

Wheat Domestic Fundamentals:

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has advised wheat farmers to postpone their harvest to April 20 in the wake of the Covid-19 outbreak. The temperature in most wheat growing areas is still below long-term average and therefore, farmers can delay wheat harvesting till April 20 without incurring any significant loss. The official procurement of wheat begins in the northern states by first week of April. In view of the delayed procurement of wheat due to the ongoing lockdown, the state government has urged the Central Government's to provide incentive ranging from Rs 50 to Rs 125 per quintal to the farmers.

The distribution of free wheat grain under the PDS is of not much use to the consumers as they are unable to convert wheat into flour amid lock down. Flour mills are shut across the country amid lock down. To ensure enough food to the poor during the lockdown, the government last week started distributing free 5 kg of rice or wheat per person and 1 kg pulse per household under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY) to over 81 crore PDS beneficiaries. This is over and above the monthly quota of 5 kg grains per person being given at subsidised rate of Rs.2kg for wheat and Rs.3kg for rice.

As per the latest update, wheat markets remain closed following lock down in the country amid spread of Covid -19. An acute shortage of labour and transportation following country-wide lockdown to halt the spread of the coronavirus outbreak will result in delay in wheat crop harvesting. Most of the farmers will face shortage of manpower in the coming days as the migration of labourers from other states has come to a halt.

According to the second advance estimate released by the State of Punjab, wheat production is estimated to decline to 17.9 MMT in 2019-20 (Jul-Jun) compared with 18.3 MMT in the previous year.

As per market sources, wheat stock in central pool as on 1st March'20 stood at 275.21 lakh tonnes down by 9.37% compared to last month. This quantity is higher by around 36.86% compared to last year for the same month. Government has already applied import duty on wheat to curb imports and provide support to domestic prices. Therefore, government has abundant supplies this year to tackle any unexpected rise in wheat prices by selling more quantity in open market.

As per Uttarakhand government, Minimum Support Price (MSP) of Wheat has been hiked by Rs. 65 to Rs. 1,925 per quintal from 1,860 per quintal.

As per Govt. sources the second crop forecast of India is projected to produce a record 106.2 MMT of wheat crop in 2019-20 because of favourable weather conditions and improve crop yields. Wheat output is expected to go up by 2.5% in the crop year, which is expected to reach 291.9 MMT in 2019-20 from 285.2 MMT last year.

All India weekly average prices declined by 0.99 percent to Rs. 2009.51 per quintal during the week ended 31st March 2020. Wheat average price were ruling at Rs 2029.67 per quintal during 16-23 March 2020. As compared to prices in the week 24-31 March 2019, the prices are lower by 0.63 percent. Prices are expected to trade steady to weak amid lock down in the country. As per the latest update, wheat markets remain closed following lock down in the country amid spread of Covid -19. In Punjab, around 3% crop loss is expected in the wheat growing regions following recent rains and hailstorm.

International Market Update:

According to the planting intentions report released by the USDA, wheat acreage is expected to be lower this season. All wheat acreage is estimated at 44.7 million acres, 1% below last year's levels and the lowest since 1919. Winter wheat area, at 30.8 million acres is down from last year but even with pre-report expectations. Of that total, 21.7 ma will be planted to hard red winter, 5.69 to soft red winter, 3.42 ma to white winter. Spring wheat acreage is expected to decline 1% from last year to 12.6 million acres.

Ukraine's biggest grain traders have agreed to an economy ministry proposal to limit wheat exports to 20.2 MMT in the 2019-20 season to avoid a rise in domestic bread prices. Although Ukraine is a major grain exporter and its harvest largely exceeds domestic consumption, the coronavirus pandemic has led some countries to consider feed export restrictions.

According to USDA, beneficial rains helped HRW crop conditions across the Great Plains. Kansas wheat conditions increased week-over-week and 48% of the crop is now in good to excellent condition. In Colorado, HRW conditions increased 8% from last week and 54% of the crop is in good to excellent condition. Crop conditions in Oklahoma improved 10% from last week and 77% of the state's winter wheat is in good to excellent condition. In Texas, winter wheat conditions are up 13% on the week and 49% of the crop is in good to excellent condition.

On March 27, Russia's Agriculture Ministry said it proposed establishing a quota for Russian grain exports at 7.0 MMT for April through June deliveries. The ministry said the quota would cover main grain types including wheat, rye, barley and corn and would work to ensure price stability in the domestic food market.

