

Hybrid Sorghum Prices to be Stable

Jowar (Sorghum) is the fifth most important cereal crop after wheat, rice, maize and barley. The origin of sorghum is generally believed to be around the present day Ethiopia or East Central Africa. Sorghum was taken from East Africa to India during the first millennium.

Major production share is contributed by the African countries, followed by USA accounting up to 17% of the world's total production. World trade in sorghum is dominated by the largest producer of the crop in the world i.e. U.S.A as most of the production in the country accounts for exports.

Cultivation of sorghum is mainly concentrated in peninsular and central India. Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh (the Bundelkhand region) and Tamil Nadu are the major Sorghum growing states. Other States grow sorghum in small areas primarily for fodder.

At present Maharashtra is the largest producer of Sorghum in India. Sowing of sorghum starts in the month of June and continues up to first week of July and harvesting will be done in the month of October. Arrivals start in October.

The major trading centres of Sorghum in Maharashtra are Khamgaon, Latur, Jalamb, Akkalkot, Mohol, Barsi, Pandharpur, Kurduwadi, Mumbai and Kolhapur.

The NAIP, Agricultural Market Intelligence Cell (AMIC) functioning in the Department of Agricultural Economics & Statistics, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola analyzed last 22 years Hy. Sorghum prices i.e. from January 1991 – May 2013 that prevailed in Khamgaon market. The results of Econometric analysis revealed that under normal weather condition depending on quality the farm gate prices of Hy. Sorghum during October 2013 will rule between **Rs. 1150 to Rs. 1300** per quintal, if current market sentiments continue. This information will be useful to the farmers for taking appropriate sowing and input utilization decisions.

Cotton prices to rule between Rs.4000 to Rs 4400 per quintal during October 2013.

Cotton is one of the most important commercial crop popularly known as "*White gold*", playing a key role in the economic development of the country. India ranks first in the world for the total area planted under cotton and second in cotton production next to China. Maharashtra, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Karnataka are the major cotton producing states in India. In Maharashtra, sowing of rain fed cotton will be done with arrivals of south-west monsoon while the irrigated cotton is sown from 20th May to 30th May and harvesting starts from the month of October and it is done up to January-February in different pickings. The major markets for cotton in Maharashtra are Nagpur, Narkhed, Nanded, Yavatmal, Hinganghat, Wardha, Pulgaon, Akola, Amaravati, Murtizapur, Aurangabad, Dhule and Jalgaon. In Maharashtra, the major purchaser of cotton is the several Government agencies like Cotton Corporation of India and Maharashtra State Co-operative Cotton Grower's Marketing Federation which purchase cotton at predetermined prices.

To facilitate the farmers to take up sowing decisions, the NAIP Agricultural Market Intelligence Cell functioning in the Department of Agricultural Economics and Statistics, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, forecasted the prices of cotton. The forecasting of Cotton prices was worked out by collecting information on monthly prices of Cotton for a period of 10 years i.e. from December 2002 to April 2013 from Akot APMC market, which is one of the largest arrival centre in Akola district. The results of the Econometric analysis and traders opinion revealed that under normal weather conditions and current market trend, depending on quality the average farm gate prices of cotton during **October-2013** will rule between **Rs.4000 to Rs. 4400** per quintal. The Government purchase and export policy will also affect the prices of cotton. This information will be useful for the farmers for taking appropriate sowing and input utilization decisions.

Kharif Black gram prices to rule between Rs. 3200 to Rs. 3400 per quintal at the time of harvest

India is the largest producer of black gram followed by Myanmar and Thailand. The incapability of Indian production to satisfy its domestic demand makes it the largest importer of this pulse as well. Major importing countries of black gram are India, China, Pakistan and Japan. The major black gram exporting countries are Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Sri Lanka and Pakistan. India imports nearly 85% of black gram requirements from Myanmar followed by Singapore and Thailand.

