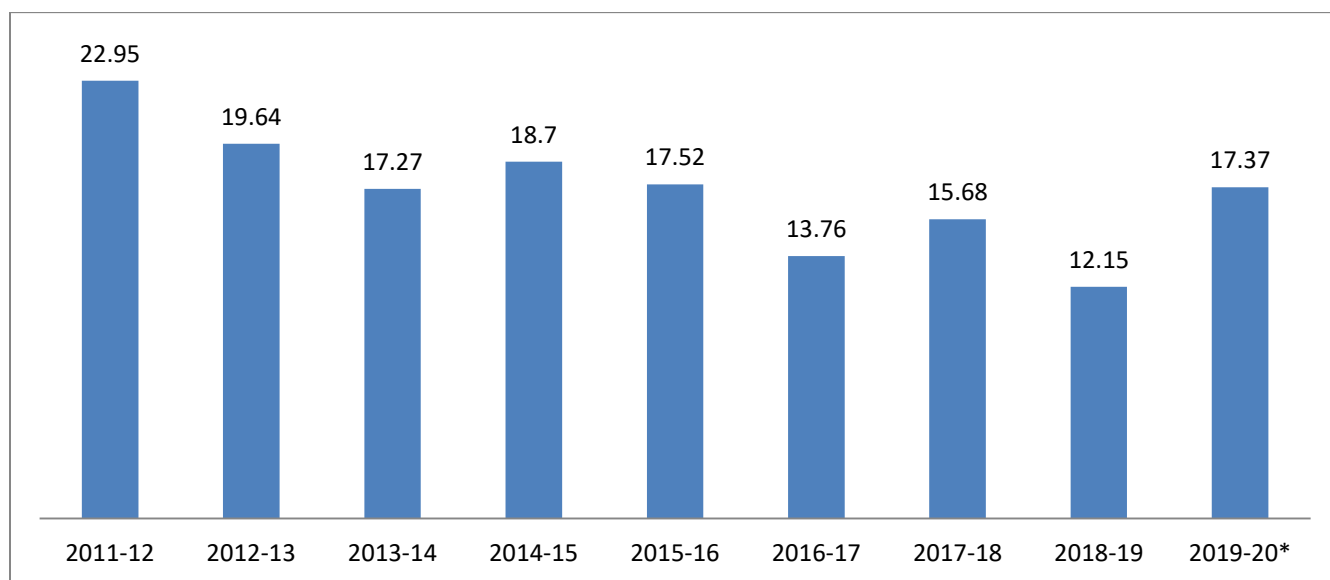


Castor Outlook – October 2019

Castor is mostly grown in arid and semi-arid regions. It is cultivated in 30 different countries on commercial scale of which India, China, Brazil, Russia, Thailand, Ethiopia and Philippines are major castor seed growing countries accounting for nearly 88% of the world's production.

All India kharif oilseeds sown area was reported as 179.48 lakh ha on 27th September 2019 as against 179.28 lakh ha in the corresponding period of last year. Castor area was reported as 9.38 lakh ha as against 8.76 lakh ha during the same period of last year. In India, major castor producing states are Gujarat (7.02 lakh ha), Rajasthan (1.54 lakh ha), Andhra Pradesh (0.33 lakh ha), Telangana (0.22 lakh ha) and Odisha (0.04 lakh ha). In Telangana major growing districts are Narayanpet (6973 ha), Wanaparthy (5567 ha), Mahabubnagar (5104 ha) and Gadwal (2163 ha). According to Government 1st advance estimate, castor production in 2019-20 is at 17.37 lakh tonnes.



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES)

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

Table 1: Castor Domestic Supply & Demand (in lakh tonnes)

	2018-19	2019-20*
Opening Stocks	5.49	4.64
Production	12.15	17.37
Imports	0	0
Total Supply	17.64	22.01
Exports	13	13.2
Consumption	0	0
Total Demand	13	13.2
Ending Stocks	4.64	8.81

Source: www.agriwatch.com * Estimated

According to the market participants, at present castor seed stocks with stockiest are around 3.24 lakh tonnes which is lower than average stock of 5-6 lakh tonnes every year. Lower stocks are due to lower production estimate of castor crop in 2018-19. Millers are dependent on the present lower stock which might push the prices in the coming months.

Castor oil exports in the month of September 2019 are 40.927 thousand MT which is 10.33 per cent lower than August exports of 45.645 thousand MT. On a cumulative basis, exports were 2.36 lakh MT from April to August 2019 which is 12.27 per cent lower than last year exports of 2.69 lakh MT during the same period.

Table 2: Prices and arrivals of Castor in Gadwal market during September 2019

Date	Arrival (Tonnes)	Maximum price (Rs/quintal)	Minimum price (Rs/quintal)	Modal price (Rs/quintal)
3	2	5046	5046	5046
4	4	4957	4957	4957
13	3	4950	4937	4950
17	7	4980	4980	4980
26	6	4620	4620	4620
27	5	4517	4517	4517

Source: www.tsmarketing.in

Under these circumstances, Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre, PJTSAU expect that Castor is likely to trade in price range between Rs. 4800 - 4950 per quintal in the month of October 2019.