

Cumin Price forecasting for 2020-2021

Cumin is mainly cultivated in India, Syria, Iran, Turkey, China and Latin America. In all these countries, India is the largest producer and consumer of cumin contributed around 70% in world production. India has also benefit of supply gap in international market, as harvesting time in rest of the producer countries is June- July while it is March-April in India.

During 2019-20 in India, cumin occupied about 8.42 lakh ha area and production was estimated about 5.47 lakh tonnes against 6.99 lakh tonnes with estimated area of 10.27 lakh ha in 2018-19. Export has increased from 1.80 lakh tonnes in 2018-19 to 2.10 lakh tonnes in 2019-20. Hence, cumin price which was prevailing around Rs. 2692 per 20 kg in March, 2018 in Gujarat, increased to about Rs. 2882 per 20 kg in March, 2019 and further decreased to about Rs. 2568 per 20 kg in March, 2020, in August Rs.2517 and in September Rs. 2426 which was lower than previous year prices, this could be attributed to COVID-19 effect.

Gujarat and Rajasthan are major cumin growing states in India while Gujarat contributes around 61% in production. In the year 2019-20, in Gujarat, the area under cumin is reported about 4.80 lakh ha (Fourth Advance Estimate, Directorate of Agriculture, Gujarat) as against 3.50 lakh ha as in last year 2018-19 (Revised Final Advance Estimate, Directorate of Agriculture, Gujarat). Production is estimated higher about 3.85 lakh tonnes as against 2.00 lakh tonnes in 2018-19. Due to lower price realization there is chance of reduction in area and production of cumin this year, but carryover stocks of cumin are higher and will come in market during next March-April. So, prices are likely remain stable in next year market.

Considering these all and reviewing the traders' reports, the research team of NAHEP-CAAST, IABMI, Anand Agricultural University, Anand, analyzed the historical monthly price data of cumin collected from major cumin market of Gujarat state. The econometric analysis revealed that the **prices of cumin during March-April 2021 i.e. at harvest may remain in the range of Rs. 2200-2700/ 20kg. (Rs. 11000 to Rs. 13500 per quintal).**

If export of cumin increases, there is possibility that the cumin price may go up in future.