The major states producing black gram are Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Among the States, Andhra Pradesh ranks first in case of area followed by Odissa and Tamil Nadu. In case of production Uttar Pradesh ranks first in India, which produces 19% of total black gram production followed by Andhra Pradesh (18%), Chattisgarh (16%) and Maharashtra (9%).

The major trading centers of black gram in Maharashtra are Akola and Latur. In Vidarbha, sowing of black gram starts from 7th June to 21st June and harvesting is done in the last week of August (15th August to 30th August). Arrival starts in the markets from 15th September and last for four months.

The NAIP Agricultural Market Intelligence Cell functioning in the Department of Agricultural Economics & Statistics, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola analyzed the black gram prices that prevailed in Latur market for the last 15 years i.e., from January 1998 to May 2013 and for a period of 18 years i.e., from January 1995 to May 2013 for Akola market. The results of Econometric analysis revealed that under the normal weather conditions and if current market sentiments continue, depending on quality the farm get prices of black gram during the month of September 2013 will rule in the range of **Rs. 3200 to Rs. 3400** per quintal. This information will be useful for the farmers for taking appropriate sowing and input utilization decisions.

Prices of kharif Red gram may rule around Rs. 4200 per quintal during Harvest

Red gram is grown throughout the tropical and subtropical countries especially in south Asia, eastern and southern Africa, Latin America, Central America and South America. The major countries producing red gram are India, Myanmar, Malawi, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Nepal, Dominican Republic, Congo, Bangladesh, Haiti, Panama etc. The major exporters of red gram are Myanmar, Dominican Republic and Malawi whereas India, Trinidad, Venezuela, Nepal and Mauritius are the major importers. Red Gram occupies 6.5 per cent of the world's total pulses area and contributes 5.7 per cent to the total pulses production. India is the largest producer of red gram which produces about 64 per cent of total world production followed by Myanmar (22 per cent) and Malawi (6 per cent).

Like other pulses, red gram is grown under rain fed condition and about 96 per cent of red gram area is unirrigated. Maharashtra ranks first in area and production of red gram in the country. The major trading centers of red gram in Maharashtra are Jalgaon, Latur, Aurangabad, Mumbai, Akola, Barchi, Nagpur.

The NAIP Agricultural Market Intelligence Cell functioning in the Department of Agricultural Economics & Statistics, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola analyzed the red gram prices that prevailed in Latur and Akola markets for the last 13 years i.e. from January 2000 to May 2013. The results of Econometric analysis revealed that under normal weather condition depending on quality the farm gate prices of red gram during December-January 2014 i.e. during harvest period will rule around **Rs. 4200** per quintal if, current market sentiments continue. This information will be useful for the farmers for taking appropriate sowing and input utilization decisions.

Soybean to fetch around Rs.3400 per quintal at the time of harvest

Soybean (*Glycine max*) a species of legume, popularly known as the “GOLDEN BEAN” OR “MIRACLE BEAN” of the 21st century is native of East Asia i.e. China. The plant is classified as an oilseed rather than a pulse. Soybean is an important source of high quality but inexpensive protein and oil. It has an average protein content of 40% and oil content of 18% - 20%.

The US is the major producer of soybean and ranks first in production. India ranks 5th in the list of major soybean producing countries of the world with about 3-4 per cent of the global production. Among the major producing states, Madhya-Pradesh ranks first in terms of area, production and productivity followed by Maharashtra and Rajasthan. Indore, Sagar and Itarsi in Madhya Pradesh, Akola, Washim, Latur and Nagpur in Maharashtra and Kota in Rajasthan are important markets for soybean trading in India.

