

Domestic Market Update:

- Steady to firm tone are witnessed in castor seed market on Tuesday. All India castor seed arrival is 7615 quintal which is lower from last day arrival of 8678 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: 18/08/2020			
Contract	+/- (%)	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	O. Int
20-Aug	+0.00	3952	3952	3950	3952	25	2570
20-Sept	+0.25	3990	4020	3980	3994	2485	26210
20-Oct	+0.55	4012	4052	4022	4034	480	835

Castor Seed Prices in Key Centers:

Commodity/Center	Market	Price (Rs/ Quintal)				Change
		18-Aug-20		17-Aug-20		
	Castor Seed	Low	High	Low	High	
Gujarat	Patan	3850	3950	3875	3950	Unch
	Harij	3900	3975	3900	3950	25
	Rajkot	3625	3840	3675	3785	55
	Gondal	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	-
	Deesa	3950	4000	3825	3885	115
	Bhabar	3950	3975	3950	3975	Unch
	Mehsana	3875	3925	3875	3925	Unch
	Kadi	Closed	Closed	3900	3965	-
	Sabarkatha	3900	3950	3900	3950	Unch
	Gandhi Nagar	3925	3975	3925	3950	25
	Ahmedabad (Sanand)	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Halvad	NA	NA	3750	3925	-
	Junagadh	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Dhrol	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
Rajasthan	Jodhpur	3750	3800	3700	3775	25
	Sumerpur	3800	3825	3800	3825	Unch

Castor Seed Arrivals in Key Centers:

Center	Market	Fig. in Quintal		
		18-Aug-20	17-Aug-20	
Gujarat	Patan	1875	750	1125
	Harij	1125	900	225
	Rajkot	75	125	-50
	Gondal	Closed	Closed	-
	Deesa	225	227	-2
	Bhabar	2000	2400	-400



	Mehsana	900	975	-75
	Kadi	Closed	1040	-
	Sabarkatha	240	160	80
	Gandhi Nagar	600	375	225
	Ahmedabad (Sanand)	NA	NA	-
	Halvad	NA	900	-
	Junagadh	NA	NA	-
	Dhrol	NA	NA	-
Rajasthan	Jodhpur	15	26	-11
	Sumerpur	560	800	-240
Total Arrivals/Above Markets		7615	8678	-1063

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

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