

KHARIF 2018-19 PRE-SOWING PRICE FORECAST OF RAGI

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

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.

Major ragi producing states in India are Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Odissa, Andhra Pradesh, Uttarakand, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh. The area covered under ragi in Telangana during 2017-18 was 460 ha. The major districts producing this crop include Mahabubnagar and Nagarkurnool.

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-sowing price forecast of ragi. Under expected normal rainfall and very low 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 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.

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.