It is a kharif crop in Maharashtra and its harvesting period is from 1st October to 15th October and markets start receiving arrivals in October. The NAIP, Agricultural Market Intelligence Cell (AMIC) functioning in the Department of Agricultural Economics & Statistics, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola analyzed last 19 years Soybean prices i.e. from January 1994 – May 2013 and for the period of 10 years i.e from July 2003 to May 2013 that prevailed in Washim and Akola markets. Similarly for Latur market January 2001 to May 2013. The results of Econometric analysis revealed that under normal weather condition depending on quality the farm gate prices of soybean in the month of October will rule around Rs 3400 per quintal, if current market sentiments continue. This information will be useful for the farmers for taking appropriate sowing and input utilization decisions.

The prices of soybean may go up if taxes are levied on import of edible oil and increase in the prices of crude oil. The export of Soya meal will also affect the prices of Soybean.

Kharif Green Gram to Fetch Rs. 4500-4800

Green gram is mainly cultivated in India, China, Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia, Burma, and Bangladesh and also in hot and dry regions of southern Europe and the southern USA.

It is grown in India in two seasons viz., *kharif* and summer. However, peak market arrivals are from September to October (*kharif*) and June to July (summer). Green gram is mostly grown as a *kharif* crop in Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, but in Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, it is grown as a summer crop.

The *kharif* crop is grown both as pure and as an intercrop. Since it is largely grown as a rainfed crop, the sowing time usually depends on the onset of the monsoon in the different regions. Normally sowing is done from mid-June to second week of July. Maharashtra is one of the largest green gram producing States in India.

The major trading centres of green gram in Maharashtra are Akola, Latur, Amaravati and Jalgaon. In Vidarbha, sowing of green gram starts from first week of June and harvesting will be done in the month of August. Arrivals start in the markets in the month of September.

The NAIP Agricultural Market Intelligence Cell functioning in the Department of Agricultural Economics & Statistics, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola analyzed the green gram prices that prevailed in Akola market for the last 12 years i.e. from January 2001 to May 2013. The results of Econometric analysis revealed that under the normal weather conditions and if current market sentiments continue, depending on quality the farm level prices of green gram during the month of September 2013 will rule from Rs. 4500-4800 per quintal. This information will be useful for the farmers for taking appropriate sowing and input utilization decisions.

Kharif Maize to Fetch Rs 1200/quintal

Maize is one of the most important cereals of the world. The demand for maize has risen rather steeply during the past five years. Rising incomes in India and the consequent growth in meat and poultry consumption have resulted in rapid increase in the demand for maize as feed. Out of the total arrivals in the mandis, nearly 75 per cent of the produce is bought by the poultry feed manufacturers and 20 per cent by the starch extractors, and the rest by alcoholic and beverages manufacturing industry.

The US is the leading producer of maize with 40 per cent of the global production. China, the second largest producer is now importing large quantities of maize (6 million tonnes in 2011). The US is the largest exporter of maize.

India stands at 5th position with 3 per cent of production and it contributing about 2 per cent of global trade. Andhra Pradesh is the leading maize producing state in India contributing about 21 per cent of total production, followed by Karnataka (16%), Rajasthan (10%), Bihar and Maharashtra (9% each) and Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh (6% each).

The major trading centers of maize in Maharashtra are Sangali, Dhule , Jalna, Satara, Nandurbar, Pandharpur, Chalisgaon, Malegaon, Chikhali, Latur, Akluj, Dondaicha, Aurangabad and Nashik. The harvesting period of kharif maize is from 1st October to 15th October and markets start receiving arrivals in 2nd fortnight of October.

The NAIP, Agricultural Market Intelligence Cell (AMIC) functioning in the Department of Agricultural Economics & Statistics, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola analyzed last 12 years maize prices i.e. from January 2001 – May 2013 that prevailed in Dhule market. The results of Econometric analysis revealed that under normal weather condition depending on quality, the farm gate price of Maize during the month of October 2013 will rule around Rs 1200/- per quintal, if current market sentiments continue. The forecast could be affected by changes in export policy besides the breakout of poultry diseases. This information will be useful for the farmers for taking appropriate sowing and input utilization decisions.