

Domestic Fundamentals:**Market Outlook:**

The Gujarat cotton physical market closed steady at Rs.4900/q today. MCX cotton August contract stood firm at Rs.16890/bale on Friday. ICE cotton futures increased on Thursday.

News: According to Agriwatch, India is likely to end this year (2019-20) with record of around 104 lakh bales of cotton as closing stock. Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has decided to sell a part of the surplus stock of about 15 to 20 lakh bales to Bangladesh, that would take place on a government-to-government basis and the shipments could start from next month onwards. Export prices will be decided by the two governments using the Cotlook index. As the current season is likely to end soon in one month, therefore, as soon as the exports starts India likely to ship around 5-7 lakh only and rest of the quantity would be off the ports in the coming season starting in October'20.

The heavy rains from the last 3-4 days in Telangana has hit the cotton crop especially in Warangal. The crop is in prolonged waterlogging conditions where the cotton has been sown on around 2 lakh ha in the district. But the estimates according to the state government reports there has been a damage in around 10,000 ha so far in Warangal. According to IMD forecast, Telangana is likely to receive widespread and scattered rainfall, thus the crop might not get damaged further. The state has covered 24 lakh ha area under cotton, up by 35% y-o-y.

In the recent report published by Cotton Association of India (CAI), the agency increased its cotton crop estimate for 2019-20 to 354 lakh bales compared to its previous estimate of 335.5 lakh bales. The Agriwatch estimates that the production for the current season might reach to around 362 lakh bales out of which around 11 lakh bales might be carried forward in the coming season. The estimate of the cotton imports has been increased by the CAI at 16.00 lakh bales, up by 1 lakh bales from previous estimates. CAI also increased the estimated exports to 50 lakh bales from 47 lakh bales for 2019-20. According to market sources, Indian cotton arrivals during the months of October 2019 to July 2020 are estimated at 337 lakh bales.

Cotton area across India covered around 125.479 lakh ha as on 13th Aug'20 for 2020-21, down by around 1.7% compared to the total acreage under cotton last year. The cotton sowing in the northern part of India (Punjab, Haryana & Rajasthan) covered an area of 19.11 lakh ha. In Maharashtra the acreage increased to 41.45 lakh ha while in Gujarat the area is 22.7 lakh ha, down by -12% compared to corresponding time last year. In AP and Telangana, a surge in acreage is reported in both the states covering 4.99 lakh ha (+1.8%) and 23.47 lakh ha (+36.1%), respectively.

The continuous heavy rainfall in Punjab and Haryana left the cotton fields under submerged condition. Crop on nearly 50,000 acres in Haryana has been reported under 2 feet stagnant water condition for 2-3 days. Cotton crop on 5,000 to 6,000 acres had got destroyed in Hisar district as reported by the state official. The other districts: Bhiwani and Jind are also likely to have affected due to rains. Also, the presence of sucking pest has been reported in some parts of Mansa, and Fazilka district of Punjab.

With the context of favourable weather in India and increased area, USDA has increased the India's production estimates 38.04 million bales (170kg per bale) in 2020-21, up by 4% from previous month's estimates. While the import trade has been reduced to 1.28 million bales from 1.41 million bales in the previous month. As the recovery in revival of the cotton industry has been sluggish, the domestic use was also declined to 28.8 million bales in Aug'20 estimates from 29.46 million bales (Jul'20 estimates). Therefore, the assumptions are made that there would be higher ending stock 28.83 million bales compared to previous month's estimates (27.29 million bales) as well as from 2019-20 (24.60 million bales).

The cotton farmers in Jalgaon district of Maharashtra are also worried as signs of Pink Bollworm (PBW) infestation have been reported in 30-40% of the planted crop. The 70-80% crop is now in the flowering stage, the most vulnerable stage for bollworm attack. According to Cotton Association of India, cotton was sown on 5.25 lakh hectare in the region and PBW infestation has been reported on nearly 1.25-1.50 lakh hectare. Also, the early signs of pink bollworm infestation was noticed in the fields of Marathwada and Vidarbha region earlier in the month.

