

Domestic Market Update:

- Firm tone are featured in castor seed market on Monday. All India castor seed arrival is 8678 quintal which is higher from last day arrival of 3308 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 30th 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 06th 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: 17/08/2020			
Contract	+/- (%)	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	O. Int
20-Aug	+0.71	3922	3952	3950	3950	380	2570
20-Sept	+0.61	3970	3992	3960	3984	1245	26270
20-Oct	+0.85	4004	4014	4004	4014	85	535

Castor Seed Prices in Key Centers:

Commodity/Center	Market	Price (Rs/ Quintal)				Change
		17-Aug-20		14-Aug-20		
	Castor Seed	Low	High	Low	High	
Gujarat	Patan	3875	3950	3850	3925	25
	Harij	3900	3950	3875	3900	50
	Rajkot	3675	3785	Closed	Closed	-
	Gondal	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	-
	Deesa	3825	3885	Closed	Closed	-
	Bhabar	3950	3975	Closed	Closed	-
	Mehsana	3875	3925	3875	3925	Unch
	Kadi	3900	3965	Closed	Closed	-
	Sabarkatha	3900	3950	3900	3925	25
	Gandhi Nagar	3925	3950	3850	3925	25
	Ahmedabad (Sanand)	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Halvad	3750	3925	Closed	Closed	-
	Junagadh	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Dhrol	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	3700	3775	3500	3650
Sumerpur		3800	3825	3800	3825	Unch

Castor Seed Arrivals in Key Centers:

Center	Market	Fig. in Quintal		
		17-Aug-20	14-Aug-20	
Gujarat	Patan	750	375	375
	Harij	900	1500	-600
	Rajkot	125	Closed	-
	Gondal	Closed	Closed	-
	Deesa	227	Closed	-
	Bhabar	2400	Closed	-



	Mehsana	975	225	750
	Kadi	1040	Closed	-
	Sabarkatha	160	160	Unch
	Gandhi Nagar	375	225	150
	Ahmedabad (Sanand)	NA	NA	-
	Halvad	900	Closed	-
	Junagadh	NA	NA	-
	Dhrol	NA	NA	-
Rajasthan	Jodhpur	26	23	4
	Sumerpur	800	800	Unch
Total Arrivals/Above Markets		8678	3308	5370

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

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