

Domestic Market Update:

- Mixed trend are seen in castor seed market on Wednesday. All India castor seed arrival is 12302 quintal which is lower from last day arrival of 7626 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: 19/08/2020			
Contract	+/- (%)	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	O. Int
20-Sept	-0.40	3998	4000	3972	3980	1870	25460
20-Oct	-0.54	4030	4030	4010	4020	450	1025
20-Nov	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Castor Seed Prices in Key Centers:

Commodity/Center	Market	Price (Rs/ Quintal)				Change
		19-Aug-20		18-Aug-20		
	Castor Seed	Low	High	Low	High	
Gujarat	Patan	3925	3975	3850	3950	25
	Harij	3925	3975	3900	3975	Unch
	Rajkot	NR	NR	3625	3840	-
	Gondal	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	-
	Deesa	3900	3975	3950	4000	-25
	Bhabar	3925	3975	3950	3975	Unch
	Mehsana	3875	3925	3875	3925	Unch
	Kadi	3925	4010	Closed	Closed	-
	Sabarkatha	3925	3950	3900	3950	Unch
	Gandhi Nagar	3900	3950	3925	3975	-25
	Ahmedabad (Sanand)	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Halvad	3575	3825	NA	NA	-
	Junagadh	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Dhrol	3250	3620	2450	3910	-290
	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	3750	3800	3750	3800
Sumerpur		3825	3850	3800	3825	25

Castor Seed Arrivals in Key Centers:

Center	Market	Fig. in Quintal		Change
		19-Aug-20	18-Aug-20	
Gujarat	Patan	2475	1875	600
	Harij	1500	1125	375
	Rajkot	NR	75	-
	Gondal	Closed	Closed	-
	Deesa	375	225	150
	Bhabar	2560	2000	560

	Mehsana	375	900	-525
	Kadi	3080	Closed	-
	Sabarkatha	240	240	Unch
	Gandhi Nagar	750	600	150
	Ahmedabad (Sanand)	NA	NA	-
	Halvad	525	NA	-
	Junagadh	NA	NA	-
	Dhrol	11	11	Unch
Rajasthan	Jodhpur	11	15	-4
	Sumerpur	400	560	-160
Total Arrivals/Above Markets		12302	7626	4676

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