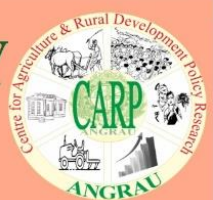




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Crop Outlook Reports of Andhra Pradesh

MAIZE - 2025-26



Compiled and Edited

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In Nutshell.....

- ☞ Maize the “Queen of Cereals” is cultivated in more than 170 countries across the globe in 205 million ha (Mha) with 1,240 million tons (Mt) of production.
- ☞ China has maximum area with 45 Mha followed by the United States of America (USA) with 37 Mha, whereas, USA is the top producer (432 Mt) with 35 per cent stake.
- ☞ Turkey has highest Yield of 13 tons per hectare (t/ha) followed by USA (11 t/ha). While, India stands at 45th position (4 t/ha).
- ☞ Maize is the third most important cereal crop in India after rice and wheat, accounts for 14.5 per cent in total food grain production.
- ☞ The major Maize-growing states are Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Uttar Pradesh. Though, Andhra Pradesh ranked 8th in area (0.73 Mha); with highest yields (7.44 t/ha) it stood at 5th position in production (5.48 Mt).
- ☞ During 2025-26, India exported 1.27 Mt valued at ₹ 3,358 crores. Major destinations were Bangladesh (0.36 Mt), Vietnam (0.34 Mt) and Nepal (0.33 Mt).
- ☞ The end-use patterns; poultry/animal feed 54 per cent followed by ethanol (25%) and starch (14%). About seven per cent was utilized for food and food processing.
- ☞ In Andhra Pradesh, Nandyal district records the highest area with 129 thousand hectares (Tha) and production with 584 thousand tons (Tt), but low in yield (4.52 t/ha). Higher yield was noticed in Guntur and Bapatla, whereas, Sri Sathya Sai and Prakasam districts having lower yields.
- ☞ Categorization of districts based on cross tabulation of growth and instability of area shows that 77 per cent area is under ‘risky expansion zone’ followed by vulnerability zone (22%).
- ☞ Maize is more profitable in Rabi season (BCR=1.68) than kharif (BCR=1.17). Total Cost (₹/ha) in kharif was ₹1,05,242; the gross returns were ₹1,23,156. For rabi season, Total Cost was ₹ 92,758; the gross returns were ₹1,55,952.
- ☞ Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre (AMIC), ANGRAU forecasts the price (₹/q) range of 1,610 – 2,160 for kharif’ 2026 marketing season.

Global Scenario:

Maize (*Zea mays* L.) is one of the world's most important cereal crops, cultivated in more than 170 countries across a wide range of agro-climatic conditions. Owing to its exceptional yield potential, it is widely recognised as the "Queen of Cereals". Besides serving as a staple food and animal feed, widely used as starch, ethanol, poultry feed, pharmaceutical and other industrial sectors, making it one of the most versatile crops in the world. China ranks first in cultivated area with 45 Mha, whereas, the USA is the leading producer with 432 Mt (Table 1). India ranks 4th in area (14 Mha) and 6th in production (55 Mt). However, in yields 45th position (3.82 t/ha), indicating significant scope for improving yield through technological and management interventions

Table 1. Global statistics of area, production and yield of Maize (Corn) for the 2025-26

