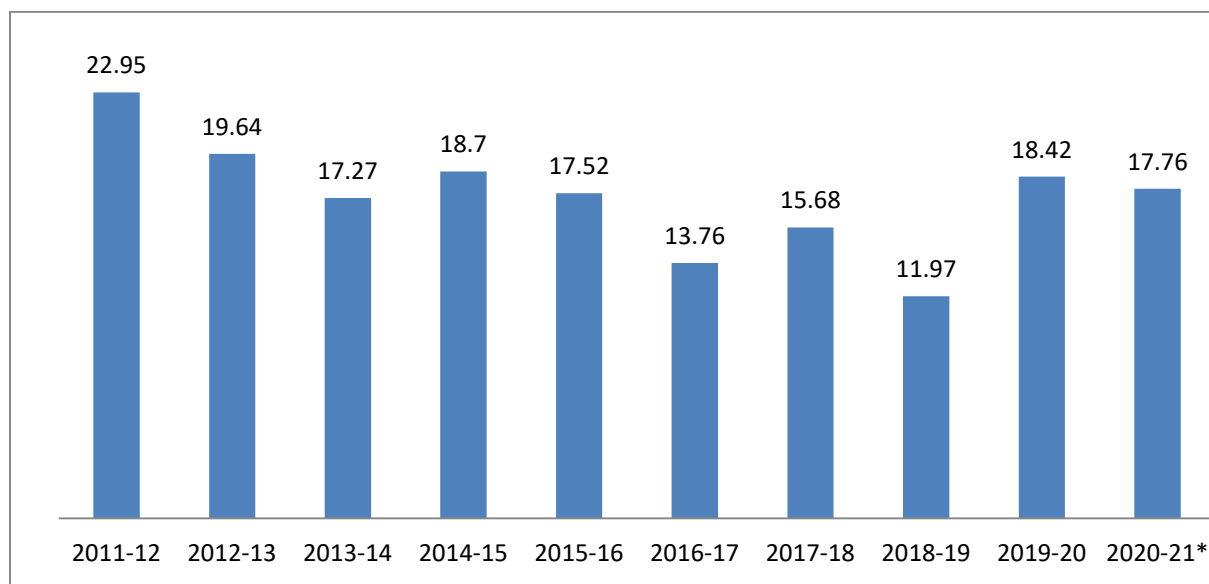


Castor Outlook – May 2021

Castor is one of the oldest cultivated crops; however, it contributes to only 0.15% of the vegetable oil produced in the world. The oil produced from this crop is considered to be of importance to the global specialty chemical industry because it is the only commercial source of a hydroxylate fatty acid. Castor plant is grown in arid and semi-arid regions. In 2018-19, World major castor producing countries are India (11.97 lakh tonnes), Mozambique (0.85 lakh tonnes), China (0.27 lakh tonnes), Brazil (0.14 lakh tonnes) and Myanmar (0.12 lakh tonnes).

In India, area under castor reported during 2020-21 was 7.743 lakh ha (19.133 lakh acres) as against 9.101 lakh ha (22.489 lakh acres) during the same period in 2019-20. Among states, Gujarat is leading with 5.799 lakh ha (14.330 lakh acres) under castor followed by Rajasthan 1.390 lakh ha (3.435 lakh acres), Andhra Pradesh 0.180 lakh ha (0.445 lakh acres) and Telangana 0.094 lakh ha (0.234 lakh acres). According to Government 2nd advance estimates, all India castor production in 2020-21 is at 17.76 lakh tonnes.



Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES). * 2nd Advance estimates

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

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

	2019-20	2020-21
Opening Stocks	2.30	6.22
Production	18.42	17.76
Imports	0.00	0.00
Total Supply	20.72	23.98
Consumption	14.50	15.00
Exports	0.00	0.00
Total Demand	14.50	15.00
Ending Stocks	6.22	8.98

Source: www.agriwatch.com

In Telangana state, Wanaparthy 2,812 ha (6,949 acres), Mahabubnagar 2,361 ha (5,834 acres), Narayanpet 1,683 ha (4,158 acres), Gadwal 1,119 ha (2,962 acres) and Nagarkurnool 686 ha (1,694 acres) are major castor growing districts. According to Telangana State Government 1st advance estimates, castor production in 2020-21 is at 0.13 lakh tonnes with productivity of 1483 Kg/ha (600 Kg/acre).

Table 2: State wise wholesale prices of Castor during April, 2021

State	Prices April, 2021	Prices March, 2021	Prices April, 2020	% Change (Over Previous Month)	% Change (Over Previous Year)
Andhra Pradesh	4535.87	4508.93		0.6	—
Gujarat	4806.11	4585.62	3710.82	4.81	29.52
Karnataka	4372.33	4421.97	3413.27	-1.12	28.1
Maharashtra	3542.86	3300		7.36	—
Rajasthan	4689.22	4517.08	3603.25	3.81	30.14
Tamil Nadu	4249.98	4326.25		-1.76	—
Telangana		4228.23		—	—
Average	4366.06	4269.73	3575.78		

Source: www.agriwatch.com

Table 3: Prices and arrivals of Castor in Gadwal market during April 2021

Date	Arrival (Tonnes)	Maximum price (Rs/quintal)	Minimum price (Rs/quintal)	Modal price (Rs/quintal)
1	7	4667	4547	4622
4	21	4702	4626	4701
6	3	4640	4557	4640
7	20	4640	4450	4512
8	32	4730	4440	4730
9	23	4734	4561	4630
10	12	4712	4476	4692
15	30	4760	4340	4690
16	22	4770	4681	4712
17	26	4790	4560	4760
19	59	4790	4546	4760
20	66	4797	4670	4760
22	18	4740	4610	4702
23	52	4816	4387	4646
24	19	4817	4556	4712
26	22	4812	4647	4736
27	5	4780	4720	4780
30	43	4870	4100	4860

Source: www.tsmarketing.in

Due to strong prices of edible oils, the price of castor oil is also expected to stay strong. Last year between April to February the castor oil export was 4.51 lakh tonnes, which during the current year in the same period increased to 6.02 lakh tonnes.

Under these circumstances, Agricultural Market Intelligence Centre, PJTSAU expect that Castor is likely to trade in price range between Rs. 4500 - 4700 per quintal in the month of May 2021.