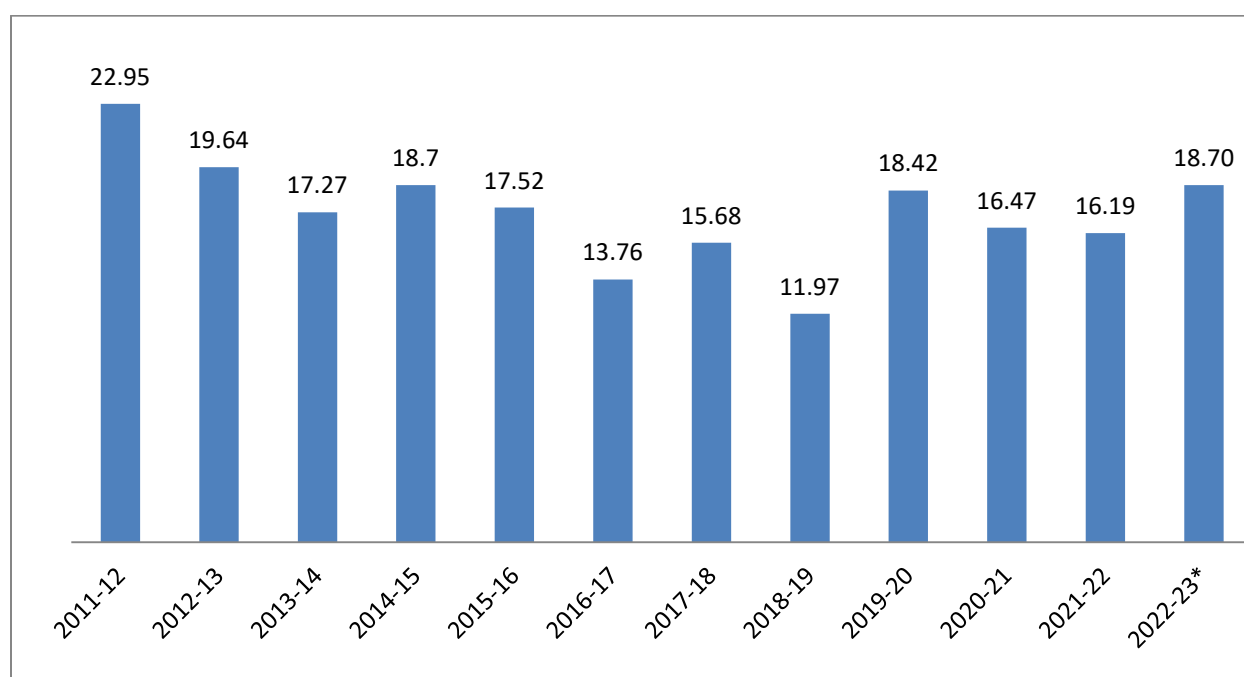


## Castor Outlook – September 2023

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 (16.47 lakh tonnes), Mozambique (0.72 lakh tonnes), Brazil (0.35 lakh tonnes), China (0.21 lakh tonnes), Thailand (0.12 lakh tonnes) and Myanmar (0.12 lakh tonnes).



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES). \* 3<sup>rd</sup> Advance estimates

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

Area under castor reported during 2023-24 was 9.00 lakh ha (22.24 lakh acres) as against 7.94 lakh ha (19.62 lakh acres) during the same period in 2022-23. Among states, Gujarat is leading with 6.70 lakh ha (16.55 lakh acres) under castor followed by Rajasthan 1.84 lakh ha (4.55 lakh acres), Andhra Pradesh 0.34 lakh ha (0.85 lakh acres), Odisha 0.04 lakh ha (0.10 lakh acres) and Karnataka 0.02 lakh ha (0.05 lakh acres). According to Government 3<sup>rd</sup> advance estimates, all India castor production in 2022-23 is at 18.70 lakh tonnes.