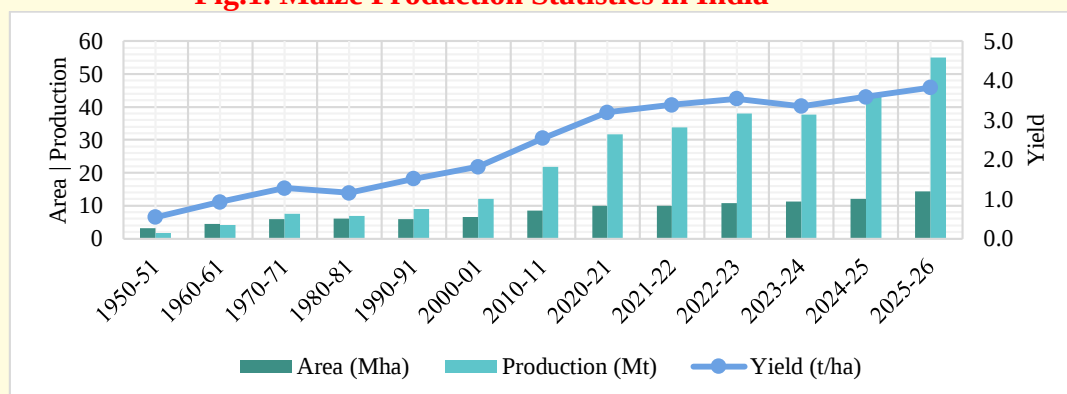
Area			Production			Yield		
Country	Mha	Rank	Country	Mt	Rank	Country	(t/ha)	Rank
China	45	1	USA	432	1	Turkey	12.95	1
USA	37	2	China	301	2	New Zealand	11.94	2
Brazil	23	3	Brazil	138	3	USA	11.70	3
India	14	4	Argentina	61	4	Jordan	11.00	4
Argentina	8	5	EU	56	5	Canada	10.18	5
			India	55	6	India	3.82	45

Source: USDA estimates

National Scenario:

In India, during 1950–51 to 2025–26, production increased from 1.73 Mt to 55 Mt, yield increased from 0.55 t/ha to 3.82 t/ha, while, cultivated area increased from 3.16 Mha to 14.40 Mha (Fig.1). Growth in production was led by yield's growth (61%) than area's growth (39%).

Fig.1. Maize Production Statistics in India



Source: MoA&FW, GOI

In India during 2025–26, area was 14.40 Mha, production was 55 Mt with an average yield of 3.82 t/ha (Table 2). Madhya Pradesh has the major share in the state in both area (2.90 Mha with 20.13 % share) and production (10.04 Mt with 18.24% share), followed by Maharashtra (2.21 Mha) and Karnataka (1.95 Mha). Andhra Pradesh is a significant contributor, with 5.48 Mt of production (9.96 % stake at national level); though cultivated area is less (0.73 Mha), but having highest average yields (7.44 t/ha) at national level.

Table 2. Major Maize Producing States (Top 10) during 2025-26
(Area - Mha, Production - Mt, Yield - t/ha)

State	Area	Share (%) in India	Production	Share (%) in India	Yield
Madhya Pradesh	2.90	20.13	10.04	18.24	3.47
Maharashtra	2.21	15.39	5.69	10.34	2.56
Karnataka	1.95	13.55	6.55	11.89	3.35
Uttar Pradesh	1.10	7.68	3.05	5.54	2.75
Telangana	0.93	6.48	5.44	9.89	5.83
Rajasthan	0.92	6.41	2.24	4.07	2.43
Bihar	0.89	6.18	5.57	10.12	6.20
Andhra Pradesh	0.73	5.12	5.48	9.96	7.44
Tamil Nadu	0.54	3.74	3.32	6.04	6.16
West Bengal	0.43	3.01	3.12	5.68	7.22
All India	14.40	100	55.09	100	3.82

Source: UPAG (3rd advance estimates)

Note: States have been arranged in descending order of percentage share of area

On the other hand, the states those have major area had a least yield level *i.e.* for Madhya Pradesh (3.47 t/ha), Maharashtra (2.56 t/ha.) and Uttar Pradesh (2.75 t/ha). The wide variation in maize yield across states highlights the need for state-specific interventions through improved seed adoption, efficient input management and strengthened extension services. Enhancing yield in major maize-growing states results in substantial increase national average production without strain on area expansion.

Table 3. Indian Maize exports (Top 10 countries) during 2025-26.

Country	Quantity (Mt)	Value (₹crore)
Bangladesh	0.36	955.87
Nepal	0.33	809.40
Vietnam	0.34	748.52
Sri Lanka	0.09	217.36
Thailand	0.01	112.60
Bhutan	0.04	89.43
Malaysia	0.03	66.96
Cote D Ivoire	0.02	63.28
Oman	0.02	51.73
UAE	0.02	48.08
Ghana	0.01	32.44
Total	1.27	3,358

Source: APEDA

The Bangladesh is the major export destination for Indian exports both in quantity and value terms *i.e.* 0.36 Mt and ₹955.87 crores respectively, followed by the Nepal, Vietnam and Sri Lanka (Table 3). Overall, India exported 1.27 Mt of Maize valued at ₹3,358 crore.

