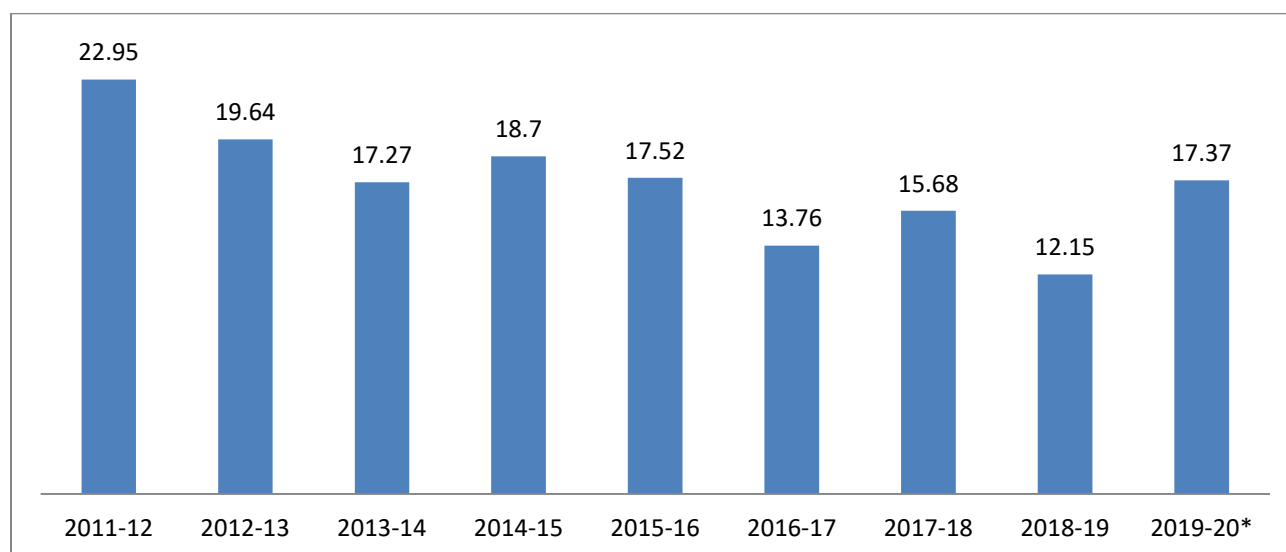


Castor Outlook – February 2020

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), Wanaparthy (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)

Robust sowing, supported by increased water availability following extended rains, has brightened the castor crop prospects in the largest growing States, Gujarat and Rajasthan. According to farmers and trade sources, the current crop condition appears good and the output is

likely to cross 17 lakh tonnes, a likely record in at least the past seven years. In 2011-12, castor crop output was recorded at 16.2 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 Devarakadra market during January 2020

Date	Arrival (Tonnes)	Maximum price (Rs/quintal)	Minimum price (Rs/quintal)	Modal price (Rs/quintal)
2	241	3962	3709	3835
3	126	3962	3736	3849
4	42	3926	3759	3842
6	171	3962	3689	3826
7	157	3963	3829	3896
9	382	3974	3639	3807
10	144	3946	3793	3869
11	89	3944	3769	3856
13	177	3861	3631	3746
17	53	3839	3701	3770
18	164	3869	3669	3769
20	165	3843	3659	3751
21	138	3789	3659	3724
22	92	3769	3609	3689
23	39	3759	3669	3714
25	67	3756	3626	3691
27	72	3669	3571	3620
28	121	3653	3526	3590

Source: www.tsmarketing.in

Under these circumstances, Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre, PJTSAU expect that Castor is likely to trade in price range between Rs. 3600 - 3800 per quintal in the month of February 2020.