

Oilmeal Weekly Research Report

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Executive Summary

Soybean witnessed mostly positive tone during the week on lower arrivals in the mandis and good demand from the crushers. According to the latest survey by the Soybean Processor's Association of India (SOPA), India's soybean output in the 2017 -18 season is likely to decline by 24 per cent to 8.35 MMT compared to previous year's estimates of 10.9 MMT. Soybean at CBOT noticed firm tone, thereby adding to the positive tone of the market. Soybean at CBOT closed higher amid dry weather in the soybean growing regions of Argentina. Forecast of heavy rainfall in the central region of Brazil is likely to delay harvesting and affect the quality of the crop. NOPA soybean crush was the highest on record for the month of January and lower compared to previous month. The weekly export sales of soybean released by the USDA were lower compared to previous week.

In the domestic market, arrivals are lower in the mandis amid reduced output this season and there is good demand from the crushers. Mandis were closed for some days during the week following the festival of 'Shivratri'.

Dry weather is continuing in Argentina and as per latest estimates from the industry sources, soybean output in 2017-18 season could decline below 50 MMT compared to previous estimates of 51 MMT. In Brazil, heavy rainfall is forecast in the second half of February according to meteorological data. Rainfall in the central region of Brazil is likely to delay harvesting and affect the quality of the crop. The weekly export sales of soybean released by the USDA are reported at 0.64 MMT, lower compared to previous week.

Soy meal prices noticed firm tone during the week amid good demand in the domestic market. Export demand is good and some forward booking has been done. Spillover support from soy meal at CBOT added to the positive tone of the market.

Rapeseed prices witnessed range –bound to firm tone during the week on good demand from the retailers and positive tone of edible oils in the global market. Rabi mustard seed acreage is lower this season compared to previous year.

Overall bearish supply scenario in the global market is likely to weigh on the market in the coming days.

Outlook – Cash Market

Outlook - Soybean (Spot, Indore): The soybean witnessed positive tone during the week after profit taking at higher levels. Lower arrivals in the mandis amid reduced output and good demand in the domestic market supported prices. SOPA has reduced soybean output estimates this season by 24% to 8.35 MMT compared to 10.9 MMT previous year. Dry weather in Argentina and forecast of heavy rainfall in the central region of Brazil continue to remain the supporting factor for the market. NOPA soybean crush was the highest on record for the month of January and lower compared to previous month. Soybean at CBOT closed higher thereby adding to the positive tone of the market. The prices are expected to feature range bound movement with firm bias between the price band of 3700 – 4100 level (Indore, Plant basis).

Outlook – Soy meal (Spot, Indore): Soy meal noticed firm tone amid good demand in the domestic market, Export demand is good and some forward booking has been done. Spillover support from soy meal at CBOT added to the positive tone of the market. Lower production of soybean this season will translate into lower soy meal production. According to industry sources in the current year 2017 -18, soy meal exports are likely to decline by one-fifth due to higher prices ruling in the domestic market currently. Soy meal, Indore is expected to be in the range of 29,000 – 32,000/MT levels during the week.

Outlook - Rapeseed-Mustard (Spot, Jaipur basis): The rapeseed-mustard noticed recovery during the week amid good demand from the retailers and positive tone of edible oils in the global market. Rabi sowing of rapeseed is lower by around 5.0% this season compared to previous year. The seed prices are likely to feature range-bound movement with weak bias and witness the levels between 3950 – 4150/Qtl; levels during the week.

International Highlights

- ❖ According to the data released by the General Administration of Customs, China's imports of soybean increased by 10.7 per cent to 8.48 MMT in January 2018 compared to same period previous year and it declined by 11.20 per cent compared to December 2017. Imports declined compared to previous month following tighter specification pertaining to the import of the oilseed at the Beijing airport.
- ❖ According to consultancy, AgRural farmers in Brazil have harvested 10 per cent of the soybean area in 2017 -18 season as on 10, February 2018. Harvesting is mainly slow in the state of Parana, where only 1 per cent of the area had been harvested compared to 13 per cent previous year.
- ❖ Heat wave in Argentina is likely to affect soybean yield season and output could decline further. The Buenos Aires Grains Exchange reduced its soy crop estimate to 50 MMT from 51 MMT. Light rainfall is expected later in the month.
- ❖ According to the Rosario Grains Exchange, soybean output of Argentina in 2017 -18 could be less than 50 MMT as prolonged drought is likely to affect yield. No significant rains are expected in the next 10-12 days, which is likely to affect the crop further. There could be some very isolated rains, which will not be beneficial for the crop.
- ❖ According to experts and meteorological data, Brazil's central region which accounts for most of the country's soybean production is expected to receive heavy rainfall in the second half of February. This is likely to delay harvesting in the region and affect the quality of the crop to certain extent.
- ❖ According to National Oilseed Processors Association (NOPA), U.S. January soybean crush rose to a record level of 163.111 million bushels from 162.675 million bushels in January 2017 amid record –large stockpiles of soybean. Crush of soybean in December 2017 was 166.305 million bushels. Soy meal exports in January declined to 860,416 metric tonnes, from 921,726 metric tonnes the previous month and 891,143 metric tonnes in January 2017. It was the first monthly decline in five months. Soy oil stocks as of Jan. 31 increased to an eight-month high of 1.728 billion pounds, up from 1.518 billion at the end of December.
- ❖ Net sales of 640,400 MT of soybean for 2017/2018 were down 4 percent from the previous week and 8 percent from the prior 4-week average. Increases were reported for China (156,900 MT, switched from unknown destinations and decreases of 73,300 MT), Mexico (133,400 MT, including decreases of 5,300),