Table 4. Balance sheet of Maize for India

Particulars	2024-25	2025-26*
Opening stocks	1.10	2.66
Production (Market arrivals)	34.36	38.65
Imports	0.30	0.39
Total supply	35.76	41.69
Export	0.60	1.45
Domestic consumption	32.50	34.36
Total Demand	33.10	35.81
Ending Stock	2.66	5.89
Stock Use Ratio	8.03%	16.44%

Source: Agriwatch.com, * estimates

The estimated production (market arrivals) for 2025–26, is 38.65 Mt, an increase from 34.36 Mt in 2024–25 (Table 4). This growth is mainly driven by a noticeable expansion in the sowing area across key maize producing states. Total demand projected to rise sharply to 35.81 Mt, compared with 33.10 Mt in the 2024-25. The primary driver of this growth is the government's ethanol blending programme, which continues to expand rapidly and absorb a larger share of maize for fuel production. In addition to ethanol, steady demand from the poultry sector, animal feed industry and starch manufacturers is further strengthening overall maize usage. This broad-based demand highlights maize's growing importance in both energy and food supply chains. Ending stocks for the 2025–26 season are expected to improve to 5.89 Mt from 2.66 Mt previous year, resulting in an increase in the stock-to-use ratio from 8.03 per cent to 16.44 per cent.

Table 5. Industrial Utilization of Maize in India

Sector	Share of Maize Utilization (%)	Major Uses
Poultry/animal feed	54%	Broiler and layer feed, Cattle, dairy, piggery and aquaculture
Ethanol	25%	Rapidly increasing due to Ethanol blending programme
Starch industry	14%	Starch, glucose, dextrose, sorbitol, pharmaceuticals, paper and textiles
Food and food processing	7%	Corn flour, grits, popcorn, breakfast cereals, snacks, corn flakes

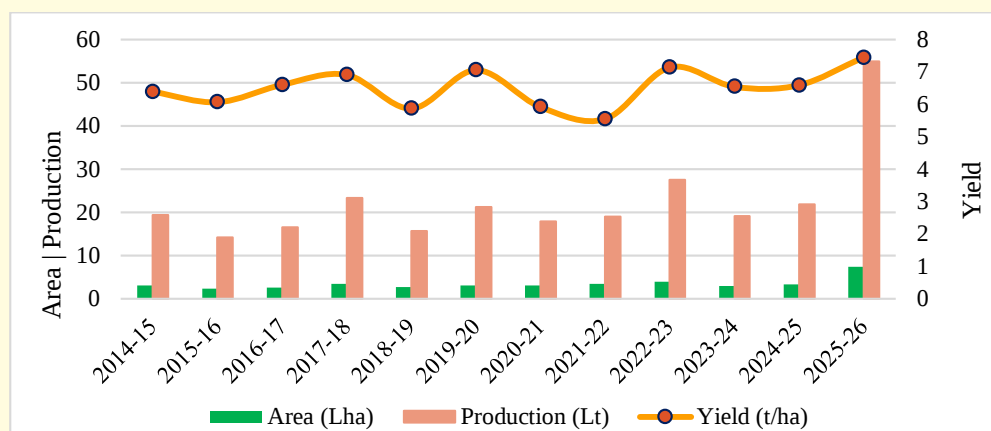
Source: FICCI

The industrial and feed usage shows that 54 per cent is used for poultry/animal feed, followed by ethanol (25%) and starch (14%) (Table 5). About seven per cent was utilized for food and food processing. The rapid expansion of industrial demand in India, especially driven by the ethanol blending program and animal feed demand, has positioned maize as a strategically critical crop for India's economy. According to the All-India Distillers Association; maize share in ethanol production expected to increase to 48 per cent in coming seasons. The government has increased the procurement price of maize based ethanol for oil marketing companies (OMCs) to ₹71.86 per litre, which is beneficial for distillers. Ethanol production from sugarcane components and damaged grains is now being equalled by maize alone.

