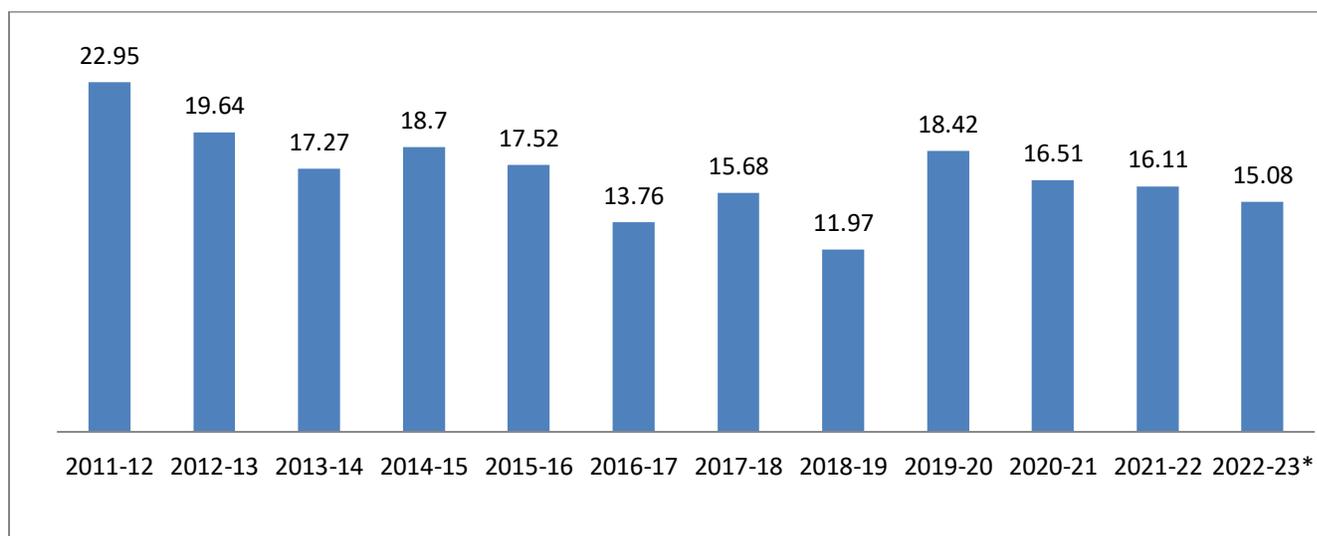


Castor Outlook – February 2023

Castor is one of the oldest cultivated crops; however, it contributes to only 0.15% of the vegetable oil produced in the world. The oil produced from this crop is considered to be of importance to the global specialty chemical industry because it is the only commercial source of a hydroxylate fatty acid. Castor plant is grown in arid and semi-arid regions. In 2020-21, World major producing countries are India (16.51 lakh tonnes), Mozambique (0.72 lakh tonnes), China (0.17 lakh tonnes), Thailand (0.12 lakh tonnes) and Myanmar (0.12 lakh tonnes).



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES). * 1st Advance estimates

Figure 1: Production of Castor in India (in lakh tonnes)

Area under castor reported during 2022-23 was 8.917 lakh ha (22.030 lakh acres) as against 7.547 lakh ha (18.65 lakh acres) during the same period in 2020-21. Among states, Gujarat is leading with 6.992 lakh ha (17.10 lakh acres) under castor followed by Rajasthan 1.491 lakh ha (3.684 lakh acres), Andhra Pradesh 0.351 lakh ha (0.870 lakh acres), Odisha 0.042 lakh ha (0.100 lakh acres) and Telangana 0.019 lakh ha (0.048 lakh acres). According to Government 1st advance estimates, all India castor production in 2022-23 is at 15.08 lakh tonnes.