CCI sold around 16 lakh bales in August month so far and totaling to around 22 - 23 lakh bales (2019-20 crop) this season. Due to the weak logistic system by CCI, therefore, the buyers are facing delay in delivery. If the frequency of sales continues with the present trend, then there is possibility that CCI could sale another 25 lakh bales by the end of September'20, hence improving the liquidity in the market.

After the heavy rainfall in Punjab that left the crop wilted in some areas, hot and humid weather conditions have now led to pest infestation. Presence of sucking pest has been reported in some parts of Mansa, and Fazilka district left the farmers worried. The state Agriculture Department has alerted the farmers to spray pesticide as per the requirement to avoid the spread of the pests. However, the estimated area under cotton is 5 lakh hectares this year, up from 3.92 lakh hectares in 2019.

CCI has offered bulk discounts to encourage cotton sales started since June and also reduced the base prices. CCI is offering over 8 lakh bales (2019-20 crop) cotton per day for sale. According to the market sources, the ginner are having enough stock with them, therefore, the sale is slow. According to the traders, CCI can sell about 35-45 lakh bales of cotton by the end of the season out of the total procured cotton of 105 lakh bales in 2019-20.

Although the country is expecting an increase in cotton area by 5% but there are possibilities in decline in the yield. The continuous rainfall across the country could cause damage as cotton crop does not sustain for more than two days of stagnating water. Also, the cotton crop in Marathwada and Vidarbha region (41.8 lakh ha) in Maharashtra has started flowering that was sown in early June. Thus, the early signs of pink bollworm infestation was noticed in the fields. Aurangabad, Jalna and Beed, the main cotton growing areas (over 15.9 lakh hectare area is under cotton cultivation) in the Marathwada region have found some traces of pink bollworm as the bud formation has started. The government has issued an alert to the farmers to take precautionary measures against the attack of pink bollworm on the cotton crop.

According to the trade sources, the Indian cotton exports for the June'20 were reported higher around 4.5 lakh bales, doubled compared to the prior month. In June'20, the Indian cotton prices were cheaper in the international market, therefore, the exports were increased during June. Bangladesh was the largest importer of Indian cotton purchasing around 2 lakh bales at an average FOB of \$1.46/kg followed by China (71,747 bales at \$1.29/kg), Vietnam (43,000 bales at \$1.25/kg) and Indonesia (20,000 bales at \$1.32/kg). The other export destinations of India were Korea, Turkey, Thailand & Italy.

The immense rainfall in Punjab, seems to have destroyed over 4,000 ha area. The reports said, 15-17% crop loss was reported in around 60 villages. The final assessment is yet to be done which will reveal the exact damage caused to cotton and other crops in Abohar, Fazilka and nearby areas. Although the area under cotton has increased by around 25% this year, but the continuous rains would decrease the cotton yield for the crop 2020-21.

The Maharashtra government has procured over 7 lakh bales of cotton from 1.37 lakh farmers in the five districts of Nashik division under MSP. After procurement, the state government has stocked 12,000 bales of cotton in Nashik district. Around 5 lakh bales of cotton were procured from Jalgaon district, followed by 98,000 bales from Ahmednagar district, 87,300 bales from farmers in Dhule and 86,100 lakh bales of cotton in Nandurbar district.

Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) gave the priority in procuring cotton at guaranteed prices this year, thus, CCI's maximum cotton procurement in Maharashtra was reported in Yavatmal district. A total of 55.695 lakh quintals of cotton has been procured from 2,69,534 farmers in Yavatmal district this season. 11.48 lakh quintals of cotton has been procured from 49,056 farmers in the district after the lockdown. Before the outbreak of corona, 44.21 lakh quintals of cotton was purchased from 2,20,478 lakh farmers in the district.

Weather Forecast for tomorrow:

Heavy to very rainfall at a few places with extremely heavy falls at isolated places likely over Gujarat Region; heavy to very heavy rainfall with extremely heavy falls at isolated places over Saurashtra & Kutch, East Rajasthan, West Madhya Pradesh and Konkan & Goa; heavy to very heavy rainfall at isolated places over West Rajasthan and heavy rainfall at isolated places over East Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura and Tamil Nadu, Puducherry & Karaikal.

