

Domestic Market Update:

- Mixed tone are seen today amid weak pace of arrivals. All India castor seed arrival is 3638 quintal which is lower from last day arrival of 3670 quintal.
- All India castor seed sowing as on 21 August, 2020 is 5.68 lakh hectares which was higher by 9.23% of last year corresponding period area of 5.20 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: 25/08/2020			
Contract	+/- (%)	Open	High	Low	Clos e	Volum e	O. Int
20-Sept	+1.60	3996	4090	3996	4060	11450	23790
20-Oct	+1.39	4038	4130	4046	4094	3535	4790
20-Nov	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Castor Seed Prices in Key Centers:

Commodity/Center	Market	Price (Rs/ Quintal)				Change
		25-Aug-20		24-Aug-20		
	Castor Seed	Low	High	Low	High	
Gujarat	Patan	3900	4000	Closed	Closed	-
	Harij	NA	NA	Closed	Closed	-
	Rajkot	3675	3770	3645	3800	-30
	Gondal	3705	3805	Closed	Closed	-
	Deesa	3950	4100	3925	3950	150
	Bhabar	3950	4000	3900	3950	50
	Mehsana	3900	3960	3875	3900	60
	Kadi	3900	4000	Closed	Closed	-
	Sabarkatha	3925	3950	3900	3950	Unch
	Gandhi Nagar	3900	3950	3900	3950	Unch
	Ahmedabad (Sanand)	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Halvad	3750	3900	Closed	Closed	-
	Junagadh	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Dhrol	NA	NA	NA	NA	-
	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	Closed	Closed	3650	3700
Sumerpur		Closed	Closed	3850	3875	-

Center	Market	Fig. in Quintal		Change
		25-Aug-20	24-Aug-20	
Gujarat	Patan	525	Closed	-
	Harij	NA	Closed	-
	Rajkot	120	60	60
	Gondal	500	Closed	-
	Deesa	150	750	-600
	Bhabar	240	1760	-1520



	Mehsana	375	525	-150
	Kadi	480	Closed	-
	Sabarkatha	160	40	120
	Gandhi Nagar	338	375	-38
	Ahmedabad (Sanand)	NA	NA	-
	Halvad	750	Closed	-
	Junagadh	NA	NA	-
	Dhrol	NA	NA	-
Rajasthan	Jodhpur	Closed	NA	-
	Sumerpur	Closed	160	-
Total Arrivals/Above Markets		3638	3670	-33

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