

Maize prices would range between Rs. 1350- 1450/-qtl in the Coming Months

Maize is one of the successful stories of Indian agriculture in recent years as the production increased from 15.1 million tonnes in 2006-07 to 26.26 million tonnes in 2016-17. Trade is dominated by the US as the world's largest producer and exporter. US maize exports account for 35-40 per cent of world trade.

The acreage of all major crops, barring cotton and sugarcane in 2017-18, is less than the previous year's. According to the sowing data of the Central Agricultural Ministry, area under Kharif maize stood at 78.66 lakh ha. as against 82.87 lakh hectares sown in 2016-17 kharif. The area under the crop in Madhya Pradesh was 13.17 lakh hectares followed by Karnataka with 11.11 lakh hectares. The other important states are Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh with 9.12, 9.02 and 7.26 lakh hectares respectively. Global production during 2016-17 was 1067.21 million tones and the in the current year the estimates indicate as input of 1031.86 million tones a decline of 3.31 per cent. Indian output is likely to be 25 million metric tonnes against 26.26 million tonnes in 2016-17. The area under maize in Andhra Pradesh was little more than normal area in 2017-18. Under the circumstances the Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre operating in the Institute of Agribusiness Management, S.V. Agricultural College, campus, Tirupati analysed the modal prices of maize for 16 years in Nizamabad market using econometric tools and came out with the result that in the coming three months maize prices would be range between Rs. 1350-1450/qtl. Farmers can take selling decision accordingly.

Greengram prices likely to be in the range of Rs. 4300-4700/-qtl in the Coming three months

According to the Ministry of Agriculture the total area under pulses was 13 million hectares in 2017-18, which is 3.5 per cent less than the 13.5 million hectares cultivated in the same period last year. The notification used by the Director General of foreign trade restrict the import of blackgram and greengram to 3 lakh tones per annum is expected to help farmers get better prices for their produce. Pulses production in 2016-17 was around 22.13 million tonnes compared to 16.35 million tonnes in 2015-16. As per the estimates of NITI Aayog the projected demand for pulses in 2016-17 was around 24.61 million tonnes which implies that the demand is higher than the domestic production. Despite record harvest of pulses, the year 2016-17 has been a challenging year for the growers. The prices have fallen below the minimum support prices and one expected a fall in Kharif area of 2017-18 but contrary to the expectations the area has increased. The erratic rainfall prompted farmers in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh to opt for pulses in place of soyabean and similarly maize gave way was to pulses. Area under greengram in the country was 31.03 lakh hectares in 2017-18 and in Andhra Pradesh the area under the crop was less than normal. To help farmers to take selling decision the Agricultural Market intelligence Centre operating in Institute of Agribusiness Management, S.V. Agricultural Campus analysed the modal prices of greengram of Tandur market from 2000-2017 using econometric models. The results of the analysis coupled with market surveys indicate that the present price line of Rs.4300-4700 is going to prevail in the coming three months and the farmers are advised to take decision accordingly.