

RABI 2018-19 PRE SOWING PRICE FORECAST OF BENGALGRAM

Bengalgram Price per Quintal Will be Around Rs 4100 – 4300 At the Time of Harvesting (December 2018 to January 2019)

Bengalgram is one of the important grain legume crops, rich in many nutrients. In 2018, higher bengalgram area was recorded in USA (853146 acres) as per Farm Service Agency of USA. Bengalgram harvesting in Canada has reached 40% and availability for new chickpea is said to be around 1 lakh tonnes now as against 45,000 tonnes last year at this point of time. Chickpeas export from Canada increased by 16% from 108 to 116 thousand tonnes for 2017-18 due to aggressive buying by Turkey and EU. Despite India being out of global market carryout remained almost unchanged at 1 thousand tonnes like previous year.

Global bengalgram market traded almost steady as demand from bulk buyers like India remained subdued. Other buyers too are unwilling to buy as they hope market to move further down from current level. Growers and processors seem worried a lot due to weak demand for small and medium caliber product. The average price decreased slightly from \$1000 to \$950 per tonne in 2017-18 due to tight global side. 2018-19 bengalgram production is expected to increase sharply due to higher area.

In India about 89.58 lakh ha area coverage was reported under bengalgram during rabi 2017-18. The states of Madhya Pradesh (31.24 lakh ha), Maharashtra (14.22 lakh ha), Rajasthan (13.95 lakh ha), Karnataka (13.25 lakh ha), Uttar Pradesh (5.20 lakh ha) and Andhra Pradesh (4.3 lakh ha) are the major producers of bengalgram in India. Bengalgram production estimate in 2017-18 was increased to 11.10 million tonnes from 9.38 million tonnes in 2016-17. India has imported about 9.9 lakh tonnes of bengalgram during 2017-18.

In Telangana state, rabi 2017-18 acreage covered under bengalgram was about 0.95 lakh ha. The major districts producing this crop include Kamareddy (19,653 ha), Nirmal (18,364 ha), Gadwal (12,434 ha), Adilabad (10,842 ha) and Nizamabad (9,812 ha). The major markets for this crop in Telangana are Narayanpet, Adilabad, Bainsa, Nizamabad, Sadasivpet, Zaheerabad, Parigi and Tandur.

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 rabi pre-sowing price forecast of bengalgram. Under expected normal weather conditions it is predicted that the bengalgram price per quintal will be around **Rs.4100-4300** at the time of harvesting (Dec 2018 to Jan 2019). This price forecast is based on the monthly modal price of bengalgram obtained for 17 years from Narayanpet regulated market using econometric models like ARIMA, SARIMA, ARCH, GARCH and 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.