

## **KHARIF 2018-19 PRE HARVESTING PRICE FORECAST OF RAGI**

**Ragi Price per Quintal will be around Rs 2000 – 2200 at the Time of Harvesting  
(October to November 2018)**

Ragi 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 and Asia, predominantly as a staple food grain. The major producers are Uganda, India, Nepal, and China. Finger millet is an excellent source of natural calcium which helps in strengthening bones for growing children and aging people.

In India, during kharif 2018-19 about 8.22 lakh ha area was covered under ragi as against 10.00 lakh hectares during kharif 2017-18. The states of Karnataka (4.51 lakh ha), Uttarakhand (1.09 lakh ha), Maharashtra (0.81 lakh ha) and Tamil Nadu (0.26 lakh ha) are the major producers of bajra in India. The area covered under ragi in Telangana was increased during kharif 2018-19 to 963 hectares from 526 hectares during last kharif 2017-18. The major districts producing this crop include Mahabubnagar (578 ha) and Nagar Kurnool (160 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 2018-19 kharif pre-harvest price forecast of ragi. Under normal rainfall and crop conditions, it is expected that the ragi price per quintal will be around **Rs. 2000-2200** at the time of harvesting (Oct to Nov 2018). 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, SARIMA, ARCH, GARCH and ANN and also the market survey. The minimum support price announced by the Government was Rs. 2897 per quintal.

*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.*