the Netherlands (84,400 MT, including 74,000 MT switched from unknown destinations and decreases of 800 MT), Germany (79,300 MT), and Italy (62,700 MT, including 62,000 MT switched from unknown destinations and decreases of 700 MT) during the week February 02 -08, 2018. Reductions were reported for unknown destinations (159,300 MT). For 2018/2019, net sales of 197,100 MT were reported for unknown destinations (197,000 MT) and Japan (100 MT). Exports of 1,375,300 MT were down 6 percent from the previous week, but up 10 percent from the prior 4-week average. The primary destinations were China (717,600 MT), Mexico (95,700 MT), the Netherlands (84,400 MT), Germany (79,300 MT), and Pakistan (69,600 MT). The current week's net sales are lower compared to net sales of 743,200 MT during the previous week.

Soybean

Soybean witnessed mostly positive tone during the week amid lower arrivals in the mandis and good demand from the crushers. SOPA has reduced soybean output estimates further this season compared to previous year. Soybean at CBOT closed higher thereby adding to the positive tone of the market. Dry weather in Argentina and forecast of heavy rainfall in the central region of Brazil continue to remain the positive factor for the market. NOPA soybean crush was the highest on record for the month of January and lower compared to previous month. The weekly export sales of soybean released by the USDA are lower compared to previous week.

In the domestic market arrivals are lower in the mandis and there is good demand from the crushers. Mandis remained closed for some days during the week following local festival.

The total weekly soybean arrivals in the cash markets of Madhya Pradesh are reported at 3,30,000 bags compared to 2,85,000 bags reported in the previous week.

According to the latest survey by the Soybean Processor's Association of India (SOPA), India's soybean output in the 2017 -18 season is likely to decline by 24 per cent to 8.35 MMT compared to previous year's estimates of 10.9 MMT. Output is lower amid flood-induced crop damage in major growing states, followed by blight disease in the plants. According to industry sources, India's total acreage is down by 5 per cent this year. SOPA also estimates India's soybean meal exports at 1.25 MMT for financial year 2017-18 compared to 2 MMT reported for the previous year.

According to SOPA, the total supply of soybean has been estimated at 96.50 lakh metric tonnes for the oil year 2017 -18 in its latest estimates released in February. For the period October -January of the current oil year, the production is estimated at 83.50 lakh metric tonnes, while the carryover from the previous year is put at 13.00 lakh metric tonnes.

The demand for crushing is likely to be around 77.50 lakh metric tonnes, while exports are projected at 2 lakh metric tonnes.

With 12 lakh metric tonnes retained for sowing and 1.5 lakh metric tonnes for direct consumption, the carryover for the coming year is estimated at 3.50 lakh metric tonnes.

SOPA SOYEAN REVISED PRODUCTION ESTIMATES KHARIF 2017 As on 07.02.2018

Area in Lakh Ha, Yield in Kg. Per Hectare, Production In Lakh MT

S.No.	Division/District	Kharif 2016 Production	Kharif 2017 Production
1	Madhya Pradesh	54.01	42.00
2	Maharashtra	35.81	29.00
3	Rajasthan	9.81	7.50
4	Andhra Pradesh & Telangana	2.99	1.06
5	Karnataka	3.24	1.73
6	Chattisgarh	1.34	0.86
7	Gujarat	1.38	0.89

8	Rest Of India	1.13	0.46
	Grand Total	109.71	83.50

As per Agriwatch estimates, soybean production in the current kharif season was estimated to be 98 lakh metric tonnes compared to 115 lakh metric tonnes in the previous season. Lower soybean production will lend some support to the market. However comfortable carry-in stocks and record soybean crop in U.S. Midwest will continue to be the limiting factor.

The total sown area under rabi oilseeds, as on 9th February 2018, is lower compared to the previous year's level which is down by 5.27% at 80.87 lakh hectares compared to 84.85 lakh hectares during the corresponding period last year.

The major buyers in Madhya Pradesh are as follows: Amrit Mandsaur, Ambika Kalapipal, Agrawal Neemuch, Adani Shujalpur, Agro Sol. Datia, Avi Agro, Bansal, Bajrang, Betul Oil, Dhanuka, DivyaJyoti, G. Ambuja, Itarsi, Indian Soya (3-2-10 specification), Khandwa, Khyati, Kriti, K.P. Newari, Mahakali, M.S. Neemuch, Prakash, Oyster Exim, Prestige, Ruchi, Rama, RH Solvex, SSA Mandideep, Shanti Overseas, Sawariya, Itarsi, Sitashri, Vippy for Dewas and Mandsaur delivery during the week.

Previous Update

We expect India's soy meal exports to pick up in coming months. Seasonally India's soy meal exports are at high volume, during October thru February due to higher pace in crushing the bean.

