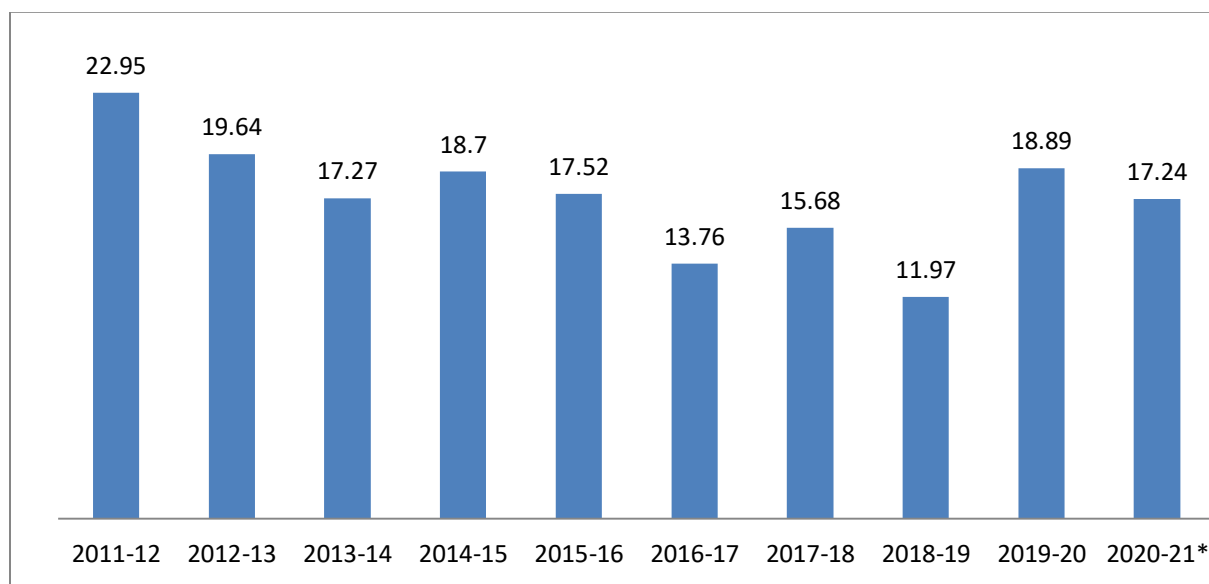


Castor Outlook – December 2020

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 2018-19, World major producing countries are India (11.97 lakh tonnes), Mozambique (0.85 lakh tonnes), China (0.27 lakh tonnes), Brazil (0.14 lakh tonnes) and Myanmar (0.12 lakh tonnes).

Area under castor reported during 2020-21 was 7.743 lakh ha (19.133 lakh acres) as against 9.101 lakh ha (22.489 lakh acres) during the same period in 2019-20. Among states, Gujarat is leading with 5.799 lakh ha (14.330 lakh acres) under castor followed by Rajasthan 1.390 lakh ha (3.435 lakh acres), Andhra Pradesh 0.180 lakh ha (0.445 lakh acres) and Telangana 0.094 lakh ha (0.234 lakh acres). According to Government 1st advance estimates, all India castor production in 2020-21 is at 17.24 lakh tonnes.



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

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

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

	2019-20	2020-21
Opening Stocks	2.30	6.69
Production	18.89	17.24
Imports	0.00	0.00
Total Supply	21.19	23.93
Consumption	14.50	15.00
Exports	0.00	0.00
Total Demand	14.50	15.00
Ending Stocks	6.69	8.93

Source: www.agriwatch.com

In Telangana state, Wanaparthy 2,812 ha (6,949 acres), Mahabubnagar 2,361 ha (5,834 acres), Narayanpet 1,683 ha (4,158 acres), Gadwal 1,119 ha (2,962 acres) and Nagarkurnool 686 ha (1,694 acres) are major castor growing districts. According to Telangana State Government 1st advance estimates, castor production in 2020-21 is at 0.13 lakh tonnes with productivity of 1483 Kg/ha (600 Kg/acre).

Table 2: Prices and arrivals of Castor in Devarakadra market during November 2020

Date	Arrival (Tonnes)	Maximum price (Rs/quintal)	Minimum price (Rs/quintal)	Modal price (Rs/quintal)
2	16	4179	4129	4154
3	10	4204	4159	4182
4	54	4350	4159	4255
5	40	4409	4339	4374
6	67	4434	4129	4356
7	31	4411	4329	4370
9	27	4229	4201	4215
10	9	4239	4208	4224
11	11	4229	4139	4183
12	8	4239	4239	4239
13	11	4229	4109	4169
17	12	4229	4139	4183
19	20	4229	4229	4229
23	28	4359	4359	4359
24	12	4209	4309	4259
28	12	4252	4352	4302

Source: www.tsmarketing.in

All India Castor seed arrival is increasing slowly with demand coming from lubricant and paint industries. Last year between April to September the castor oil export was 2.87 lakh tonnes, which during the current year in the same period increased to 3.33 lakh tonnes. So in total the export of castor oil has increased over last year.

Under these circumstances, Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre, PJTSAU expect that Castor is likely to trade in price range between Rs. 4000 - 4300 per quintal in the month of December 2020.