

VANAKALAM (KHARIF) 2021-22 PRE-HARVEST PRICE FORECAST OF RAGI

Ragi Price per Quintal will be around Rs 2300 – 2700 at the Time of Harvesting (October to November 2021)

It is the most important small millet in the tropics covering 12% of global millet area. It is cultivated in more than 25 countries in Africa (Eastern and Southern) and Asia (from Near East to Far East), predominantly as a staple food grain. The major producers are Uganda, India, Nepal, and China. The specialty of these tiny deep red pearls is the abundance of nutrients present in them. Finger millet is a rich source of calcium, iron, protein, fiber and other minerals and is a gluten-free food. The cereal has low fat content and contains mainly unsaturated fat. It is easy to digest and does not contain gluten; people who are sensitive to gluten can easily consume finger millet. It is considered as one of the most nutritious cereals.

Ragi crop in India has covered 10.14 lakh ha (25.06 lakh acres) during kharif 2021-22. The major ragi producing states in India are Karnataka 6.39lakh ha (15.79 lakh acres), Orissa 1.26 lakh ha (3.11 lakh acres), Uttarakand 1.10lakh ha (2.72 lakh acres), Tamil Nadu 0.34 lakh ha (0.84 lakh acres), Andhra Pradesh 0.21lakh ha (0.52 lakh acres) and Maharashtra 0.73lakh ha (1.80 lakh acres). According to 1st Advance Estimates of Production of Food grains for 2021-22, ragi production estimate was 1.52 million tonnes as against 1.96 million tonnes in 2020-21.

The area covered under ragi in Telangana during vanakalam (kharif) 2021-22 was 257 ha (637 acres) as against 931.18 ha (2301 acres) in 2020-21. The major producing districts of ragi crop in Telangana are Mahabubnagar 327 acres, Vikarabad 166 acres, Narayanpet 26 acres, Nagarkurnool 19 acres and Rangareddy 9 acres.

The Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre established under a research project for development of price forecasting mechanism in the Department of Agricultural Economics, College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad at Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University with the financial support of Agricultural Marketing Department, Telangana State has assessed 2021-22 Vanakalam (kharif) pre-harvesting price forecast of ragi. Under normal rainfall and crop area coverage, it is expected that the ragi price per quintal will be around **Rs. 2300 - 2700** at the time of harvesting (Oct to Nov 2021). This price forecast is based on the monthly modal price of ragi obtained for 19 years from Mahabubnagar regulated market using econometric models like ARIMA, ARIMAX, SARIMA, ARCH, GARCH and ANN and also the market survey.

Note: There may be any possible deviation of the actual prices from the predicted prices in light of tentative developments in the commodity markets such as change in international prices, export or import restrictions, etc. And these price forecasts are based on past market price data & different econometric models and that actual market price may not turn out to be the same as forecasted.