

MIRG BAHAR 2024-25 PRE-HARVEST PRICE FORECAST OF SWEET LIME

Sweet lime Price per quintal will be around Rs. 3400 – 3700 at the Time of Harvesting (March to April 2025)

Citrus fruits rank third in area and production after banana and mango in India. Sweet lime (*Citrus sinensis*) is the second largest citrus fruit cultivated in the country. Among sweet limes Mosambi (Maharashtra), Satgudi (Andhra Pradesh and Telangana) and Malta and Jaffa (Punjab) are traditionally grown in India.

In India, area under sweet lime reported during 2023-24 was 2.37 lakh ha (5.86 lakh acres). Major sweet lime cultivating states are Andhra Pradesh 1.13 lakh ha (2.79 lakh acres), Maharashtra 0.78 lakh ha (1.92 lakh acres), Telangana 0.23 lakh ha (0.57 lakh acres), Madhya Pradesh 0.08 lakh ha (0.19 lakh acres), Punjab 0.04 lakh ha (0.11 lakh acres) and Karnataka 0.01 lakh ha (0.02 lakh acres).

According to Central Government report, all India sweet lime production in 2023-24 is at 38.14 lakh tonnes. Major sweet lime producing states are Andhra Pradesh (22.58 lakh tonnes), Maharashtra (9.44 lakh tonnes), Telangana (3.95 lakh tonnes), Madhya Pradesh (1.30 lakh tonnes), Punjab (0.38 lakh tonnes) and Karnataka (0.12 lakh tonnes).

Telangana has produced 3.95 lakh tonnes of sweet lime in the year 2023-24. Major producing districts are Nalgonda (2.77 lakh tonnes), Jogulamba Gadwal (0.42 lakh tonnes), Narayanpet (0.36 lakh tonnes), Yadadri Bhuvanagiri (0.09 lakh tonnes), Wanaparthy (0.08 lakh tonnes) and Mahabubnagar (0.08 lakh tonnes).

In Telangana during 2024-25, area covered under sweet lime was 23997 ha (59299 acres). Major sweet orange growing districts in Telangana are Nalgonda 17683 ha (43697 acres), Jogulamba Gadwal 3170 ha (7833 acres), Narayanpet 1080 ha (2671 acres), Wanaparthy 487 ha (1205 acres), Yadadri Bhuvanagiri 328 ha (812 acres) and Mahabubnagar 281 ha (696 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, Professor Jayashankar Telangana Agricultural University Rajendranagar, Hyderabad with the financial support of Agricultural Marketing Department, Telangana State has assessed pre-harvest price forecast of sweet lime for Mirg bahar 2024-25. Under normal crop area coverage and its condition it is predicted that the sweet lime price per quintal will be around **Rs. 3400 - 3700** at the time of harvesting (**March to April 2025**). This price forecast is based on the fortnight modal price of sweet lime obtained for 7 years from Gaddi Annaram regulated market using econometric models like ARIMA, ARIMAX, SARIMA, ARCH, GARCH, 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.