

**Domestic Market Update:**

- Weak price sentiments recorded in castor seed market on Wednesday all India castor seed arrival is 16263 quintal which is up by 889 quintal from last day arrival of 15374 quintal.
- Castor Seed futures on the NCDEX are witnessing a range-bound movement but the counter continues to see buying support at lower levels are traders are wondering if there is likely to some negative impact on the sowing of the commodity in leading producing state of Gujarat. Gujarat kharif sowing continues rigorously. The latest data shows that total acreage under the crops stands at 40.88 lakh hectares as on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2020, soaring by 48.16%.
- However, it is also evident that Castor acreage is likely getting affected as farmers prefer more of other crops. The benchmark NCDEX Castor Seed futures have been in a good nick recently, hitting a contract high above Rs 4000 per quintal before pulling off. The counter currently trades at Rs 3894 per quintal, up 0.52% on the day in a wild session that saw the prices move in a range of Rs 3910 - Rs 3866 per quintal.
- As Per the final estimates, castor output in the country will be lower by about 15,000 tons from 19.77 lakh tons reported in 2018-19.
- The latest data of Gujarat sowing shows that total acreage under the castor crops stands at 1900 hectares as on 06<sup>th</sup> July June 2020. From this it is clear that Castor acreage is likely getting affected as farmers prefer more of other crops.
- India's average castor seed productivity after the third and fourth survey has been revised down to 1,977 kg per hectare against 2,052 kg/ha estimated in the first estimate. This is due to some crop damage in Gujarat from untimely rains and strong winds. However, Rajasthan crop conditions were a little better than the first estimate.
- According to sowing data released by Ministry of Agriculture, India, Acreage under castor seed is 9.92 lakh hectares.
- Gujarat will continue to be the largest castor seed producer with an estimated output of 16.60 lakh tons or nearly 85 per cent of the country's output. The first estimate had put the Gujarat output at 17.44 lakh tons.
- Strong winds, rains and hailstorm in some tehsils of Banaskantha, Gandhinagar, Mehsana and Ahmedabad (districts) during March 2020 had slightly damaged the standing castor crop. Farmers have also gone slow on selling castor seed in the market primarily due to the lockdown and lower prices.
- Rajasthan, on the other hand, is set to see an improvement in the average yield, which is revised upward to 1,593 kg/ha after the fourth round of survey, as against the first estimate of 1,523 kg/ha, due to favorable weather conditions and availability of water for irrigation.
- Also the area under castor in Rajasthan is believed to be higher for 2019-20 at 1, 54,240 hectares per government estimates over last year's 1, 38,000 hectares. Meanwhile final production for the State is estimated to be 2.46 lakh tonnes as against the first estimate of 2.35 lakh tonnes.

NCDEX Castor Futures				Date: 04/08/2020			
Contract	+/- (%)	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	O. Int
20-Aug	-1.17	3900	3900	3822	3894	9275	19135
20-Sept	-1.21	3912	3930	3858	3928	5635	9930
20-Oct	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**Castor Seed Prices in Key Centers:**

Commodity/Center	Market	Price (Rs/ Quintal)				Change
		05-Aug-20		04-Aug-20		
	Castor Seed	Low	High	Low	High	
Gujarat	Patan	3850	3975	3850	4010	-35
	Harij	3825	3900	3850	3925	-25
	Rajkot	3675	3855	3675	3905	-50
	Gondal	3605	3855	3575	3900	-45
	Deesa	3915	3965	3900	3950	15
	Bhabar	3800	3875	3850	3900	-25
	Mehsana	3875	3925	3900	3935	-10
	Kadi	3950	4010	3950	4020	-10
	Sabarkatha	3950	3975	3950	4000	-25
	Gandhi Nagar	3875	3900	3900	3950	-50
	Ahmedabad (Sanand)	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Halvad	3650	3825	3700	3850	-25
	Junagadh	3250	3635	3500	3825	-190
	Dhrol	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
Rajasthan	Jodhpur	3600	3800	3650	3825	-25
	Sumerpur	3800	3850	3800	3850	Unch

**Castor Seed Arrivals in Key Centers:**

Center	Market	Fig. in Quintal		Change
		5-Aug-20	4-Aug-20	
Gujarat	Patan	2914	2540	374
	Harij	3000	3000	Unch
	Rajkot	400	525	-125
	Gondal	282	525	-243
	Deesa	107	413	-305
	Bhabar	4000	3200	800
	Mehsana	750	525	225
	Kadi	2400	2800	-400
	Sabarkatha	240	80	160



	Gandhi Nagar	525	488	<b>38</b>
	Ahmedabad (Sanand)	NA	NA	-
	Halvad	750	750	<b>Unch</b>
	Junagadh	80	110	<b>-30</b>
	Dhrol	NA	NA	-
<b>Rajasthan</b>	Jodhpur	15	19	<b>-4</b>
	Sumerpur	800	400	<b>400</b>
<b>Total Arrivals/Above Markets</b>		<b>16263</b>	<b>15374</b>	<b>889</b>

**Note: We have incorporated traded quantity of seed in particular mandis. It does not signify the total arrivals**

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