International Fundamentals:

Cotton Futures ended Thursday session with gain of 0.71 points, Oct 20 Cotton is at 63.92. The Cotlook A index stood higher by 0.75 points to 69.6 cents/lb.

According to USDA in Aug'20 estimates, the world production and ending stocks were higher and lower beginning stocks, consumption & trade compared to the previous month's estimates. World production is 1.3 million bales as the production in India, US and Australia were revised higher. Expected 2020-21 world consumption is 1.2 million bales lower this month, with declines in India, China, Pakistan, Brazil, and Indonesia while increased the consumption numbers for Bangladesh and Turkey. Imports were projected lower in Pakistan, Indonesia and India, and higher in Bangladesh, Turkey, and Malaysia. This month, 2020-21 world ending stocks were projected 2.1 million bales higher than the previous month and 4.4 million bales higher than in 2019-20.

In Pakistan, due to the starting of spell of rains in many areas of Punjab and Sindh the supply of kapas will be decreased as well as the quality will also be effected. The production of cotton crop might be effected in the cotton producing areas of Sindh because of rains. If rainwater collects in the field, it will damage the crops. Rains also increase the risk of attack of viruses and insects on the crop.

China cotton yarn imports are estimated to increase by 7.4% to 1.51 LT in Jul'20 compared to the previous month. According to foreign shipment data in June, cotton yarn imports of China from Vietnam in Jul are estimated at 70,400 tonnes followed by India 20,000 tonnes, from Pakistan 25,200 tonnes, Uzbekistan 15,000 tonnes, and from other regions and countries at 20,000 tonnes. It is expected that the demand in August likely to remain stagnant as the operating rate of fabric mills declined. The high inventory and lack of demand may put pressure on yarn prices in the country.

The United States Department of Agriculture's weekly crop progress report showed 45% of the crop in good/excellent condition, compared with 54% a year ago. Hot temperatures returned in West Texas on Tuesday with most of the region above 100 degrees Fahrenheit, according to a National Weather Service bulletin.

Australia is facing with continuous dry conditions since last year. The 2020-21 forecast is for a recovery in cotton production to 1.7 million bales, from a revised estimate of 0.625 million bales in 2019-20. As, the drought affected cotton growing States have received above average rainfall this year. However, it will still be the second smallest crop in a decade. As an advantage, Australia the only country that was spared stockpiling pressure due to the pandemic which is expected around 0.512 million bales in 2019-20, down by 64% y-o-y. China is the main export market for Australia which so far in 2019-20 has accounted for nearly two-thirds (65%) of total exports.

The demand at the Chinese Reserve auctions has remained good, with sales now exceeding 100,000 tons since the auctions begun in first week this month, which implies increased mill use. A survey shows Chinese spinners were operating at more than 60% of capacity. Cotton use has recovered slightly and is steady, but the yarn and fabric sector are still suffering from weak apparel exports due to which the cotton yarn prices are weak.

MCX Cotton Futures*: (Prices in Rs/170 kgs)

Contract	+/-	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Change	OI	Change
20-Aug	+1.62	16660	16910	16650	16890	580	328	1659	30
20-Sep		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-Oct	+0.45	17770	17850	17760	17810	26	8	214	23

Spread	20-Aug	20-Sep	20-Oct	--	--	--
Spot				-	-	-
20-Aug	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-Sep	-	-	-	-	-	-

(NB: Spread Basis = Spot- Near Month Future) As updated on 21st Aug @ 5.30 pmCotton Prices at Key Spot Markets:

