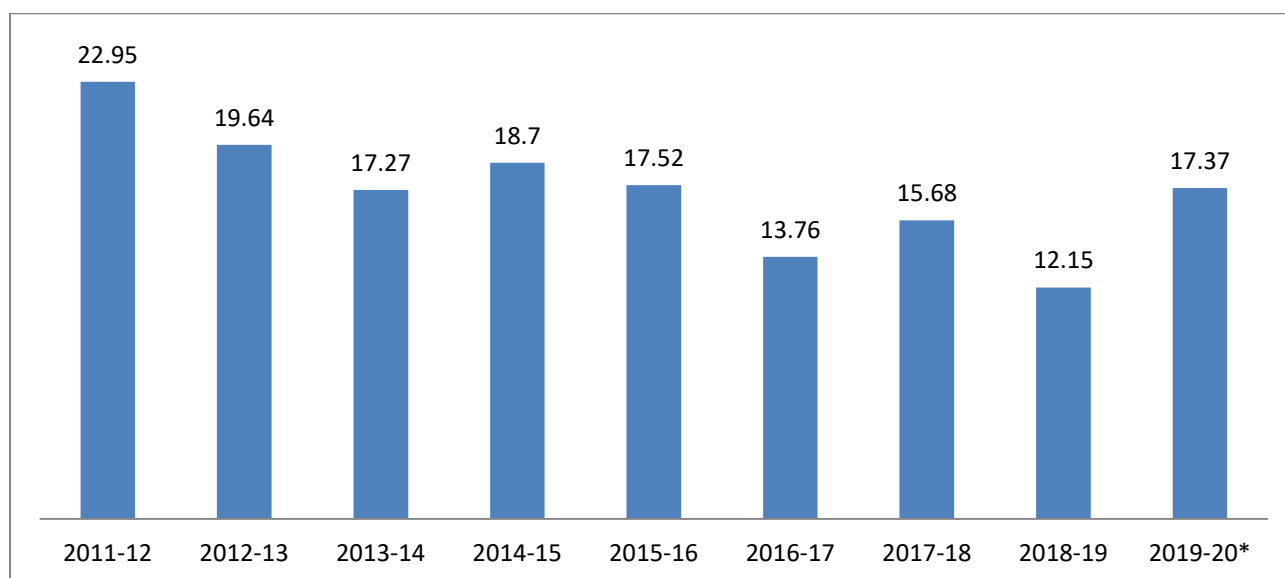


Castor Outlook – December 2019

Castor is mostly grown in arid and semi-arid regions. It is cultivated in 30 different countries on commercial scale of which India, China, Brazil, Russia, Thailand, Ethiopia and Philippines are major castor seed growing countries accounting for nearly 88% of the world's production.

All India kharif oilseeds sown area was reported as 179.48 lakh ha on 27th September 2019 as against 179.28 lakh ha in the corresponding period of last year. Castor area was reported as 9.38 lakh ha as against 8.76 lakh ha during the same period of last year. In India, major castor producing states are Gujarat (7.02 lakh ha), Rajasthan (1.54 lakh ha), Andhra Pradesh (0.33 lakh ha), Telangana (0.22 lakh ha) and Odisha (0.04 lakh ha). In Telangana major growing districts are Narayanpet (6973 ha), Wanaparthi (5567 ha), Mahabubnagar (5104 ha) and Gadwal (2163 ha). According to Government 1st advance estimate, castor production in 2019-20 is at 17.37 lakh tonnes.



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES)

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

Table 1: Castor Domestic Supply & Demand (in lakh tonnes)

	2018-19	2019-20*
Opening Stocks	5.49	4.64
Production	12.15	17.37
Imports	0	0
Total Supply	17.64	22.01
Exports	0	0
Consumption	13	13.2
Total Demand	13	13.2
Ending Stocks	4.64	8.81

Source: www.agriwatch.com * Estimated

Table 2: Prices and arrivals of Castor in Gadwal market during November 2019

Date	Arrival (Tonnes)	Maximum price (Rs/quintal)	Minimum price (Rs/quintal)	Modal price (Rs/quintal)
1	261	4420	2012	4052
2	399	4080	2002	3940
4	765	4017	2537	3940
5	431	4020	3047	3920
6	424	4015	2517	3930
7	251	3920	2327	3877
8	379	3960	2859	3936
9	378	3980	2537	3940
15	426	3970	2502	3890
19	246	3920	3210	3830
20	182	3940	3680	3910
21	194	3889	2602	3862
22	238	3907	2223	3877
23	143	4876	2717	3865
27	178	3982	2910	3840
28	174	3826	3626	3810
29	141	3882	3010	3782
30	171	3961	2817	3739

Source: www.tsmarketing.in

As per market sources, castor oil exports in the month of October 2019 is 37.092 thousand MT which is 10.33 per cent lower than September exports of 40.927 thousand MT. On a cumulative basis, exports were 4.55 lakh MT from Jan to Oct 2019, which is 11.67 per cent lower than last year exports of 5.15 lakh MT during the same period. Exports were lower this year due to high domestic market prices.

Both future as well cash castor oil and seed markets were dropped last month due to supply pressure in major markets. According to the AGMARK data, all India castor crop arrivals in the third week of November are reported at 6.57 Thousand MT which is 55 percent higher than last year arrivals of 3.17 thousand MT in the same time period.

Under these circumstances, Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre, PJTSAU expect that Castor is likely to trade in price range between Rs. 3800 - 3950 per quintal in the month of December 2019.