Huge South American soy supplies continue to influence the market as the Indian soy meal price has been out-priced in the international market in recent weeks.

Lower soybean supplies this season, mean decline in crushing and eventually, availability of less soy meal, eventually leading to lower exports.

India's domestic soy meal consumption is around 5 million tonnes and the production is expected to be 7-7.5 million tonnes, the surplus 2.5 million needs to be exported for the good crush market during the season.

The soybean supplies were higher in the key markets of Madhya Pradesh and lower in the states of Maharashtra and Rajasthan during the week.

The domestic soybean prices are likely to witness range –bound to firm tone on lower availability of soybean this season and good demand in the domestic market.

International:

The international benchmark, CBOT soybean closed higher amid slow harvesting in Brazil and dry weather in the soybean growing regions of Argentina.

At CBOT, the soybean, in the most active March contract, ended higher at US \$ 10.22/bushel compared to US \$ 9.83/bushel last week.

Net sales of 640,400 MT of soybean for 2017/2018 were down 4 percent from the previous week and 8 percent from the prior 4-week average. Increases were reported for China (156,900 MT, switched from unknown destinations and decreases of 73,300 MT), Mexico (133,400 MT, including decreases of 5,300), the Netherlands (84,400 MT, including 74,000 MT switched from unknown destinations and decreases of 800 MT), Germany (79,300 MT), and Italy (62,700 MT, including 62,000 MT switched from unknown destinations and decreases of 700 MT) during the week February 02 -08, 2018. Reductions were reported for unknown destinations (159,300 MT). For 2018/2019, net sales of 197,100 MT were reported for unknown destinations (197,000 MT) and Japan (100 MT). Exports of 1,375,300 MT were down 6 percent from the previous week, but up 10 percent from the prior 4-week average. The primary destinations were China (717,600 MT), Mexico (95,700 MT), the Netherlands (84,400 MT), Germany (79,300 MT), and Pakistan (69,600 MT). The current week's net sales are lower compared to net sales of 743,200 MT during the previous week.

Previous updates

In the latest USDA quarterly stock report, it has been reported that the US soybeans stored in all positions on December 1, 2017 totaled 3.16 billion bushels, up 9 percent from December 1, 2016.

On-farm stocks totaled 1.49 billion bushels, up 11 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 1.67 billion bushels, are up 7 percent from a year ago.

Indicated disappearance for September - November 2017 totaled 1.54 billion bushels, down 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.

In Ukraine, soybean area likely to decline by 14 -17% to around 1.6 million hectares in 2018. Acreage has declined following lower realisation and cancellation of a VAT refund for exports of oilseeds from September 01, 2018 by parliament.

According to the Buenos Aires Exchange, nearly 34.6% of the fields in Argentina have bad condition, 53% are under dry prospects and around 31.5% of the surface is at the stage that defines yields. The early planted crops are in the growth stage awaiting the beginning of the harvest in the coming weeks.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's monthly supply and demand report for the month of February forecasts U.S. soybean stocks at 530 million bushels, up 60 million bushels from last month due to lower exports. U.S. soybean exports are forecast to decline by 60 million bushels to 2100 million bushels amid lagging sales and increased competition from Brazil. Total U.S. oilseed production for 2017/18 is projected at 131.3 MMT, unchanged from previous month's estimates. Soybean production is estimated at 4,392 million bushels, unchanged from previous month's estimates. Global oilseed production is forecast at 578.6 MMT, down 1.5 MMT mostly reflecting lower soybean production. Global oilseed ending stocks for 2017/18 are forecast at 110.4 MMT

down 0.75 MMT from previous month's, mostly reflecting decreases in soybean stocks for Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay and India.

According to the monthly crop report released by the Agriculture Ministry, Argentina's soybean acreage this season is estimated at 16.75 million hectares compared to the previous estimates of 16.8 million hectares. Acreage is estimated to be lower amid dry weather in the growing regions.

According to the Buenos Aires Grains Exchange, Argentina's soybean production has been reduced by 3 MMT to 51 MMT due to adverse weather conditions in the growing regions as on 01 February, 2018.

Informa lowered U.S. soybean acreage in 2017/18 to 91.197 million acres compared to its previous estimates of 91.387 million acres. According to USDA in 2017 U.S. soybean farmers had planted an all-time high of 90.142 million acres.

According to the General Administration of Customs, China imported 329,725 metric tonnes of rapeseed in December 2017, an increase of 36.75 per cent compared to previous month. Imports were 33 per cent higher compared to the same period year to date previous year. It imported 1,708 metric tonnes of soy meal in December 2017, a decline of 48.39 per cent compared to previous month. Imports were 328 per cent higher compared to the same period year to date previous year. Imports of rapeseed meal were recorded lower at 55,924 metric tonnes compared to same period previous year.

Brazil's share of soybean exports to China reached record level in 2017. China is the world's top buyer of soybean, which imports 60 per cent of the soybeans traded worldwide. China bought 50.93 MMT of soybean from Brazil in 2017, accounting for 53.3 percent of total purchases, according to the recently released customs data. Brazil's soybean is often cheaper and contains more protein compared to U.S. soybean.

