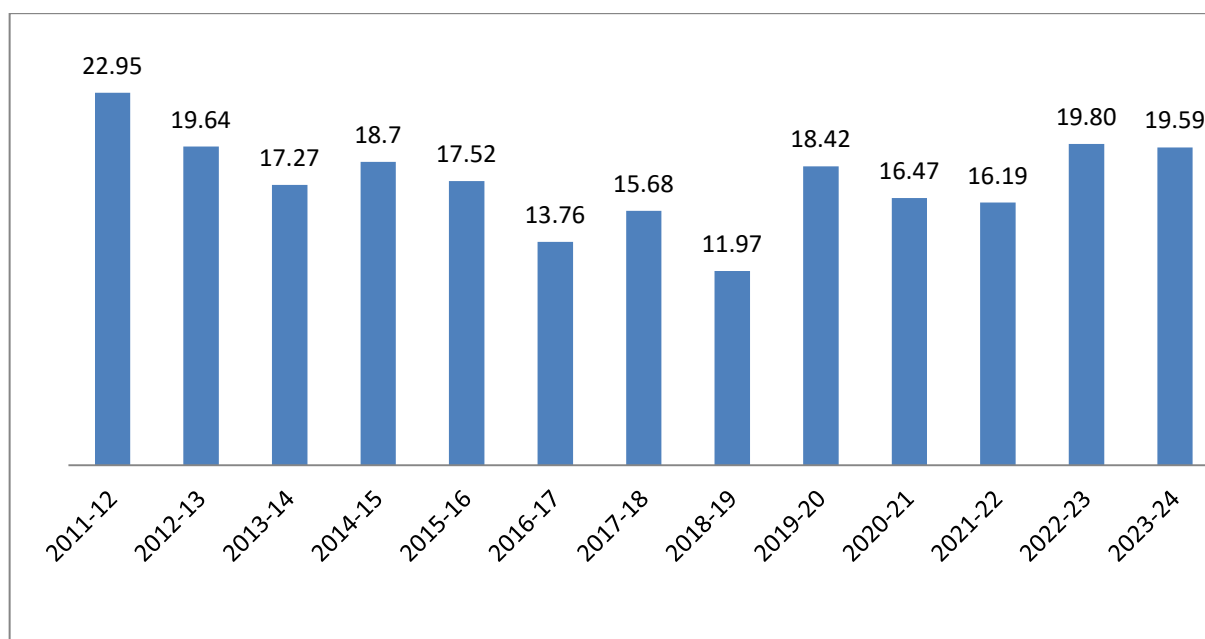


Castor Outlook – October 2024

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. World major producing countries are India (16.19 lakh tonnes), Mozambique (0.73 lakh tonnes), Brazil (0.25 lakh tonnes), China (0.24 lakh tonnes), Thailand (0.12 lakh tonnes) and Myanmar (0.12 lakh tonnes).



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES).

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

Area under castor reported during 2024-25 was 8.199 lakh ha (20.260 lakh acres) as against 9.500 lakh ha (23.475 lakh acres) during the same period in 2023-24. Among states, Gujarat is leading with 5.991 lakh ha (14.804 lakh acres) under castor followed by Rajasthan 1.700 lakh ha (4.201 lakh acres), Andhra Pradesh 0.356 lakh ha (0.880 lakh acres), Karnataka 0.039 lakh ha (0.096 lakh acres) and Odisha 0.039 lakh ha (0.096 lakh acres).

All India castor production in 2023-24 is at 19.59 lakh tonnes. In India, major castor producing states are Gujarat (15.95 lakh tonnes), Rajasthan (3.25 lakh tonnes), Andhra Pradesh (0.25 lakh tonnes), Odisha (0.04 lakh tonnes), Tamil Nadu (0.02 lakh tonnes) and Telangana (0.02 lakh tonnes).

Table 1: State wise area under castor in India

| State | 2023-24 | | | 2024-25 | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| | Area (lakh ha) | Area (lakh acres) | % to total area | Area (lakh ha) | Area (lakh acres) | % to total area |
| Gujarat | 7.150 | 17.668 | 75.26 | 5.991 | 14.804 | 73.07 |
| Rajasthan | 1.800 | 4.448 | 18.95 | 1.700 | 4.201 | 20.73 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 0.402 | 0.993 | 4.23 | 0.356 | 0.880 | 4.34 |
| Odisha | 0.040 | 0.099 | 0.42 | 0.039 | 0.096 | 0.48 |
| Karnataka | 0.022 | 0.054 | 0.23 | 0.039 | 0.096 | 0.48 |
| Others | 0.108 | 0.267 | 1.14 | 0.113 | 0.279 | 1.38 |
| All India | 9.500 | 23.475 | 100.00 | 8.199 | 20.260 | 100.00 |

