

Domestic Market Update:

- Mixed trend are continued in castor seed market on Friday. All India castor seed arrival is 10452 quintal which is lower from last day arrival of 10463 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: 21/08/2020			
Contract	+/- (%)	Open	High	Low	Clos e	Volum e	O. Int
20-Sept	+0.10	3982	3990	3970	3980	875	24820
20-Oct	+0.00	4010	4024	4010	4010	115	1100
20-Nov	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Castor Seed Prices in Key Centers:

Commodity/Center	Market	Price (Rs/ Quintal)				Change
		21-Aug-20		20-Aug-20		
	Castor Seed	Low	High	Low	High	
Gujarat	Patan	3850	3925	3875	4000	-75
	Harij	Closed	Closed	3900	3975	-
	Rajkot	3650	3805	3625	3800	5
	Gondal	3705	3855	3705	3855	Unch
	Deesa	3925	3950	Closed	Closed	-
	Bhabar	3900	3925	3900	3925	Unch
	Mehsana	3875	3900	3875	3925	-25
	Kadi	3875	3965	3900	3990	-25
	Sabarkatha	3675	3950	3900	3950	Unch
	Gandhi Nagar	3900	3950	3900	3925	25
	Ahmedabad (Sanand)	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Halvad	3700	3875	3700	3850	25
	Junagadh	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Dhrol	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	Closed	Closed	3700	3750
Sumerpur		Closed	Closed	3835	3840	-

Center	Market	Fig. in Quintal		Change
		21-Aug-20	20-Aug-20	
Gujarat	Patan	2250	1650	600
	Harij	Closed	1650	-
	Rajkot	650	530	120
	Gondal	500	350	150
	Deesa	300	Closed	-
	Bhabar	1200	800	400



	Mehsana	225	750	-525
	Kadi	3592	2440	1152
	Sabarkatha	160	200	-40
	Gandhi Nagar	450	675	-225
	Ahmedabad (Sanand)	NA	NA	-
	Halvad	1125	900	225
	Junagadh	NA	NA	-
	Dhrol	NA	NA	-
Rajasthan	Jodhpur	Closed	38	-
	Sumerpur	Closed	480	-
Total Arrivals/Above Markets		10452	10463	-11

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