Wheat Futures Contact: NCDEX Price							Date: 01.04.2020 at 5:00 PM		
Contract Month	+/-	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume	Ch. From previous day	OI	Ch. From previous day
20-Apr	0	1855	1855	1855	1855			10	0
20-May	0	1855	1855	1855	1855				
20-June	0	1855	1855	1855	1855				

Spread	Apr-20	May-20	June-20
Spot Narella	NA		
20-Apr	-		
20-May		-	
20-June			-

Stocks	Demat	In-Process	Total	EDD
	31.Mar.20	31.Mar.20	31.Mar.20	30.Mar.20
Delhi	-	-	-	-
Itarsi	-	-	-	-
Kanpur	-	-	-	-
Kota	-	-	-	-
Baran	-	-	-	-

Wheat Daily Prices and Arrivals on 01.04.2020

Centre	Market	Variety	Prices (Rs/Qtl)		Change
			01-Apr-20	31-Mar-20	
Delhi	Lawrence Road	Mill Delivery	Closed	Closed	-
	Narella	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
	Nazafgarh	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
Gujarat	Rajkot	Mill Delivery	Closed	Closed	-
	Ahmedabad	Mill Delivery	Closed	Closed	-
	Surat	Mill Delivery	Closed	Closed	-
	Dhrol	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
M.P.	Indore	Mill Delivery	Closed	Closed	-
	Bhopal	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
Rajasthan	Kota	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
		Mill Delivery	Closed	Closed	-
U.P.	Kanpur	Mill Delivery	Closed	Closed	-
	Mathura	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
	Kosi	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
	Hathras	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-

	Aligarh	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
Punjab	Khanna	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
	Ludhiana (Jagraon)	Mill Delivery	NA	NA	-
Haryana	Sirsa	Mill Delivery loose	Closed	Closed	-
	Hodal	Mill Delivery	Closed	Closed	-
	Bhiwani	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
	Karnal	Mill Delivery	NA	NA	-
	Panipat	Mill Quality Loose	NA	NA	-
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	Mill Quality	Closed	Closed	-
	Madurai	Mill Quality	Closed	Closed	-
	Coimbatore	Mill Quality	Closed	Closed	-
Bihar	Khagariya	Mill Delivery	Closed	Closed	-
	Muzaffarpur	Mill Delivery	Closed	Closed	-
FOR	Kandla (Rajasthan-Rajkot)	Mill Quality	Closed	Closed	-
	Gandhidham (Rajasthan-Rajkot)	Mill Quality	Closed	Closed	-

Centre	Market	Variety	Prices (Rs/Qtl)		Change
			01-Apr-20	31-Mar-20	
Gujarat	Rajkot	Lokwan	Closed	Closed	-
M.P.	Indore	Lokwan	Closed	Closed	-
	Bhopal	Lokwan	Closed	Closed	-
	Bina	Sarbati 306	Closed	Closed	-
Rajasthan	Kota	Lokwan Bilty	Closed	Closed	-
	Baran	Lokwan	Closed	Closed	-

Wheat Arrivals in Key Centers:

Centre	Market	Variety	Arrivals (Bags/Qtl)		Change
			01-Apr-20	31-Mar-20	
Delhi	Lawrence Road	Mill Delivery	Closed	Closed	-
	Narella	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
	Nazafgarh	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
Gujarat	Rajkot	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
	Dhrol	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-

M.P.	Indore	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
Rajasthan	Kota	Mill Quality	Closed	Closed	-
U.P.	Kanpur	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
	Mathura	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
	Kosi	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
	Hathras	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
	Aligarh	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
Punjab	Khanna	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
	(Ludhiana).Jagraon	Mill Quality Loose	NA	NA	-
Haryana	Sirsa	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
	Hodal	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
	Bhiwani	Mill Quality Loose	Closed	Closed	-
	Karnal	Mill Delivery	NA	NA	-
	Panipat	Mill Quality Loose	NA	NA	-

Wheat (CBOT) Future Price: 31.03.2020

Contract Month	Open	High	Low	Close	Change
20-May	569.75	575.25	564.25	568.75	-0.75
20-Jul	558.75	567.75	553.50	562.50	4.25
20-Sep	559.00	570.00	554.75	565.25	6.25
20-Dec	566.25	577.50	562.75	572.75	6.00
21-Mar	572.50	582.75	569.00	578.75	6.75
21-May	569.25	580.50	568.75	577.00	5.50

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