According to the data released by the General Administration of Customs, China's import of soybean increased by 13.9 per cent to 95.54 MMT in 2017 compared to 83.91 MMT during previous year. Good demand from the crushers ahead of Lunar New Year added to the imports.

According to National Oilseed Processors Association (NOPA), U.S. December soybean crush rose 3.87 percent to a record level of 166.382 million bushels from 160.176 million bushels in December 2016 amid record-large stockpiles of soybean. Crush of soybean in November 2017 was 163.546 million bushels. Soy oil stocks in U.S. at the end of December increased to 1.538 billion lbs compared to 1.326 billion lbs in end November 2017. Soy meal exports during the month increased to 926,174 metric tonnes, up from 896,145 metric tonnes in November and 896,145 metric tonnes during the same period previous year.

According to Conab, Brazilian soybean output in 2017/18 has been increased by 1.2 MMT to 110.4 MMT in the latest monthly report compared to previous month's estimates. Output estimates are likely to increase in the forthcoming reports amid beneficial rains since early November in the growing regions.

Though the consumption of meat, poultry and dairy products are increasing, U.S. soybean farmers are losing share to Brazil to feed these animals. Following unfavourable weather in U.S. Midwest previous year, the protein content in the soybean has declined, a key ingredient that helps to build muscle in animals. The protein content in U.S. soybean was reported at 34.1 per cent per bushel, seen in 2008 and the lowest since it was measured in 1986 according to government data. Brazilian soybean has higher protein content of 37 per cent. This will reduce demand for U.S. soybean in the coming days.

According to the data released by the General Administration of Customs, China's imports of soybean increased by 10 per cent to 9.55 MMT in December 2017 compared to previous month and it increased by 6 per cent compared to December 2016. It is the second highest imports on record in a month. Imports of soybean in 2017 totaled at 95.54 MMT compared to 83.91 MMT in 2016.

According to the agriculture ministry, Argentina has cut its soybean export tax to 29.5 per cent from 30 per cent previously. This is the first step towards gradually reducing the levy to 18 per cent in the next two years. According to the plan, there will be tax cut of one half percentage point per month in the next twenty four months.

According to consultancy Safras & Mercado, Brazilian soybean output is expected at 114.57 MMT in 2017 -18 compared to 114.7 MMT estimated in the month of October. Safras has forecast a 5 percent rise in Brazil's soybean planted area at 35.49 million hectares (87.7 million acres) this season.

According to USDA, China will reduce the amount of foreign material allowed in shipments of U.S. soybeans as on January 01, 2018. Shipments of U.S. soybeans arriving at Chinese ports and containing 1 per cent of foreign material will be expedited. Shipments with more than 1 per cent foreign material would be held back for testing. According to traders, this will make difficult for U.S. shipments to compete with South American exports.

According to a report released by the agriculture ministry, China's soybean imports are expected to increase by 2.7 per cent to 95.97 MMT in 2017 -18 compared to previous year. Soybean output is expected to increase by 15.1 per cent to 14.89 MMT during the period. Consumption is expected to increase by 2.3 per cent to 111 MMT in 2017 -18 compared to previous year.

The IGC has kept the global soybean output in 2017/18 unchanged from its previous estimates. Global soybean production in 2017/18 was put at 348 million metric tonnes which is unchanged from previous projection and up from previous forecast of 347 million but still below the 2016/17 record crop of 351 million metric tonnes. Soybean consumption is likely to increase to 353 million metric tonnes up from previous forecast of 351 million metric and higher compared to 338 million metric tonnes in 2016/17.

The international soybean prices are expected to notice range –bound to firm tone on dry weather in Argentina and forecast of heavy rainfall in Brazil.

Soy meal

Soy meal witnessed firm tone during the week amid good demand in the domestic market. Export demand is good and there has been some forward booking. Spillover support from soy meal at CBOT added to the positive tone of the market.

Soy meal ready for delivery in PP bags at Dhule was quoted at 33500+GST by MOEPL. This is with 46.5% protein content. However, it was quoted at 35500+GST at Latur by ADM for February and March delivery and at 36000+GST for April delivery. Advance deposit of 10% is required for forward contracts.

India's soy meal export is likely to decline by a fifth in the current year 2017/18. Rally in local soybean prices and firmer rupee makes Indian soy meal unattractive in the global market. This is likely to help other major producers of soy meal like U.S., Argentina and Brazil. The country's soy meal exports could fall to 1.4 MMT to 1.6 MMT in the 2017/18 marketing year which started on Oct. 1 compared to 2 MMT previous year according to industry sources.

India has been a major supplier to countries like Japan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Vietnam, where its meal is sought because of lower freight rates and the ability to supply small quantities according to an official at Solvent Extractor's Association Of India. Rupee is at around 30 month's high and soybean prices in the domestic market have increased by nearly 15% to Rs. 3300/Qtl levels in the last two months.

On a financial year basis, India's export of oil meals during April 2017 to January 2018 stands at 2,362,049 metric tonnes as compared to 1,409,527 metric tonnes in the same period of previous year showing an increase of 68% according to data released by the Solvent Extractor's Association of India.

In the month of January 2018, export of oil meals declined by 52% to 116,150 metric tonnes compared to the same period previous year. Soy meal exports during the period April 2017 to December 2017 was reported up at 1,013,935 metric tonnes compared to 601,270 metric tonnes during the same period previous year.