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

State	2022-23			2023-24		
	Area (lakh ha)	Area (lakh acres)	% to total area	Area (lakh ha)	Area (lakh acres)	% to total area
Gujarat	6.05	14.94	76.12	6.70	16.55	74.38
Rajasthan	1.49	3.68	18.78	1.84	4.55	20.44
Andhra Pradesh	0.27	0.66	3.36	0.34	0.85	3.82
Odisha	0.04	0.10	0.49	0.04	0.10	0.43
Karnataka	0.03	0.08	0.42	0.02	0.05	0.24
Others	0.10	0.24	1.25	0.08	0.21	0.92
All India	7.94	19.62	100.00	9.00	22.24	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
<b>Opening Stocks</b>	7.73	8.34
<b>Production</b>	16.19	18.70
<b>Imports</b>	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Supply</b>	23.92	27.04
<b>Exports</b>	0.00	0.00
<b>Consumption</b>	15.50	15.50
<b>Total Demand</b>	15.50	15.50
<b>Ending Stocks</b>	8.34	11.54

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

In Telangana state, Gadwal 563 ha (1391 acres), Narayanpet 386 ha (954 acres), Mahabubnagar 222 ha (548 acres), Wanaparthy 203 ha (502 acres) and Nagarkurnool 41 ha (102 acres) are major castor growing districts. According to Telangana State Government 3<sup>rd</sup> advance estimates, castor production in 2022-23 is at 0.03 lakh tonnes from 0.04 lakh ha (0.11 lakh acres) with productivity of 675 Kg/ha (273 Kg/acre).

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

District	2022-22			2023-24		
	Area (ha)	Area (acres)	% to total area	Area (ha)	Area (acres)	% to total area
Gadwal	486	1202	26.30	563	1391	36.97
Narayanpet	466	1152	25.21	386	954	25.35
Mahabubnagar	399	987	21.60	222	548	14.56
Wanaparthy	325	802	17.55	203	502	13.34
Nagarkurnool	74	184	4.03	41	102	2.71
Others	98	243	5.32	108	266	7.07
<b>Telangana State</b>	<b>1849</b>	<b>4570</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>1523</b>	<b>3763</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 August, 2023**

State	Prices August, 2023	Prices July, 2023	Prices August, 2022	% Change (Over Previous Month)	% Change (Over Previous Year)
Andhra Pradesh	6003	5839	6894	2.81	-12.92
Gujarat	6195	6069	7262	2.08	-14.69
Karnataka	6238	6200	7024	0.61	-11.19
Madhya Pradesh	5089	5221	3113	-2.53	63.48
Maharashtra	5476	5159	6203	6.14	-11.72
Rajasthan	5874	5524	6498	6.34	-9.6
Tamil Nadu	6626	6935	7055	-4.46	-6.08
Telangana	6022	5810	6794	3.65	-11.36
<b>Average</b>	<b>5940.38</b>	<b>5844.62</b>	<b>6355.38</b>		

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

**Table 5: Prices and arrivals of Castor in Gadwal market during August, 2023.**

Date	Arrival (Quintal)	Maximum price (Rs/quintal)	Minimum price (Rs/quintal)	Modal price (Rs/quintal)
1	1	5,439	5,439	5,439
2	4	5,889	5,889	5,889
7	6	5,909	5,909	5,909
8	6	5,905	5,902	5,902
17	3	5,709	5,709	5,709
19	15	5,902	5,779	5,779
22	6	5,871	5,680	5,859
23	2	2,519	2,519	2,519
28	2	5,710	5,710	5,710
29	2	5,756	5,756	5,756
30	9	5,746	5,530	5,746

Source: <http://tsmarketing.in>

Last year between April and June the castor oil export was 2.00 lakh tonnes, which during the current year in the same period decreased to 1.50 lakh tonnes. Last year between April and July the castor seed meal export was 1.05 lakh tonnes, which during the current year in the same period increased to 1.16 lakh tonnes.

Under these circumstances, Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre, PJTSAU expects that Castor is likely to trade in price range between Rs. 5400 - 5600 per quintal in the month of September 2023.