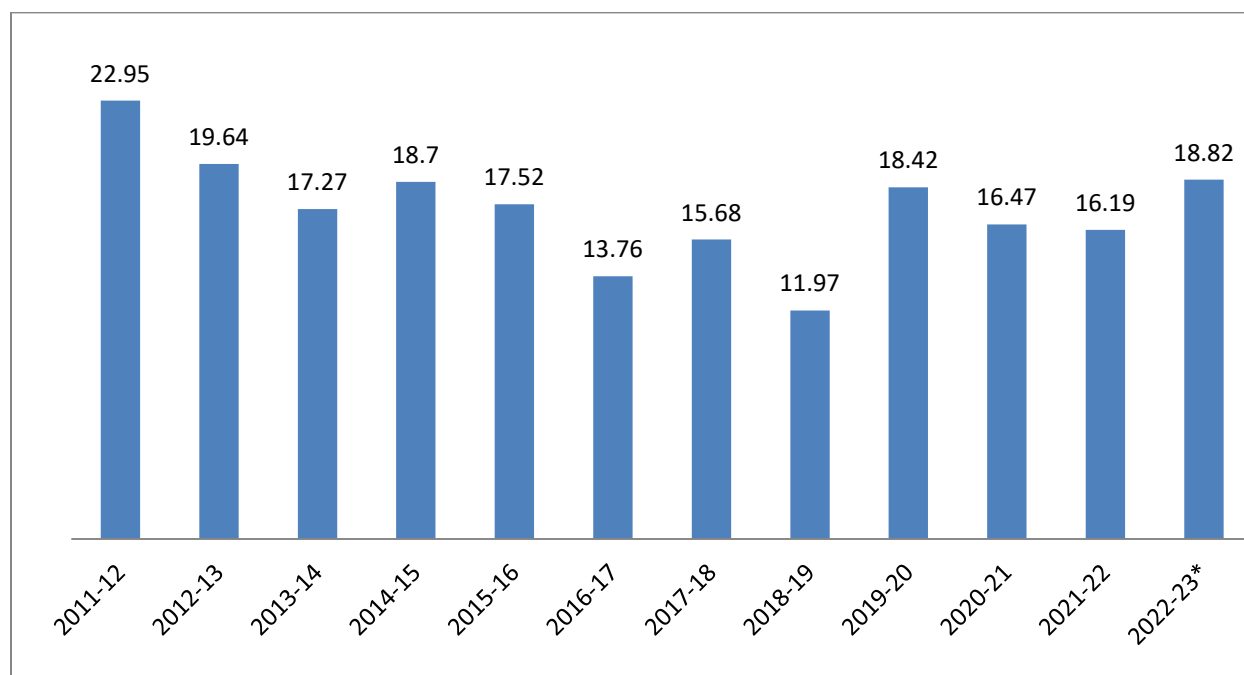


## Castor Outlook – April 2023

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 2020-21, World major producing countries are India (16.51 lakh tonnes), Mozambique (0.72 lakh tonnes), China (0.17 lakh tonnes), Thailand (0.12 lakh tonnes) and Myanmar (0.12 lakh tonnes).



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES). \* 2<sup>nd</sup> Advance estimates

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

Area under castor reported during 2022-23 was 8.917 lakh ha (22.030 lakh acres) as against 7.547 lakh ha (18.65 lakh acres) during the same period in 2020-21. Among states, Gujarat is leading with 6.992 lakh ha (17.10 lakh acres) under castor followed by Rajasthan 1.491 lakh ha (3.684 lakh acres), Andhra Pradesh 0.351 lakh ha (0.870 lakh acres), Odisha 0.042 lakh ha (0.100 lakh acres) and Telangana 0.019 lakh ha (0.048 lakh acres). According to Government 2<sup>nd</sup> advance estimates, all India castor production in 2022-23 is at 18.82 lakh tonnes.

