

KHARIF 2018-19 PRE-HARVEST PRICE FORECAST OF MAIZE

Maize Price per Quintal will be around Rs. 1250-1450 at the Time of Harvesting (October to November 2018)

Maize or corn (*Zea mays*) is cultivated globally being one of the most important cereal crops worldwide. Maize is not only an important food crop for human consumption, but also a basic element of animal feed and raw material for manufacturing of many industrial products. The United States of America is the largest producer of maize with 371.50 million tonnes followed by China, Brazil, European Union, Argentina and India. (USDA August report, 2018). As per the fourth advanced estimates of Government of India, maize production was estimated at 28.72 million tons in 2017-18, which was 2.82 million tons more than that during 2016-17.

According to the all India crop coverage report, Government of India, maize has been sown in 79.14 lakh hectares as on 14th September 2018 which is slightly higher than 79.02 lakh hectares covered during corresponding period of last year. In Madhya Pradesh, it has been sown in 13.61 lakh hectares followed by Karnataka (11.59 lakh hectares) and Rajasthan (8.71 lakh hectares). However, the area coverage in the above states during corresponding period of last year was 13.17 lakh hectares, 11.25 lakh hectares and 8.56 lakh hectares respectively. In Maharashtra, it has been sown in 8.29 lakh hectares which is lower than 9.11 lakh hectares covered during corresponding period of last year.

In Telangana, maize has been sown in around 4.60 lakh hectares as on 5th September 2018 which is higher than 4.49 lakh hectares covered during corresponding period of last year. So far Siddipet stood first in maize sown area with 78,832 hectares followed by Nagarkurnool (63,637 ha), Rangareddy (42,321 ha) and Mahabubnagar (34,635 ha). There is report of army warm pest attack in the Karimnagar, Siricilla, Jagitial, Khammam, Nizamabad, Kamareddy, Mahabubnagar, Nagarkurnool, Gadwal, Medak, Sangareddy, Siddipet, Warangal, Jangaon, Mahabubabad and Vikarabad districts.

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, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad at Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University with the financial support of Agricultural Marketing Department, Telangana State has assessed 2018-19 kharif pre-harvest price forecast of maize. Under expected normal production and increased minimum support price of maize by 19.3 percent to Rs. 1700/q from Rs. 1425/q, it is expected that the maize price per quintal will be around **Rs.1250-1450** at the time of harvesting (October to November 2018). This price forecast is based on the monthly modal price of maize obtained for 17 years from Badepalli regulated market using econometric models like ARIMA, SARIMA, ARCH, GARCH and ANN and also the market survey. Badepall, Mahabubnagar and Nagarkurnool are the major maize markets in Telangana state.

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.