State Scenario:

In Andhra Pradesh, Maize is growing in both Kharif and Rabi seasons. It accounts for 14.80 per cent of the total food grain cropped area in the state. During 2014-15 to 2025-26, area recorded a growth rate 5.54 per cent, production had a growth rate at 6.34 percent, but yield is at 0.76 per cent only (Fig 2). This reveals that growth in production was led by growth in area.

Fig 2. Maize production statistics in Andhra Pradesh



Source: DES.AP

In Andhra Pradesh during 2025–26, Nandyal is the leading maize-producing district with an area of 129.10 Tha, production of 583.92 Tt (Table 6). Other major maize-producing districts are Vizianagaram, Guntur, Bapatla *etc.* Guntur records the highest yield (10.60 t/ha), followed by Bapatla (8.50 t/ha), Vizianagaram (7.61 t/ha) *etc.*, with least in Sri Sathya Sai (3.35 t/ha) reflecting substantial inter-district variations in yield. These yield differences highlight the need for district-specific interventions to improve yield in low-performing areas through enhanced adoption of improved varieties and scientific crop management practices.

Table 6: Major maize producing Districts (Top 10) during 2025-26
(Area – 000' ha, Production- 000' tons, Yield - t/ha)

S.No		Area @	Production*	Yield#
1	Nandyal	129.10	583.92	4.52
2	Ananthapuramu	60.92	320.28	5.25
3	Palnadu	54.92	318.69	5.80
4	Vizianagaram	54.46	414.66	7.61
5	Kurnool	48.60	251.23	5.16
6	Srikakulam	43.71	319.35	7.30
7	Bapatla	38.76	329.72	8.50
8	Prakasam	34.26	135.76	3.96
9	Guntur	32.52	346.06	10.6
10	Sri Sathya Sai	31.68	106.22	3.35
	Andhra Pradesh	650	4,161	6.40

Source: District hand books, DES, A.P. (@3rd advance estimates)

(*Estimated by CARP) (# yield averages TE 2024-25)

Note: Districts have been arranged in descending order based on area.

The Growth–Instability Matrix (GIM) was developed to categorise the different districts based on growth and instability. Compound Growth Rate (CGR) as a measure of growth; Coefficient of Variation (CV) as a measure of instability were taken for estimation. As per the agricultural economics literature, four (4) per cent CGR and 20 per cent CV were taken as cut-off points to divide low and high categories. Districts were categorise based on the area into four viz., Desirable and Sustainable (High growth rate & Low instability-HL), Risky Expansion (High growth rate & High Instability - HH), Stagnation (Low growth rate & Low instability - LL) and Vulnerable (Low growth rate & High Instability - LH).

Table 7: Categorisation of districts based on growth and instability of area during 2020-21 to 2025-26

		CGR	
		< 4% (Low)	> 4% (High)
CV	< 20% (Low)	Dr.B.R.A. Konaseema (0.5%)	-
	> 20% (High)	Vizianagaram, Parvathipuram, Alluri Sitharama Raju, Vishakhapatnam, Eluru, Bapatla, Chittoor. (22%)	Srikakulam, Kakinada, East Godavari, Krishna, N.T.R, Guntur, Palnadu, Prakasam, S.P.S Nellore, Kurnool, Nandyal, Ananthapuram, Sri Sathyasai, Y.S.R. Kadapa, Annamayya. (77%)

Note: Values in parentheses represent percentage of in state total area, 2025-26

The district-wise growth–instability analysis of maize area during 2020–21 to 2025–26 revealed that Srikakulam, Kakinada, East Godavari, Krishna, N.T.R, Guntur, Palnadu, Prakasam, S.P.S Nellore, Kurnool, Nandyal, Ananthapuram, Sri Sathyasai, Y.S.R. Kadapa and Annamayya with 77 percent area under risky expansion (Table 7). Vizianagaram, Parvathipuram, Alluri Sitharama Raju, Visakhapatnam, Eluru, Bapatla and Chittoor with 22 per cent area recorded low growth with high variability, reflecting vulnerable stage. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema with 0.5 per cent area under the low growth–low variability category, indicating a stagnant maize cultivation pattern, while no district fell under the desirable and sustainable category. The results suggest the need for targeted interventions to stabilize maize area expansion while sustaining growth in high-potential districts.

