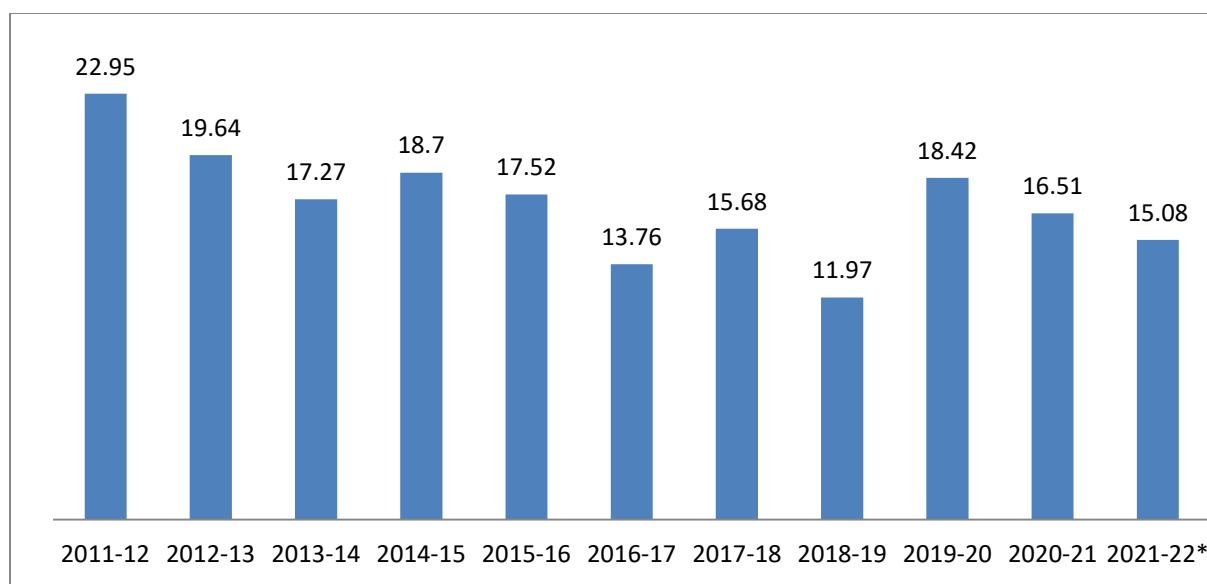


Castor Outlook – April 2022

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 2021-22 was 6.960 lakh ha (17.199 lakh acres) as against 7.336 lakh ha (18.128 lakh acres) during the same period in 2020-21. Among states, Gujarat is leading with 5.389 lakh ha (13.316 lakh acres) under castor followed by Rajasthan 1.200 lakh ha (2.965 lakh acres), Andhra Pradesh 0.177 lakh ha (0.437 lakh acres) and Telangana 0.022 lakh ha (0.54 lakh acres). According to Government 2nd advance estimates, all India castor production in 2021-22 is at 15.08 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	5.448	13.462	74.26	5.389	13.316	77.43
Rajasthan	1.396	3.450	19.03	1.200	2.965	17.24
Andhra Pradesh	0.180	0.445	2.45	0.177	0.437	2.54
Telangana	0.095	0.234	1.34	0.022	0.054	0.78
Others	0.214	0.529	2.92	0.140	0.346	2.01
All India	7.336	18.128	100.00	6.960	17.199	100.00

Source: www.agricoop.nic.in

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

	2020-21	2021-22
Opening Stocks	6.22	7.73
Production	16.51	15.08
Imports	0.00	0.00
Total Supply	22.73	22.81
Exports	0.00	0.00
Consumption	15.00	15.50
Total Demand	15.00	15.50
Ending Stocks	7.73	7.31

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	1681	4154	17.72	602	1487	27.58
Mahabubnagar	2361	5834	24.88	494	1221	22.65
Gadwal	2811	6947	29.63	435	1076	19.96
Wanaparthy	1087	2686	11.46	404	998	18.51
Others	1548	3825	16.31	246	609	11.30
Telangana State	9488	23446	100	2182	5391	100

Source: www.agri.telangana.gov.in

In Telangana state, Narayanpet 602 ha (1,487 acres), Mahabubnagar 494 ha (1,221 acres), Gadwal 435 ha (998 acres) and Wanaparthy 404 ha (998 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 March 2022.

State	Prices March, 2022	Prices February, 2022	Prices March, 2021	% Change (Over Previous Month)	% Change (Over Previous Year)
Andhra Pradesh	6218.44	6138.04	4508.93	1.31	37.91
Gujarat	7230.17	6756.64	4585.62	7.01	57.67
Karnataka	5855.77	5095.5	4421.97	14.92	32.42
Madhya Pradesh	6522.57	5679.57		14.84	—
Maharashtra	7512.08	5546.92	3300	35.43	127.64
Rajasthan	7052.81	6421.57	4517.08	9.83	56.14
Tamil Nadu	6786.17	6607.53	4326.25	2.7	56.86
Telangana	6905.03	6164.01	4228.23	12.02	63.31
Average	6760.38	6051.22	4269.73		

Source: www.agriwatch.com

Table 5: Prices and arrivals of Castor in Gadwal market during March 2022

Date	Arrival (Quintal)	Maximum price (Rs/quintal)	Minimum price (Rs/quintal)	Modal price (Rs/quintal)
3	16	6,620	4,001	6,590
4	14	6,650	6,520	6,580
5	4	6,629	6,510	6,536
7	59	6,669	4,016	6,669
8	15	6,670	5,877	6,630
9	18	6,740	6,459	6,640
10	7	6,752	6,752	6,752
11	20	6,802	6,620	6,786
12	12	6,810	6,657	6,790
14	18	6,810	6,710	6,760
15	38	6,790	6,257	6,672
17	36	6,840	6,512	6,730
19	46	6,872	6,420	6,792
21	203	6,877	4,537	6,560
22	83	6,840	5,737	6,810
23	76	6,852	6,470	6,780
24	46	6,810	6,562	6,760
25	87	6,830	5,517	6,810
26	119	6,850	5,157	6,840
28	90	6,830	6,351	6,720
29	102	6,850	6,460	6,760
30	71	6,850	6,642	6,812
31	73	6,782	6,022	6,760

Source: <http://tsmarketing.in>

Last year between April to February the castor oil export was 6.05 lakh tonnes, which during the current year in the same period increased to 6.10 lakh tonnes. Continued steady sentiment was witnessed in castor seed spot markets during last month.

Under these circumstances, Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre, PJTSAU expects that Castor is likely to trade in price range between Rs. 6500 - 6700 per quintal in the month of April 2022.