



Vol.3  
Issue- 1  
January 2017

# *Agricultural Production and* **Market Outlook**

The Rising Agriculture....

Chairman  
Prof. Shirish R. Kulkarni

Hon. Adviser  
Dr. Mahesh Pathak

Chief Editor  
Dr. S. S. Kalamkar

Associate Editors  
Dr. H. P. Trivedi  
Dr. D. J. Chauhan

Managing Editor  
Dr. Hemant Sharma

Subject Editors  
Dr. S. R. Bhaiya  
Dr. Vijay S. Jariwala  
Dr. M. N. Swain  
Shri M. C. Makwana

Circulation Incharge  
Shri Deep K. Patel

Publisher  
Agro-Economic Research Centre  
Sardar Patel University  
Vallabh Vidyanagar 388120  
Anand, Gujarat

Email: [director.aerc@gmail.com](mailto:director.aerc@gmail.com)  
Web: [www.aercspu.ac.in](http://www.aercspu.ac.in)

## **Sowing App developed by Microsoft and ICRISAT help to increase yield by 30 per cent**

A Sowing App, developed by Microsoft and International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) in partnership with the Government of AP contributed to an average increase of 30 per cent in yield per acre.

The app was launched as a pilot project in Devanakonda mandal of Kurnool district in June 2016. The app was developed to help small farmers cultivating groundnut achieve optimal harvests by advising them on the best time to sow, soil and other indicators. The personalised village advisory dashboard provides important insights into soil health, recommends fertiliser, and forecasts seven-day weather.

During the pilot project, farmers were sent 10 sowing advisories from June 10 via SMS in Telugu, comprising essential information such as



seed treatment, optimum sowing depth, preventive weed management, land preparation, harvesting, shade drying, and storage. The data could be integrated with other data collected from the Rythu Kosam project to build predictive models for the farmers.

Registered farmers did the sowing in the last week of June and managed the crop as per the advisories

of ICRISAT and Microsoft. Farmers who sowed in the first week of June got meagre yields due to long dry spell in August. Registered farmers, who sowed in the last week of June and first week of July, and followed the advisories got better yields," said C. Madhusudhana, president, Chaitanya Youth Association and Watershed Community Association, Devanakonda.

### **Export of soybean meal increases by 446.38 per cent**

The export of soybean meal and its other value added products during January 2017 is 1,55,164 tons compared to 28,398 tons in January 2016 showing an increase of 446.38% over the same period of last year, according to figures released by Soybean Processors Association of India (SOPA) . On a financial year basis, the export during April'2016 to January'2017 is 6,01,294 tons as compared to 3,30,702 tons in the same period of previous year showing an increase of 81.82%. During current oil year, (October – September),



total exports during October 2016 to January 2017 is 5,25,562 tons as against 1,29,174 tons last year, showing an increase by 306.86%.

### **Govt approves Revenue Insurance Scheme for plantation crops**



The Commerce Ministry has approved the pilot Revenue Insurance Scheme for plantation crops for protecting the growers from the risks such as yield loss, pest attacks and income decline caused by fall in prices.

The Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) Scheme, 2003 was closed on September 30, 2013 and Revenue Insurance Scheme for Plantation Crops (RISPC) is an improved form of the PSF. Ministry said that RISPC was approved on September 16, 2016 and will be implemented on a pilot basis for two years covering tea, coffee, rubber, cardamom and

tobacco in eight districts in West Bengal, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Sikkim and Tamil Nadu by the commodity boards. "Department of Commerce has recently approved the pilot RISPC for protecting growers of plantation crops from the twin risks of yield loss due to adverse weather parameters,

pest attacks etc and income loss caused by fall in international/domestic prices," On the basis of performance of the pilot project, the minister said, the scheme will be considered for extension to other districts.

### Gujarat farmers expect bumper potato crop



Sowing of potato in the state is expected to cross 12 lakh hectares this year, as compared 10.70 lakh hectares last year. In 2015, potato sowing was conducted over 5.19 lakh hectares till December 05. This year, however, 10.17 lakh hectares have been sown by the same date. Consequently, a bumper potato crop is expected. Currently, Gujarat ranks fifth in the country in production of potato. Potato production in the state has been rising steadily. While 23 lakh tones had come to the market in 2014, in 2015, that amount went up to 31

lakh tones, and to 35 lakh tones in 2016. Sowing of the crop picked up over last month, said officials, who reported that at least 5.51 lakh hectares had been sown in the last 20 days alone. If the trend continues, sowing will cross 12 lakh hectares so far the highest area used to cultivate potato in Gujarat in any year.

### FAO ups 2016 wheat output estimate to 749 mt

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations has raised its forecast for global wheat output in 2016 to a new record high of 749.3 million tones from 746.7 mt estimated month ago. The estimated was raised mainly as yield prospects in Iran and Kazakhstan have improved, the report said. The estimated output is higher than last year's production of 735.1 mln tn, the organization said in its monthly report. The crop is expected to be higher than last year due to favorable weather conditions in the US, Russia



and Ukraine. The FAO also expects wheat output in India and Pakistan to be up from last year due to improved availability of water. Output in china is also likely to rise because of good planting conditions.

### Govt Launches e-Hub For Farming Sector

The agriculture ministry launched an ICAR data centre connecting 274 specialized institutions and universities which will act as an information hub for the farm sector and eventually link the rural population with high speed internet network. The centre will cater to research institutions by providing consultancy, project management, training and other value-added services. "This data centre of ICAR will play an important role in promoting the

'Digital India Campaign' in the agriculture sector. The Campaign aims at providing electronic services while reducing the requirements of paper", said agriculture minister Radha Mohan Singh. He said, "Many have expressed doubts about our production data. The new ICAR data centre will provide transparent and accurate data." His remarks came in the backdrop of doubt over the government's production data in certain quarters. Traders of farm produce have recently questioned the wheat production estimate of 93.55 million tones for 2015-16 crop years, saying the actual output was around 86 million tones. A mobile app for 'Krishi Vigyan Kendra' was also launched.



**#TransformingIndia**

**Saksham Kisan, Samridh Bharat**

**KVK Portal: An Online Monitoring System for Farmers**

**Provisions for online monitoring of KVKs**

- Weather & Market information available
- Ready information on different services
- Various training programmes for farmers & youth alike
- Farmers & Agricultural Officers can seek information related to KVKs
- Information about forthcoming schemes & programmes
- District level information on agriculture

MyGovIndia | MyGovIndia | <https://transformingindia.mygov.in> | Published Date: 15th July, 2016

Book Post

To,

---



---



---



---



---

From:

**Agro-Economic Research Centre**

*For the states of Gujarat and Rajasthan*

(Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India)

H.M. Patel Institute of Rural Development,

Opp. Nanadalaya Temple, Post Box No. 24,

**Sardar Patel University**

Vallabh Vidyanagar 388120, Anand, Gujarat

Ph.No. +91-2692-230106, 230799, Fax- +91-2692-233106

E-mail : [director.aerc@gmail.com](mailto:director.aerc@gmail.com)

Website: [www.aercspu.ac.in](http://www.aercspu.ac.in)

*Acknowledged the information used/taken from the public domain*

DOI : March - 07, 2017

Lajja : 02692-233864