Currently, the domestic meal prices are higher compared to the corresponding period last year.

Soy meal increased in international market, during the week.

CBOT soy meal March contract settled at US \$ 373.30 per short ton compared to US \$ 343.80 per short ton last week.

Net sales of 210,000 MT for 2017/2018 were up 31 percent from the previous week, but down 26 percent from the prior 4-week average. Increases were reported for Morocco (34,500 MT), Ireland (32,800 MT, including 30,000 MT switched from unknown destinations), Italy (30,000 MT), and Peru (30,000 MT) during the week February 02 -08, 2018. Reductions were reported for unknown destinations (29,900 MT). Exports of 253,600 MT were down 13 percent from the previous week, but up 8 percent from the prior 4-week average. The primary destinations were the Philippines (51,500 MT), Ireland (32,800 MT), Mexico (31,600 MT), and Italy (29,700 MT). The current week's net sales for 2017/18 are higher compared to net sales of 160,800 MT during the previous week.

The domestic soy meal prices at Indore, were quoted at Rs 31,000 – 32,500/MT compared to Rs. 28,000/MT - 31,800/MT in previous week. At Latur and Nanded, Maharashtra, soy meal noticed firm tone and were quoted at Rs 35,500/MT and 33,400/MT respectively compared to Rs 31,200/MT in Indore and Rs 32,300/MT in Kota.

Previous Updates

India has registered gains in the soy meal exports in the current season. Recovery in INR against dollar will eventually make India's soy meal export prices unattractive and help South American soy meal to gain market share.

India is expected to produce 7-7.5 million metric tonnes of soy meal this season. Out of which 5 million metric tonnes will be consumed domestically but another 2 -2.5 million metric tonnes must be shipped overseas, failing which, the disparity on crushing soybean will increase.

We expect India's soy meal exports to decline slightly in the new season with lower 2017/18 soybean production leading to lower crushing eventually decreasing the meal supplies.

Indian meal prices need to be highly competitive against the South American and China's meal prices to regain the markets it lost in previous seasons.

India's Y-o-Y soy meal prices, Indore, are currently higher compared to previous year. Soy meal Indore was quoted higher between Rs 31,000 – 32,500/MT during the week compared to Rs 23,200 – 23,500/MT during the corresponding period last year.

The soy meal prices are likely to notice range-bound movement with firm bias amid good demand in the domestic market.

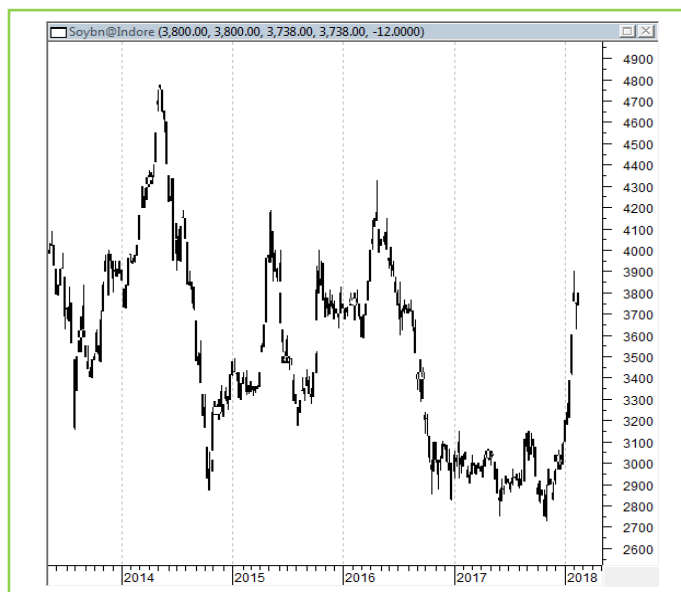
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Technical Analysis:

NCDEX Soybean Futures



Soybean Spot, Indore



*Note: Daily Chart

Support & Resistance NCDEX Soybean – Mar. contract

S1	S2	PCP	R1	R2
3700	3650	3831	3950	4000

- Soybean noticed range –bound to firm tone, during the week.
- Prices closed above 18-day EMA.
- RSI is increasing and stochastic is declining in the neutral zone.
- MACD is increasing in the positive territory.
- The prices are expected to feature gain in the coming week.
- Trade Recommendation (NCDEX Soybean – Mar.): **BUY** Above 3775. Levels: T1 – 3875; T2- 3925, SL - 3715.

Rapeseed - Mustard Seed

The domestic rapeseed-mustard noticed range –bound to firm tone amid good demand from the retailers and positive tone of edible oils in the global market. Rabi mustard seed acreage is lower this season compared to previous year.

According to industry sources, India's rapeseed and mustard output in 2017/18 is likely to decline by 10 per cent compared to previous season. According to Government of India figures, rapeseed and mustard seed has been sown in 66.88 lakh hectares as on 09 February 2018 compared to 70.60 lakh hectares during the same period previous year.

Farmers have reduced the area in Rajasthan amid higher temperatures and lack of moisture at the time of sowing. According to Solvent Extractor's Association of India, India produced a record 6.73 MMT rapeseed in the 2016/17 marketing year.