Commodity	Kapas		Prices (Rs./Quintal)		Change
State	Centre	Variety	21-Aug-20	20-Aug-20	
Gujarat	Ahmedabad	Shankar-6	4900	4900	Unch
	Gondal	Shankar-6	4755	4680	75
	Rajkot	B.T. Cotton	4875	4900	-25
	Patan	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Kadi	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Deesa	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Dhrol	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
Haryana	Bhiwani	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Bhiwani	Desi	NA	NA	-
	Adampur	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Fatehabad	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Jind	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Uchana	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Dabwali	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
Rajasthan	Hanumangarh	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Rawatsar	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
Madhya Pradesh	Khandwa	Mech-1	NA	NA	-
	Khargaon	Mech-1	NA	NA	-
Maharashtra	Amravati	Mech-1	NA	NA	-
	Jamner	Medium Staple	NA	NA	-
Uttar Pradesh	Hathras	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Hathras	Desi	NA	NA	-

Andhra Pradesh	Adoni	Medium Staple	NA	NA	-
Telangana	Adilabad	Un-Ginned	NR	NR	-
Karnataka	Bijapur	Bunny	5019	4971	48
	Hubli	D.C.H.	NR	NR	-
	Hubli	B.T. Cotton	NR	NR	-
	Raichur	H-44 Cotton	5000	5011	-11
Commodity	Lint		Prices (Rs./Maund)		4750
State	Centre	Variety	21-Aug-20	20-Aug-20	-
Punjab	Bhatinda	J-34	NA	NA	-
	Abohar	J-34	NA	NA	-
	Mansa	J-34	NA	NA	-
Haryana	Sirsa	J-34	3720	3710	10
Rajasthan	Sri-Ganganagar	J-34	NA	NA	-

Cotton Arrivals in Key Centers:

Commodity	Kapas		Arrivals (Quintal)		NA
State	Centre	Variety	21-Aug-20	20-Aug-20	-
Gujarat	Ahmedabad	Shankar-6	3400	5100	-1700
	Gondal	Shankar-6	210	115	95
	Rajkot	B.T. Cotton	800	1000	-200
	Patan	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Kadi	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Deesa	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Dhrol	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
Haryana	Bhiwani	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Bhiwani	Desi	NA	NA	-
	Adampur	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Fatehabad	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Jind	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Uchana	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Dabwali	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
Rajasthan	Hanumangarh	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Rawatsar	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
Madhya Pradesh	Khandwa	Mech-1	NA	NA	-
	Khargaon	Mech-1	NA	NA	-
Maharashtra	Amravati	Mech-1	NA	NA	-
	Jamner	Medium Staple	NA	NA	-
Uttar Pradesh	Hathras	B.T. Cotton	NA	NA	-
	Hathras	Desi	NA	NA	-

Andhra Pradesh	Adoni	Medium Staple	NA	NA	-
Telangana	Adilabad	Un-Ginned	NR	NR	-
Karnataka	Bijapur	Bunny	789	1410	-621
	Hubli	D.C.H.	NR	NR	-
	Hubli	B.T. Cotton	NR	NR	-
	Raichur	H-44 Cotton	45	45	Unch
Commodity	Lint		Arrivals (Quintal)		Change
State	Centre	Variety	21-Aug-20	20-Aug-20	
Punjab	Bhatinda	J-34	NA	NA	-
	Abohar	J-34	NA	NA	-
	Mansa	J-34	NA	NA	-
Haryana	Sirsa	J-34	NA	NA	-
Rajasthan	Sri-Ganganagar	J-34	NA	NA	-

Cotton Seed Oil Prices:

Commodity	Cotton Seed Oil		Price		Change
State	Centre	Unit	21-Aug-20	20-Aug-20	
Gujarat	Rajkot	Rs. /10 Kg.	870	870	Unch
Delhi	New Delhi	Rs. /10 Kg.	832	830	2
Telangana	Hyderabad	Rs. /10 Kg.	835	835	Unch
Maharashtra	Mumbai	Rs. /10 Kg.	890	885	5

Cotton Seed Oil Seed Cake Prices:

Commodity	Cotton Seed Oil Seed Cake		Price		Change
State	Centre	Unit	21-Aug-20	20-Aug-20	
Gujarat	Mahesana (Kadi)	Rs./Qtl	2116	2098	18
Maharashtra	Akola	Rs./Qtl	2055	2030	25