Table 1: State wise area under castor in India

State	2021-22			2022-23		
	Area (lakh ha)	Area (lakh acres)	% to total area	Area (lakh ha)	Area (lakh acres)	% to total area
Gujarat	6.133	15.150	81.26	6.922	17.10	77.63
Rajasthan	1.027	2.540	13.61	1.491	3.684	16.72
Andhra Pradesh	0.179	0.440	2.37	0.351	0.870	3.94
Odisha	0.05	0.120	0.66	0.042	0.100	0.47
Karnataka	0.064	0.160	0.85	0.034	0.080	0.38
Telangana	0.021	0.054	0.49	0.02	0.048	0.22
Others	0.057	0.140	0.76	0.057	0.140	0.64
All India	7.547	18.650	100.00	8.917	22.030	100.00

Source: www.agricoop.nic.in

Table 2: Castor Domestic Supply & Demand (in lakh tonnes)

	2020-21	2021-22
Opening Stocks	6.22	7.73
Production	16.51	16.11
Imports	0.00	0.00
Total Supply	22.73	23.84
Exports	0.00	0.00
Consumption	15.00	15.50
Total Demand	15.00	15.50
Ending Stocks	7.73	8.34

Source: www.agriwatch.com

In Telangana state, Gadwal 498 ha (1230 acres), Narayanpet 515 ha (1273 acres), Mahabubnagar 405 ha (1000 acres), Wanaparthy 355 ha (878 acres) and Nagarkurnool 74 ha (184 acres) are major castor growing districts. According to Telangana State Government 1st advance estimates, castor production in 2022-23 is at 0.01 lakh tonnes from 0.02 lakh ha (0.05 lakh acres) with productivity of 778 Kg/ha (314 Kg/acre).

Table 3: District wise area under castor in Telangana

District	2021-22			2022-23		
	Area (ha)	Area (acres)	% to total area	Area (ha)	Area (acres)	% to total area
Narayanpet	607	1499	27.74	515	1273	26.25
Gadwal	405	1000	18.51	498	1230	25.36
Mahabubnagar	495	1223	22.64	405	1000	20.62
Wanaparthy	432	1068	19.77	355	878	18.10
Nagarkurnool	80	198	3.66	74	184	3.79
Siddipet	41	101	1.87	32	80	1.65
Others	127	314	5.81	83	205	4.23
Telangana State	2187	5403	100.00	1963	4850	100.00

Source: www.agri.telangana.gov.in**Table 4: State wise wholesale prices of Castor during January 2023**

State	Prices January, 2023	Prices December, 2022	Prices January, 2022	% Change (Over Previous Month)	% Change (Over Previous Year)
Andhra Pradesh	6001.14	6302.05	5629.27	-4.77	6.61
Gujarat	7001.9	7169.14	6143.63	-2.33	13.97
Karnataka	6502.67	5872.19	5151.18	10.74	26.24
Madhya Pradesh	6747.72	6397.36		5.48	—
Maharashtra	5625	6000	5318.75	-6.25	5.76
Rajasthan	6909.39	6860.73	5642.86	0.71	22.44
Tamil Nadu	7061.94	6930	5376.92	1.9	31.34
Telangana	6069.45	6243.57	5280.47	-2.79	14.94
Uttar Pradesh		5000		—	—
Average	6489.9	6308.34	5506.15		

Source: www.agmarknet.com

Last year between April to December the castor oil export was 5.20 lakh tonnes, which during the current year in the same period decreased to 4.43 lakh tonnes. Last year between April to November the castor seed meal export was 2.82 lakh tonnes, which during the current year in the same period decreased to 2.83 lakh tonnes.

Table 5: Prices and arrivals of Castor in Gadwal market during January 2023

Date	Arrival (Quintal)	Maximum price (Rs/quintal)	Minimum price (Rs/quintal)	Modal price (Rs/quintal)
2	57	6,326	5,920	6,326
3	47	6,359	5,036	5,037
4	18	6,309	5,736	6,139
5	38	6,390	6,157	6,360
6	19	6,360	6,181	6,266
7	35	6,360	5,936	6,359
9	36	6,340	4,537	6,340
10	12	6,342	4,512	6,236
11	11	6,307	6,106	6,219
12	29	6,320	5,561	6,252
13	6	6,350	5,837	5,837
17	38	6,340	3,510	6,270
18	34	6,360	4,570	6,320
19	10	6,350	6,350	6,350
20	5	6,360	6,281	6,282
23	35	6,360	5,700	6,210
24	13	6,302	6,020	6,302
25	15	6,276	5,720	5,760
27	1	5,802	5,802	5,802
30	55	6,420	6,120	6,370
31	28	6,409	6,159	6,379

Source: <http://tsmarketing.in>

Under these circumstances, Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre, PJTSAU expects that Castor may trade in price range between Rs. 6000 - 6300 per quintal in the month of February 2023.