The all India seed supplies were reported between 1.00 – 1.25 lakh bags in a day compared to around 0.60 – 0.80 bags a day, previous week. The supplies were 0.30 -1.30 lakh bags a day during the corresponding period last year.

The seed prices are still lower at spot market and are quoted at around Rs 4,085 – 4,115 a quintal compared to Rs 4,000 – 4,160 a quintal during the corresponding period last year at the benchmark, Jaipur.

At NCDEX futures, the seed prices at April contract ended lower at 4108/Qtl compared to 4123/Qtl previous week.

The area coverage under rapeseed, as on 09 February, is reported down 5.27% at 66.88 lakh hectares compared to 70.60 lakh hectares at the same period last year.

Crop	As on 09 Feb. 2018	As on 09 Feb. 2018	% Chg.
Rapeseed/Mustard	66.88	70.60	-5.27
Groundnut	6.39	6.36	0.38
Safflower	0.81	1.05	-22.98
Sunflower	1.74	1.71	1.46
Sesamum	0.68	0.70	-3.43
Linseed	4.01	3.84	4.48
Total Oilseeds	80.87	84.85	-5.27

Source: Government of India

The total sown area under *rabi* oilseeds, as on 09 February, is lower compared to the previous year's level which is down by 5.27% at 80.87 lakh hectares compared to 84.85 lakh hectares during the corresponding period last year.

India's total area under rapeseed in 2017 was 70.56 lakh hectares which was higher by 9.3% from 2016.

The rapeseed-mustard prices are driven by India's edible oil imports, Chinese veg. oil demand and Malaysian palm oil. India's edible oil imports increased in November.

Previous Updates

Agriwatch had projected India's 2016/17 rapeseed production at 7.0 million tonnes with an average yield of about 1000 kg/ha compared to 5.8 million tonnes in 2015/16 while Solvent Extractors of India had estimated India's seed production at 7.2 million tonnes.

According to Solvent Extractors Association (SEA), India's January edible oil imports rose 23.22 percent y-o-y to 12.47 lakh tons from 10.12 lakh tons in January 2017. Palm oil imports in January rose 36.2 percent y-o-y to 8.35 lakh tons from 6.13 lakh tons in January 2017. CPO Imports rose 63.35 percent y-o-y to 6.73 lakh tons from 4.12 lakh tons in January 2017. RBD palmolein imports fell 40.2 percent y-o-y to 1.51 lakh tons from 1.97 lakh tons in January 2017. Soy oil imports rose 34.73 percent y-o-y to 2.25 lakh tons from 1.67 lakh tons in January 2017. Sunflower oil imports fell 20.47 percent y-o-y to 1.71 lakh tons from 2.15 lakh tons in January 2017. Rapeseed (canola) oil imports in January fell marginally to 0.17 lakh tons compared 0.18 lakh tons in January 2017.

According to Solvent Extractors Association (SEA), India's January edible oil stocks at ports and pipelines rose 0.9 percent m-o-m to 21.95 lakh tons from 21.76 lakh tons in December 2017. Stocks of edible oil at ports fell to 855,000 tons (CPO 355,000 tons, RBD Palmolein 130,000 tons, Degummed Soybean Oil 200,000 tons, Crude Sunflower Oil 160,000 tons and 10,000 tons of Rapeseed (Canola) Oil) and about 1,340,000 tons in pipelines (stocks at ports were 876,000 tons in December 2017). India is presently holding 36 days of edible oil requirement on 1st February, 2018 at 21.96 lakh tons compared to 36 days of requirements last month at 21.76 lakh tons. India's monthly edible oil requirement is 18.25 lakh tons.

According to United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in its February review, India's 2017/18 imports of palm oil is hiked 0.4 MMT to 10.6 MMT from 10.2 MMT in its earlier review. Consumption of palm oil in India in 2017/18 is increased to 10.6 MMT from 10.3 MMT in its earlier review. End stocks of palm oil in India in 2017/18 is increased 0.1 MMT to 0.590 MMT from 0.490 MMT.

According to United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in its February review, India's 2017/18 imports of soy oil is reduced 0.155 MMT to 3.645 MMT from 3.8 MMT in its earlier review. Consumption of soy oil in India in 2017/18 is reduced to 5.2 MMT from 5.4 MMT in its earlier review. End stocks of soy oil in India in 2017/18 are unchanged at 0.320 MMT.

According to cargo surveyor Intertek Testing Services (ITS), Malaysia's February 1-15 palm oil exports rose 10.1 percent to 608,447 tons compared to 552,635 tons in corresponding period last month. Top buyers are European Union at 189,657 tons (101,253 tons), India & subcontinent at 168,770 tons (112,260 tons) tons and China at 9,860 tons (89,650 tons). Values in brackets are figures of corresponding period last month.

According to cargo surveyor Societe Generale de Surveillance (SGS), Malaysia's February 1-15 palm oil exports rose 12.4 percent to 635,298 tons compared to 564,968 tons in corresponding period last month. Top buyers are European Union at 179,531 tons (91,215 tons), India at 142,330 tons (75,880 tons), United States at 41,950 tons (73,788 tons), China at 23,410 tons (39,050 tons) and Pakistan at 15,000 tons (33,500 tons). Values in brackets are figures of corresponding period last month.

