

KHARIF 2017-18 PRE-HARVEST PRICE FORECAST OF JOWAR

Jowar Price per Quintal will be around Rs. 1200-1450 at the Time of Harvesting (September to October 2017)

Sorghum is the fifth most important cereal crop in the world after wheat, rice, maize and barley. It is found in the arid and semi arid parts of the world, due to its feature of being extremely drought tolerant. The nutritional value of sorghum is same as that of corn and that is why it is gaining importance as livestock feed. More than 90% of the world's sorghum area lies in the developing countries, mainly in Africa and Asia. World sorghum markets are thin and highly competitive. USA is an important player in world sorghum market and benefits from highly efficient and subsidized production. As per the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) projections in the month of July 2017 the global sorghum production in 2017/2018 will be 59.98 million metric tons, while the same in India is 4.5 million metric tons.

India is 3rd largest producer of sorghum in world and has the largest sorghum area with 15.59 lakh ha (2017 kharif). This was slightly less than the area recorded under sorghum during the year 2016-17 kharif (17.78 lakh ha.). The major jowar growing states in India are Maharashtra, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu ,Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh.

In Telangana Mahabubnagar, Vikarabad, Sangareddy, Nirmal, Asifabad and Kamareddy are the major jowar growing districts contributing around 75% of total jowar production in the state. The area under jowar during 2017-18 is 0.41 lakh hectares which is less than that in 2016-17 (0.56 lakh hectares).

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, Professor Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad with the financial support of Agricultural Marketing Department, Telangana State has assessed pre-harvest price forecast of jowar for kharif 2017-18 based on the 16 years monthly modal prices of Mahabubnagar regulated market using econometric models like ARIMA, SARIMA, ARCH, GARCH and ANN and also the market survey. Under expected normal productivity and increase in MSP by Rs. 75/- it is predicted that the price of jowar would be around **Rs 1200-1450** at the time of harvesting. (Sep to Oct 2017). Mahabubnagar and Badepalli are found to be the two major markets for jowar in the state.

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.