

**Domestic Market Update:**

- Mixed tone are witnessed in castor seed market on Friday. All India castor seed arrival is 3308 quintal which is higher from last day arrival of 4136 quintal.
- All India castor seed sowing as on 14 August, 2020 is 4.18 lakh hectares which was higher by 9.28% of last year corresponding period area of 3.83 Lakh hectares. If the sowing would be in same pace in coming weeks, record production of castor seed could be seen in second consecutive years.
- Castor seed Price would like to go up from Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 1100/- Uncertainty over kharif Crop the sowing of Castor would decline by 20-25 %. According to N.P. Patel, president Gujarat Seeds producers association, due to good amount of rainfall in Kutch & Saurashtra farmers would like to have two crops instead of Castor, whose gestation period is 6 months. This is the main reason for decline in the area under Castor.
- 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.
- 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 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.
- 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: 14/08/2020			
Contract	+/- (%)	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	O. Int
20-Aug	+0.20	3914	3944	3888	3920	3515	2690
20-Sept	+0.35	3920	3970	3920	3968	4860	26555
20-Oct	-0.40	3996	3998	3970	3988	190	460

**Castor Seed Prices in Key Centers:**

Commodity/Center	Market	Price (Rs/ Quintal)				Change
		14-Aug-20		13-Aug-20		
	Castor Seed	Low	High	Low	High	
Gujarat	Patan	3850	3925	3865	3935	-10
	Harij	3875	3900	3900	3950	-50
	Rajkot	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	-
	Gondal	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	-
	Deesa	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	-
	Bhabar	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	-
	Mehsana	3875	3925	3900	3925	Unch
	Kadi	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	-
	Sabarkatha	3900	3925	3900	3925	Unch
	Gandhi Nagar	3850	3925	3875	3900	25
	Ahmedabad (Sanand)	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Halvad	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	-
	Junagadh	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Dhrol	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	3500	3650	3500	3700
Sumerpur		3800	3825	3800	3825	Unch

**Castor Seed Arrivals in Key Centers:**

Center	Market	Fig. in Quintal		Change
		14-Aug-20	13-Aug-20	
Gujarat	Patan	375	367	8
	Harij	1500	1125	375
	Rajkot	Closed	Closed	-
	Gondal	Closed	Closed	-
	Deesa	Closed	Closed	-
	Bhabar	Closed	Closed	-



	Mehsana	225	375	<b>-150</b>
	Kadi	Closed	Closed	-
	Sabarkatha	160	40	<b>120</b>
	Gandhi Nagar	225	450	<b>-225</b>
	Ahmedabad (Sanand)	NA	NA	-
	Halvad	Closed	Closed	-
	Junagadh	NA	NA	-
	Dhrol	NA	NA	-
<b>Rajasthan</b>	Jodhpur	23	30	<b>-8</b>
	Sumerpur	800	240	<b>560</b>
<b>Total Arrivals/Above Markets</b>		<b>3308</b>	<b>2627</b>	<b>681</b>

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

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