According to Malaysia Palm Oil Board (MPOB), Malaysia's January palm oil stocks fell 6.75 percent to 25.48 lakh tons compared to 27.32 lakh tons in December. Production of palm oil in January fell 13.49 percent to 15.87 lakh tons compared to 18.34 lakh tons in December. Exports of palm oil in January rose 6.01 percent to 15.13

lakh tons compared to 14.27 lakh tons in December. Imports of palm oil in January rose 132 percent to 0.35 lakh tons compared to 0.14 lakh tons in December. Fall in palm oil end stocks in January was below trade estimates.

According to Malaysia Palm Oil Board (MPOB), Malaysia's 2018 production is estimated to grow 3 percent to 20.5 MMT from 19.9 MMT in 2017. Malaysia's 2018 exports are estimated to rise 5.1 percent to 17.4 MMT. MPOB estimates palm oil stocks to fall 15.8 percent to 2.3 MMT.

According to Malaysian government, Malaysia has removed export duty on crude palm oil for three months starting January 8 to support prices. If stocks fall below 1.6 MMT before three months then export duty may be imposed earlier than three months, according to Malaysia's minister of plantation industries. The step has been taken to reduce stocks of palm oil in the country.

According to Indonesia Palm Oil Association, Indonesia's 2017 crude palm oil production is estimated to rise 12.7 percent to 35.5 MMT compared to 31.1 MMT in 2016. Heavy rains in 2016 will support palm oil production and growth in plantation in 2013 will bear fruit in 2017.

According to Indonesia Palm Oil Association (GAPKI), Indonesia's October palm oil (excluding biodiesel and oleo chemicals) exports fell 5.6 percent to 2.6 MMT from 2.79 MMT in September and 2.41 MMT in October 2016.

End stocks of palm oil in Indonesia in October rose 16 percent to 3.38 MMT from 2.92 MMT in September 2017. Production of palm oil in Indonesia in October rose 3 percent to 4.16 MMT from 4.03 MMT in September 2017.

According to Indonesia trade ministry, Indonesia keeps January crude palm oil export duty to zero, unchanged from last month. This is the ninth consecutive month of zero tax. Reference prices of export tax are set at USD 750 per ton.

Indonesia is expected to produce 32-33 MMT of palm oil in 2017 compared to estimated production of 28.5-30 MMT in 2016, higher by 16 percent y-o-y. Production in 2015 was 33 MMT. Wet condition in 2016 in Indonesia is primary reason for higher production in 2017. Exports are expected to grow to 23-25 MMT in 2017 compared to 23 MMT estimated in 2016. Palm oil prices rose in 2016 due to lower stocks of palm on El Nino, crude oil prices and biodiesel mandates in Indonesia and Malaysia, said Indonesia Palm Oil Association (GAPKI).

According to the latest monthly estimates from Strategie Grains, rapeseed production estimates have been increased to 22.60 MMT in European Union for 2017/18 compared to previous estimates of 21.86 MMT and 20.34 MMT in 2016/17.

According to China's General Administration of Customs (CNGOIC), China's December palm oil imports fell 16.53 percent to 5.67 lakh tons compared to December 2016. Imports of palm oil in 2017 rose 13.42 percent to 50.79 lakh tons compared to 2016. Imports from Indonesia in December fell 23.03 percent to 3.65 lakh tons compared to December 2016. Imports of palm oil in 2017 from Indonesia rose 21.62 percent to 32.15 lakh tons compared 2016. Imports from Malaysia in December fell 1.62 percent to 2.02 lakh tons compared to December 2016. Imports of palm oil in 2017 from Malaysia rose 1.8 percent to 18.62 lakh tons compared to 2016.

Outlook: The rapeseed-mustard is likely to witness range –bound to firm tone amid good demand in the domestic market and lower rabi acreage this season.

Technical Analysis:

NCDEX RM Seed Futures



*Note: Daily Chart

RM Seed Spot, Jaipur



Support & Resistance NCDEX RM Seed – Apr. contract

S1	S2	PCP	R1	R2
3900	3850	4108	4250	4300

- Downward movement witnessed in RM seed.
- Prices closed above 18-day EMA.
- RSI is increasing and stochastic is increasing in the neutral zone.
- MACD is declining in the positive territory.
- The prices are expected to feature range-bound movement with firm bias, during the week.
- Trade Recommendation (NCDEX Rapeseed-Mustard – Apr) Week: **BUY** Above 4050. Levels: Target – 4150; T2- 4200, SL –3990.