**Table 1: State wise area under castor in India**

State	2021-22			2022-23		
	Area (lakh ha)	Area (lakh acres)	% to total area	Area (lakh ha)	Area (lakh acres)	% to total area
Gujarat	6.133	15.150	81.26	6.922	17.10	77.63
Rajasthan	1.027	2.540	13.61	1.491	3.684	16.72
Andhra Pradesh	0.179	0.440	2.37	0.351	0.870	3.94
Odisha	0.05	0.120	0.66	0.042	0.100	0.47
Karnataka	0.064	0.160	0.85	0.034	0.080	0.38
Telangana	0.021	0.054	0.49	0.02	0.048	0.22
Others	0.057	0.140	0.76	0.057	0.140	0.64
All India	7.547	18.650	100.00	8.917	22.030	100.00

Source: [www.agricoop.nic.in](http://www.agricoop.nic.in)

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

	2021-22	2022-23
Opening Stocks	7.73	8.34
Production	16.2	18.82
Imports	0	0
<b>Total Supply</b>	23.9	27.2
Exports	0	0
Consumption	15.5	15.5
<b>Total Demand</b>	15.5	15.5
Ending Stocks	8.34	11.66

Source: [www.agriwatch.com](http://www.agriwatch.com)

In Telangana state, Narayanpet 515 ha (1273 acres), Gadwal 498 ha (1230 acres), Mahabubnagar 405 ha (1000 acres), Wanaparthy 355 ha (878 acres) and Nagarkurnool 74 ha (184 acres) are major castor growing districts. According to Telangana State Government 2<sup>nd</sup> advance estimates, castor production in 2022-23 is at 0.02 lakh tonnes from 0.03 lakh ha (0.07 lakh acres) with productivity of 667 Kg/ha (270 Kg/acre).

**Table 3: District wise area under castor in Telangana**

District	2021-22			2022-23		
	Area (ha)	Area (acres)	% to total area	Area (ha)	Area (acres)	% to total area
Narayanpet	607	1499	27.74	515	1273	26.25
Gadwal	405	1000	18.51	498	1230	25.36
Mahabubnagar	495	1223	22.64	405	1000	20.62
Wanaparthy	432	1068	19.77	355	878	18.10
Nagarkurnool	80	198	3.66	74	184	3.79
Siddipet	41	101	1.87	32	80	1.65
Others	127	314	5.81	83	205	4.23
<b>Telangana State</b>	<b>2187</b>	<b>5403</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1963</b>	<b>4850</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: [www.agri.telangana.gov.in](http://www.agri.telangana.gov.in)**Table 4: State wise wholesale prices of Castor during March 2023**

State	Prices March, 2023	Prices February, 2023	Prices March, 2022	% Change (Over Previous Month)	% Change (Over Previous Year)
Andhra Pradesh	6055.49	6274.06	6177.99	-3.48	-1.98
Gujarat	6294.39	6746.28	7230.15	-6.7	-12.94
Karnataka	6520.96	6277.1	6217.39	3.88	4.88
Madhya Pradesh	5638.87	6332.32	6544.23	-10.95	-13.83
Maharashtra	5195.45	5830	7455.16	-10.88	-30.31
Rajasthan	6101.31	6532.08	7052.64	-6.59	-13.49
Tamil Nadu	6936.86	7414.9	6786.17	-6.45	2.22
Telangana	6120.99	6412.86	6899.62	-4.55	-11.29
<b>Average</b>	<b>6108.04</b>	<b>6477.45</b>	<b>6795.42</b>		

Source: [www.agmarknet.com](http://www.agmarknet.com)

**Table 5: Prices and arrivals of Castor in Gadwal market during March 2023**

Date	Arrival (Quintal)	Maximum price (Rs/quintal)	Minimum price (Rs/quintal)	Modal price (Rs/quintal)
1	60	6,387	5,220	6,180
2	112	6,412	5,920	6,410
3	131	6,379	5,396	6,289
4	66	6,420	6,219	6,280
6	165	6,404	4,190	6,250
8	93	6,409	5,681	6,379
9	92	6,421	6,131	6,209
10	160	6,350	5,762	6,270
11	64	6,279	5,919	6,259
13	263	6,320	4,012	6,320
14	207	6,310	2,000	6,140
15	194	6,340	3,337	6,190
16	275	6,251	3,303	6,069
17	291	6,209	3,869	6,024
18	283	6,172	2,812	6,009
20	651	6,202	4,019	5,980
25	475	6,080	4,919	6,060
27	925	6,090	3,060	5,810
28	367	6,012	4,210	5,740
31	440	6,170	4,511	6,090

Source: <http://tsmarketing.in>

Last year between April to February the castor seed meal export was 3.49 lakh tonnes, which during the current year in the same period increased to 3.51 lakh tonnes. Last year between April to January the castor oil export was 5.69 lakh tonnes, which during the current year in the same period decreased to 4.86 lakh tonnes.

Under these circumstances, Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre, PJTSAU expects that Castor is likely to trade in price range between Rs. 5900 - 6100 per quintal in the month of April 2023.