Source: Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture, New Delhi

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

| | 2022-23 | 2023-24 |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|
| Opening Stocks | 7.34 | 10.64 |
| Production | 19.80 | 19.59 |
| Imports | 0 | 0.00 |
| Total Supply | 27.14 | 30.23 |
| Exports | 0 | 0.00 |
| Consumption | 16.50 | 17.50 |
| Total Demand | 16.50 | 17.50 |
| Ending Stocks | 10.64 | 12.73 |

Source: www.agriwatch.com

Table 3: District wise area under castor in Telangana

| District | 2023-24 | | | 2024-25 | | |
|------------------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
| | Area (ha) | Area (acres) | % to total area | Area (ha) | Area (acres) | % to total area |
| Gadwal | 195 | 481 | 18.76 | 422 | 1043 | 36.24 |
| Narayanpet | 386 | 954 | 37.21 | 198 | 489 | 16.99 |
| Wanaparthy | 151 | 373 | 14.55 | 154 | 381 | 13.24 |
| Mahabubnagar | 222 | 548 | 21.37 | 136 | 335 | 11.64 |
| Nagarkurnool | 26 | 64 | 2.50 | 85 | 209 | 7.26 |
| Others | 58 | 144 | 5.62 | 170 | 421 | 14.63 |
| Telangana State | 1038 | 2564 | 100.00 | 1165 | 2878 | 100.00 |

Source: Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Telangana

In Telangana state, Gadwal 422 ha (1043 acres), Narayanpet 198 ha (489 acres), Wanaparthy 154 ha (381 acres), Mahabubnagar 136 ha (335 acres) and Nagarkurnool 85 ha (209 acres) are major castor growing districts. According to Telangana State Government castor production in 2023-24 is at 0.02 lakh tonnes from 0.03 lakh ha (0.05 lakh acres) with productivity of 785 Kg/ha (318 Kg/acre).

Table 4: State wise wholesale prices of Castor during September, 2024

| State | Prices September, 2024 | Prices August, 2024 | Prices September, 2023 | % Change (Over Previous Month) | % Change (Over Previous Year) |
|----------------|------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Andhra Pradesh | 5674 | 5700 | 5605 | -0.46 | 1.23 |
| Gujarat | 6089 | 5974 | 6105 | 1.93 | -0.26 |
| Karnataka | 6140 | 5299 | 5764 | 15.87 | 6.52 |
| Madhya Pradesh | | | 5400 | — | — |
| Maharashtra | 4926 | 5228 | 5383 | -5.78 | -8.49 |
| Rajasthan | 5851 | 5711 | 5675 | 2.45 | 3.1 |
| Tamil Nadu | | | 5015 | — | — |
| Telangana | 5778 | 5845 | 5695 | -1.15 | 1.46 |
| Average | 5743 | 5626.17 | 5580.25 | | |

Source: www.agmarknet.com

Table 5: Prices and arrivals of Castor in Gadwal market during September, 2024

| Date | Arrival (Quintal) | Maximum price (Rs/quintal) | Minimum price (Rs/quintal) | Modal price (Rs/quintal) |
|-------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 14 | 19 | 5,530 | 5,369 | 5,480 |
| 17 | 76 | 5,629 | 5,459 | 5,609 |
| 19 | 110 | 5,749 | 5,459 | 5,689 |
| 20 | 84 | 5,781 | 4,709 | 5,760 |
| 21 | 94 | 5,819 | 5,819 | 5,819 |
| 23 | 130 | 5,869 | 5,381 | 5,869 |
| 24 | 79 | 5,881 | 5,436 | 5,871 |
| 25 | 98 | 5,780 | 5,430 | 5,730 |
| 30 | 365 | 6,056 | 4,000 | 6,046 |

Source: Department of Agricultural Marketing, Govt. of Telangana

Last year between April to August the castor meal export was 1.46 lakh tonnes, which during the current year, 2024-25 in the same period decreased to 1.16 lakh tonnes. Last year between April to July castor oil export was 2.19 lakh tonnes, which during the current year, 2024-25 in the same period increased to 2.67 lakh tonnes. Mostly strong sentiment was observed in the markets during last month.

Under these circumstances, Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre, PJTAU expects that Castor is likely to trade in price range between Rs. 5600 - 5800 per quintal in the month of October 2024.