Annexure

Oil Meal Prices at Key Spot Markets:

Soy DOC Rates at Different Centers

Centres	Ex-factory rates (Rs/ton)		
	16-Feb-18	9-Feb-18	Parity To
Indore (MP)	31200	31000	Gujarat, MP
Kota	32300	31500	Rajasthan, Del, Punjab, Haryana
Dhulia/Jalna	33500	32000	Mumbai, Maharashtra
Nagpur (42/46)	33500	31700	Chattisgarh, Orissa, Bihar, Bangladesh, AP, Kar, TN
Nanded	33400	32400	Andhra, AP, Kar, TN
Latur	35500	33000	-
Sangli	33900	33800	Local and South
Sholapur	33300	33000	Local and South
Akola	33200	31500	Andhra, Chattisgarh, Orissa, Jharkhand, WB
Hingoli	33200	32200	Andhra, Chattisgarh, Orissa, Jharkhand, WB
Bundi	33800	31000	-

Soy DOC at Port

Centers	Port Price	
	15-Feb-18	8-Feb-18
Kandla (FOR) (INR/MT)	34000	32500
Kandla (FAS) (USD/MT)	529	507

International Soy DOC

Argentina FOB USD/MT	15-Feb-18	8-Feb-18	Change
Soybean Pellets	NR	NR	-
Soybean Cake Flour	NR	NR	-
Soya Meal	NR	NR	-
Soy Expellers	NR	NR	-

Sunflower (DOC) Rates

Ex-factory rates (Rs/ton)

Centers	16-Feb-18	9-Feb-18	Change
Adoni	19000	18800	200
Khamgaon	NA	NA	-
Parli	NA	NA	-
Latur	18800	NA	-

Groundnut Meal (Rs/MT)	16-Feb-18	9-Feb-18	Change
Basis 45%, Saurashtra	25500	25500	Unch
Basis 40%, Saurashtra	23000	23000	Unch
GN Cake, Gondal	23000	23000	Unch

Mustard DOC/Meal	16-Feb-18	9-Feb-18	Change
Jaipur (Plant delivery)	14800	14600	200
Kandla (FOR Rs/MT)	15000	15000	Unch
Sri Ganganagar	1830	1825	5

India's Kharif Oilseeds Production Seen at 20.68 Mn T vs 22.40 Mn in 1st Adv Est. - GOI

The 1st Advance Estimates of production of major crops for 2017-18 have been released on 22 September, 2017 by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare. The assessment of production of different crops is based on the feedback received from States and validated with information available from other sources. As a result of floods and erratic rainfall during monsoon 2017, the country has witnessed lower food grain production in the current year compared to previous year.

The estimated production of major Kharif Oilseeds during 2017-18 is as under:

Oilseeds – 20.68 million tonnes

- Soyabean – 12.22 million tonnes
- Groundnut – 6.21 million tonnes
- Castorseed – 1.40 million tonnes

With a decline of 1.72 million tonnes over the previous year, total kharif Oilseeds production in the country is estimated at a level of 20.68 million tonnes. It is lower by 1.93 million tonnes than the all time record production of 22.61 million tonnes achieved during 2013-14.

The production of Oilseeds during 2017-18 is higher by 0.346 million tonnes than the five year's average Oilseeds production. The current year's production is lower than the kharif production of 22.40 million tonnes during 2016-17.

MSP for 2017/18 Kharif Oilseeds

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has given its approval for Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for Kharif Crops of 2017-18 season, the MSPs of all the Kharif oilseeds are raised for this season.

The MSP of Yellow Soybean is increased by 9.9% to Rs 3050/Qtl (including Rs 100 bonus) for 2017-18 season from Rs 2,775/Qtl in 2016-17, Groundnut -in- shell by 5.5% to Rs 4,450/Qtl (including Rs 100 bonus) from Rs 4,220/Qtl, Sunflower seed by 3.8% to Rs 4,100/Qtl (including Rs 200 bonus) from Rs 3,950/Qtl, Nigerseed by 5.9% to 4,050/Qtl (including Rs 100 bonus) from Rs 3,825/Qtl and Sesamum by 6.0% to Rs 5,300/Qtl (including Rs 200 bonus) from Rs 5,000/Qtl.

MSP for 2017/18 Rabi Oilseeds

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for Rabi Oilseeds Crops of 2017-18 season are as follows: The MSP of Rapeseed/Mustard is raised (8.1%) by Rs. 300/Qtl to Rs. 4,000/Qtl from Rs. 3,700/Qtl earlier. For Safflower too it is increased (10.8%) by Rs. 400/Qtl to Rs. 4,100/Qtl from Rs. 3,700/Qtl in 2016-17.

Sown Area – *Rabi* Oilseeds, India

In the official Rabi oilseeds planting report, by the Ministry of Agriculture, the total coverage area under Rabi oilseeds is reported at 84.35 lakh hectares, up 6.2% from 79.42 lakh ha in the corresponding period of last year. Of the major oilseeds, rapeseed-mustard sowing is reported up by 9.3% at 70.56 lha compared to 64.53 lha during the corresponding period of last year. Groundnut at 6.16 lha vs 5.96 lha, safflower at 0.95 lha vs 1.17 lha, sunflower at 1.69 lha vs 3.21 lha, sesamum 0.57 vs 0.71 and Linseed at 3.84 lha vs 2.93 lha during the corresponding period last year.

Area in Lakh Hectares			
Crop	2017	2016	% Change
Rapeseed/Mustard	70.56	64.53	9.3
Groundnut	6.16	5.96	3.4
Safflower	0.95	1.17	-18.8
Sunflower	1.69	3.21	-47.4
Sesamum	0.57	0.71	-19.7
Linseed	3.84	2.93	31.1
Others	0.58	0.91	-36.3
Total Oilseeds	84.35	79.42	6.2

Source: MoA, GOI

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