Primary data from farmers was collected for estimation of costs and returns (₹/ha) in maize cultivation. During Kharif 2025 the total cost of cultivation (Cost C2) was ₹1,05,242 (Table 8). Labour cost constituted the major share at ₹44,847 (43%) followed by material cost of ₹32,532 (31%). The total variable cost amounted to ₹85,773, while fixed costs were ₹19,469. The average yield was 6.75 t/ha, with a market price (₹/q) of 1,824, resulting in gross returns of ₹1,23,156. Net return was ₹17,914. The benefit–cost (BC) ratio on variable and total cost were 1.43 and 1.17 respectively indicating sustained profitability.

During Rabi 2025-26, Total Cost was ₹92,758. In contrast to Kharif 2025, material cost constituted the major share at ₹39,453 (43%) than by Labour cost ₹36,559 (40%). The total variable cost was ₹77,062, while fixed costs were ₹15,696. The average yields were exorbitantly high at 9.07 t/ha, whereas, market price was down to 1,720 ₹/q, resulting in gross returns of ₹1,55,952. Net return was ₹63,194. BCR on variable and total cost were 2.02 and 1.68 respectively. Rabi-maize is more profitable than kharif-maize.

Table 8: Cost-return structure of Maize in Andhra Pradesh 2025-26 (₹/ha)

S.No	Particulars	Value (₹)	
		Kharif	Rabi
1	Labour cost	44,847	36,559
2	Material cost	32,532	39,453
3	Variable cost (VC)	85,773	77,062
4	Fixed Costs (FC)	19,469	15,696
5	Total Cost (Cost C2)	1,05,242	92,758
6	Yield (q/ha)	6.75	9.07
7	Price (₹/q)	1,824	1,720
9	Gross Returns (GR)	1,23,156	1,55,952
10	Net Returns (NR)	17,914	63,194
11	BCR on VC	1.43	2.02
12	BCR on TC	1.17	1.68

Source: Survey Data (2025-26)

Price outlook:

Seasonal index analysis indicates that maize arrivals are highly seasonal, peaking in November (380.30) and December (304.46) following the harvest period, while arrivals remain considerably below the annual average during March to May (Table 9). In contrast, maize prices exhibited relatively low seasonal variation, with the highest seasonal index recorded in August (103.72) and the lowest in December (96.96). Prices remain fairly stable throughout the year despite substantial fluctuations in market arrivals, indicates that there was natural mechanism to off-set the price fluctuations.

Table 9: Seasonal Indices of Maize in Andhra Pradesh (2025-26)

Months	Arrivals		Price	
	Tons	Seasonal Index	₹/q	Seasonal Index
Jun-25	6,707	70.03	2,376	100.38
Jul-25	6,236	65.11	2,371	100.17
Aug-25	2,219	23.17	2,455	103.72
Sep-25	6,524	68.12	2,341	98.90
Oct-25	13,886	144.99	2,354	99.45
Nov-25	36,420	380.30	2,431	102.70
Dec-25	29,158	304.46	2,295	96.96
Jan-26	8,618	89.99	2,339	98.82
Feb-26	2,490	26.00	2,311	97.63
Mar-26	159	1.66	2,387	100.84
Apr-26	1,703	17.79	2,380	100.55
May-26	802	8.37	2,364	99.87
Yearly average	9,577	100	2,367	100

Source: Agmark net

As per the estimates given by Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre (AMIC), ANGRAU, for marketing season of Kharif '2026, the forecast prices (₹/q) are 1,610 to 2,160. While, Minimum Support Price (MSP) was 2,410.
