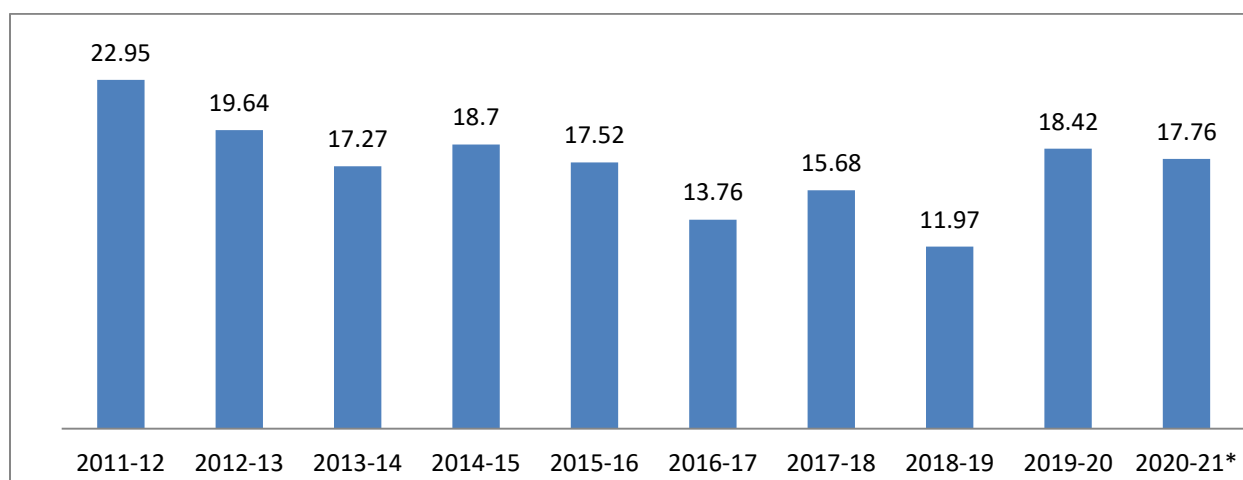


Castor Outlook – June 2021

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). * 2nd Advance estimates

Figure 1: Production of Castor in India (in 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 0.10 lakh ha (0.25 lakh acres). According to Government 2nd advance estimates, all India castor production in 2020-21 is at 17.76 lakh tonnes.

Table 1: State wise area under castor in India

State	2019-20			2020-21		
	Area (lakh ha)	Area (lakh acres)	% to total area	Area (lakh ha)	Area (lakh acres)	% to total area
Gujarat	6.788	16.773	74.59	5.799	14.330	74.89
Rajasthan	1.52	3.756	16.70	1.39	3.435	17.95
Andhra Pradesh	0.33	0.815	3.63	0.18	0.445	2.32
Telangana	0.227	0.561	2.49	0.10	0.25	1.77
Karnataka	0.056	0.138	0.62	0.078	0.193	1.01
Odisha	0.044	0.109	0.48	0.035	0.086	0.45
Others	0.136	0.336	1.49	0.124	0.306	1.60
All India	9.101	22.489	100.00	7.743	19.133	100

Source: www.agricoop.gov.in

Table 2: Castor Domestic Supply & Demand (in lakh tonnes)

	2019-20	2020-21
Opening Stocks	2.30	6.22
Production	18.42	17.76
Imports	0.00	0.00
Total Supply	20.72	23.98
Consumption	14.50	15.00
Exports	0.00	0.00
Total Demand	14.50	15.00
Ending Stocks	6.22	8.98

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 3rd advance estimates, castor production in 2020-21 is at 0.03 lakh tonnes with productivity of 348 Kg/ha (141 Kg/acre).

Table 3: District wise area under castor in Telangana

District	2019-20			2020-21		
	Area (ha)	Area (acres)	% to total area	Area (ha)	Area (acres)	% to total area
Wanaparthy	6076	15013	22.91	2812	6949	29.61
Mahabubnagar	8193	20245	30.89	2361	5834	24.86
Narayanpet	7707	19045	29.06	1683	4158	17.72
Gadwal	2248	5555	8.48	1199	2962	12.62
Telangana State	26522	65536	100	10117	25000	100

Source: www.agri.telangana.gov.in

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

State	Prices May, 2021	Prices April, 2021	Prices May, 2020	% Change (Over Previous Month)	% Change (Over Previous Year)
Andhra Pradesh	4292.11	4500.18	3445.34	-4.62	24.58
Gujarat	4809.51	4805.37	3482.15	0.09	38.12
Karnataka	4513.56	4389.01	3752.86	2.84	20.27
Madhya Pradesh			2731.37	—	—
Maharashtra	4196.67	3690.00	3091.00	13.73	35.77
Rajasthan	4858.31	4689.08	3465.65	3.61	40.18
Tamil Nadu	4315.00	4242.69	3838.19	1.7	12.42
Average	4497.53	4386.05	3400.94		

Source: www.agriwatch.com

Due to strong prices of edible oils, the prices of castor oil are expected to stay strong. Last year the castor oil export was 5.47 lakh tonnes, which during the current year in the same period increased to 6.65 lakh tonnes. Major castor oil importing countries from India are China (3.04 lakh tonnes), Netherlands (0.72 lakh tonnes), France (0.64 lakh tonnes), USA (0.56 lakh tonnes) and Japan (0.14 lakh tonnes).

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

Date	Arrival (Tonnes)	Maximum price (Rs/quintal)	Minimum price (Rs/quintal)	Modal price (Rs/quintal)
3	84	4812	4647	4736
4	25	4902	4630	4720
6	101	4900	4116	4840
8	77	4880	4117	4840
12	72	4892	4606	4890
17	90	4910	4060	4860
21	5	4890	4890	4890
26	6	4869	4777	4830
28	4	3618	3157	3618
31	24	4820	4837	4810

Source: www.tsmarketing.in

Under these circumstances, Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre, PJTSAU expects that Castor is likely to trade in price range between Rs. 4600 - 4800 per quintal in the month of June 2021.