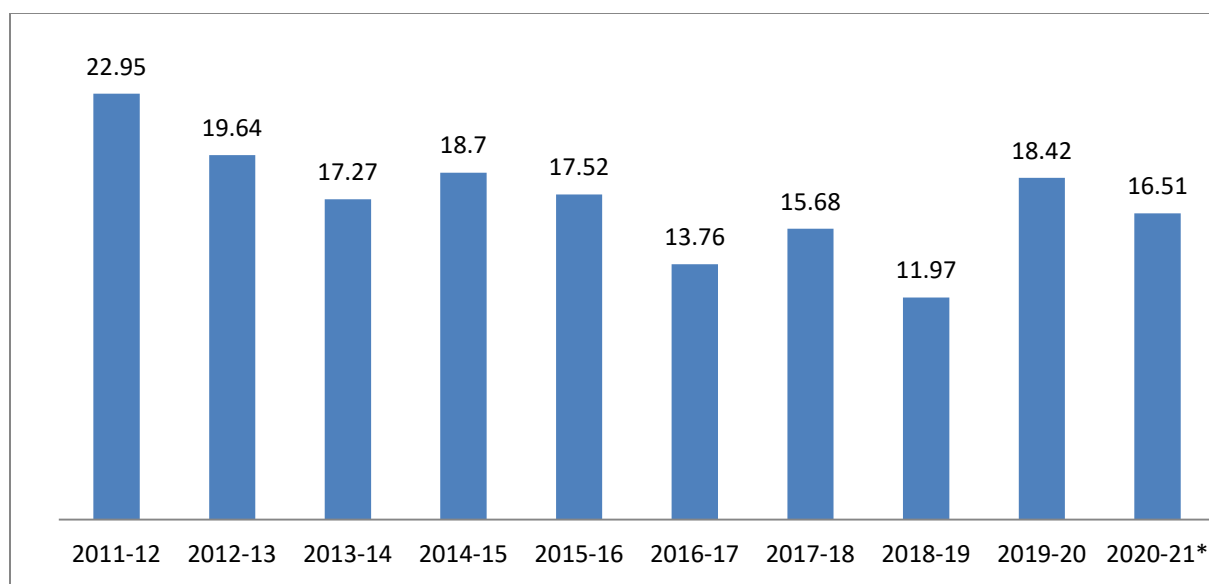


Castor Outlook – September 2021

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 (18.42 lakh tonnes), Mozambique (0.85 lakh tonnes), China (0.27 lakh tonnes), Brazil (0.14 lakh tonnes) and Myanmar (0.12 lakh tonnes).



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES). * 4th Advance estimates

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

Area under castor reported during 2021-22 was 5.620 lakh ha (13.89 lakh acres) as against 6.494 lakh ha (16.05 lakh acres) during the same period in 2020-21. Among states, Gujarat is leading with 4.263 lakh ha (10.53 lakh acres) under castor followed by Rajasthan 1.027 lakh ha (2.54 lakh acres), Andhra Pradesh 0.157 lakh ha (0.39 lakh acres) and Telangana 0.037 lakh ha (0.09 lakh acres). According to Government 4th advance estimates, all India castor production in 2020-21 is at 16.51 lakh tonnes.

Table 1: State wise area under castor in India

State	2020-21			2021-22		
	Area (lakh ha)	Area (lakh acres)	% to total area	Area (lakh ha)	Area (lakh acres)	% to total area
Gujarat	4.624	11.43	71.2	4.263	10.53	75.85
Rajasthan	1.396	3.45	21.5	1.027	2.54	18.27
Andhra Pradesh	0.18	0.44	2.772	0.157	0.39	2.79
Telangana	0.137	0.34	2.11	0.037	0.09	0.66
Others	0.157	0.39	2.418	0.136	0.34	2.42
All India	6.494	16.05	100	5.620	13.89	100.00

Source: www.agricoop.nic.in**Table 2: Castor Domestic Supply & Demand (in lakh tonnes)**

	2019-20	2020-21
Opening Stocks	2.30	6.22
Production	18.42	16.51
Imports	0.00	0.00
Total Supply	20.72	22.73
Consumption	14.50	15.00
Exports	0.00	0.00
Total Demand	14.50	15.00
Ending Stocks	6.22	7.73

Source: www.agriwatch.com**Table 3: District wise area under castor in Telangana**

District	2020-21			2021-22		
	Area (ha)	Area (acres)	% to total area	Area (ha)	Area (acres)	% to total area
Narayanpet	1673	4134	18.43	1425	3521	38.43
Mahabubnagar	2316	5722	25.51	1245	3077	33.58
Wanaparthy	2585	6387	28.48	618	1526	16.65
Gadwal	1000	2470	11.01	238	589	6.43
Others	1504	3716	16.57	182	450	4.91
Telangana State	9077	22429	100	3708	9163	100

Source: www.agri.telangana.gov.in

In Telangana state, Narayanpet 1,425 ha (3,521 acres), Mahabubnagar 1,245 ha (3,077 acres), Wanaparthy 618 ha (1526 acres) and Gadwal 238 ha (589 acres) are major castor growing districts. According to Telangana State Government 4th advance estimates, castor production in 2020-21 is at 0.03 lakh tonnes with productivity of 355 Kg/ha (144 Kg/acre).

Table 4: State wise wholesale prices of Castor during August, 2021

State	Prices August, 2021	Prices July, 2021	Prices August, 2020	% Change (Over Previous Month)	% Change (Over Previous Year)
Andhra Pradesh	4746.85	4452.08	3334.55	6.62	42.35
Gujarat	5676.88	5254.48	3899.64	8.04	45.57
Karnataka	5197.8	4756.41	3818.35	9.28	36.13
Madhya Pradesh	4781.57	4400		8.67	—
Maharashtra	5049.59	4523.85	3278.33	11.62	54.03
Rajasthan	5569.39	5284.08	3748.31	5.4	48.58
Tamil Nadu	5037.33	6243.67	3536.25	-19.32	42.45
Average	5151.34	4987.8	3602.57		

Source: www.agriwatch.com

Due to strong prices of edible oils, the prices of castor oil are expected to stay strong. Last year between April to July, the castor seed meal export was 0.86 lakh tonnes, which during the current year in the same period increased to 1.09 lakh tonnes.

Table 5: Prices and arrivals of Castor in Gadwal market during August 2021

Date	Arrival (Tonnes)	Maximum price (Rs/quintal)	Minimum price (Rs/quintal)	Modal price (Rs/quintal)
5	7	4,932	4,842	4,847
25	4	5,097	5,097	5,097
28	6	5,101	4,851	5,101

Source: www.tsmarketing.in

Under these circumstances, Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre, PJTSAU expects that Castor may trade in price range between Rs. 4700 - 4900 per quintal in the month of September 2021.