Cotton Association of India Spot Rates:

Trade Name	Staple	Micronaire	Strength/ GPT	Rs. Per Candy	Rs. Per Candy	Change
				20-Aug-20	19-Aug-20	
Bengal Deshi (RG)/Assam Comilla	Below 22mm	5.0 - 7.0	15	36200	36200	Unch
Bengal Deshi (SG)	Below 22mm	5.0 - 7.0	15	36800	36800	Unch
J-34	27mm	3.5 - 4.9	23	34500	34500	Unch
H-4/ MECH-1	28mm	3.5 - 4.9	27	34300	34200	100
Shankar-6	29mm	3.5 - 4.9	28	35500	35400	100
Bunny/ Brahma	31mm	3.5 - 4.9	30	37000	36900	100
MCU-5/ Surabhi	32mm	3.3 - 4.9	31	37700	37700	Unch

DCH-32	34mm	3.0 - 3.8	33	53700	53700	Unch
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INTERNATIONAL PRICES AND INDICES**China Cotton Index:**

Index	Unit	21-Aug-20	20-Aug-20	Change
CCIndex(328)	RMB/Ton	12497	12498	-1
CCIndex(527)	RMB/Ton	11613	11615	-2
CCIndex(229)	RMB/Ton	12903	12911	-8
RMB -Renminbi, 1RMB =0.16 \$U.S.				

China Foreign Cotton (FCE) Index :

Index	Unit	21-Aug-20	20-Aug-20	Change
FC Index (S)	Cents/lb	NR	73.02	-
FC Index (M)	Cents/lb	NR	69.86	-
FC Index (L)	Cents/lb	NR	68.89	-

Cotlook Index:

Cotlook Indices	Unit	20-Aug-20	18-Aug-20	Change
A-Index	Cents/Pound	69.6	68.85	0.75

USDA Cotton Spot Rates:

Growth Area	Unit	Leaf 4 to Staple 34	Leaf 3 to Staple 35	Arrivals
		20-Aug-20	20-Aug-20	Bales
Southeast	cents/lb.	60.42	62.67	2962
North Delta	cents/lb.	59.42	61.67	-
South Delta	cents/lb.	59.42	61.67	2945
East TX-OK	cents/lb.	58.42	60.67	1907
West Texas	cents/lb.	58.42	60.92	1292
Desert SW	cents/lb.	56.67	60.67	-
SJ Valley	cents/lb.	57.17	66.07	-

Spot quotations are for cotton equal to the official standards, net weight, in mixed lots. Upland quotations are FOB car/truck, which includes compression and any brokerage charges. The upland base quality is color 41, leaf grade 4, staple 34 (1.05 to 1.07), mike 3.5, 3.6 and 4.3 to 4.9, strength 26.5 to 28.4 grams per Tex and uniformity 80.5 to 81.4

Pakistan Cotton Spot rates: As on 20-Aug-2020				(in Pakistan Rupees)
Product	Rate for	Ex-Gin Price	Up Country Sales	Spot Rate Karachi
Cotton	37.32 Kgs	8400	180	8580
Equivalent	40 Kgs	9002	193	9195

Daily Futures Price Listing Thursday August 20, 2020									
Most Recent Information							Previous Day		
Mth	Date	Open	High	Low	Close	Change	Volume	Open Int	Change
Cotton(ICE)									
20-Oct	200820	62.69	64.25	62.69	63.92	0.71	1	105	0
20-Dec	200820	63.77	64.72	63	64.52	0.75	9,881	112,426	-773
21-Mar	200820	64.51	65.61	63.97	65.42	0.73	3,874	45,033	201
21-May	200820	64.93	66.28	64.63	66.08	0.75	617	11,224	144
21-Jul	200820	65.09	66.64	65.04	66.44	0.71	216	8,082	73
21-Oct	200820	64.9	65.02	64.9	65.02	0.7	0	1	0
Total Volume and Open Interest							14,724	192,683	-323

Source: MRCI

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