

KHARIF 2019-20 PRE-HARVEST PRICE FORECAST OF RAGI

**Ragi Price per Quintal will be around Rs 2000 – 2200 at the Time of Harvesting
(October to November 2019)**

It is the most important small millet in the tropics covering 12% of global millet area. It is cultivated in more than 25 countries in Africa (Eastern and Southern) and Asia (from Near East to Far East), predominantly as a staple food grain. The major producers are Uganda, India, Nepal, and China. The specialty of these tiny deep red pearls is the abundance of nutrients present in them. Finger millet is a rich source of calcium, iron, protein, fiber and other minerals and is a gluten-free food. The cereal has low fat content and contains mainly unsaturated fat. It is easy to digest and does not contain gluten; people who are sensitive to gluten can easily consume finger millet. It is considered as one of the most nutritious cereals.

Ragi crop covered in India has 9.66 lakh ha in the year of 2019-20. The major ragi producing states in India are Karnataka (5.80 lakh ha), Orissa (1.11 lakh ha), Uttarakand (1.10 lakh ha), Tamil Nadu (0.50 lakh ha), Andhra Pradesh (0.24 lakh ha) and Maharashtra (0.78 lakh ha). According to 4th Advance Estimates of Production of Food grains for 2018-19, ragi production estimate was 1.22 million tonnes as against 1.99 million tonnes in 2017-18.

The area covered under ragi in Telangana during 2019-20 was 1402 ha. The major producing districts of ragi crop in Telangana are Mahabubnagar (382 ha), Nagarkurnool (59 ha), Asifabad (68 ha), Wanaparthy (111 ha), Vikarabad (174 ha) and Rangareddy (100 ha).

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 2019-20 kharif pre-harvesting price forecast of ragi. Under normal rainfall and high crop area coverage, it is expected that the ragi price per quintal will be around **Rs. 2000 - 2200** at the time of harvesting (Oct to Nov 2019). This price forecast is based on the monthly modal price of ragi obtained for 17 years from Mahabubnagar regulated market using econometric models like ARIMA, ARIMAX, 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.