	3.6	3060	6390	-3330
POTATO	AGRA	15-May-12	1005.4	997.7	7.7	18150	17370	780
POTATO	AGRA	16-Jun-12	1009.3	1006	3.3	16410	12300	4110
				Total	14.6			1560

(Source: MCX)

In futures markets potato prices are trading near 1000 level. In April contract, short covering was seen with increase in prices and decrease in open interest. In MCX, May and June contract, long buildup was seen with increase in price and open interest. This indicates prices are expected to firm up in futures market.

Disclaimer

The information contained in this document has been compiled by Agriwatch from sources believed to be reliable, such as NHB, Agmarknet, etc. and directly from traders in mandis. However, users of this data are requested to use the information with due caution and crosscheck with other sources. This document is not, and should not be construed as an offer to sell or buy any commodities. This document may not be reproduced, distributed or published without the express consent of SFAC