



Sustainable Agriculture



Agricultural Production and Market Outlook

The Rising Agriculture....

Vol. I

Issue-04

October 2015

Chairman

Dr. Harish Padh

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. M. N. Swain

Dr. S. R. Bhaiya

Shri M. C. Makwana

Circulation Incharge

Shri Deep K. Patel

Publisher

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

PM Modi launches Soil Health Card scheme targeting 14 crore farmers

Pointing out that soil health has deteriorated due to high usage of fertilisers, Modi asked farmers to take care of soil. The card, to be issued after testing soil, would help them save up to Rs 50,000 in 3 acres of land.

We used more urea, more water and more fertilizers to get more benefits but as a result of it, the soil health has deteriorated. Now, it is high time we pay attention towards it. Therefore, the government is today launching this national scheme. The card, which will carry crop-wise recommendation of fertilisers required for farm lands, will help farmers identify health of soil and judiciously use soil nutrients. Farmers need to do away with traditional farming techniques and adopt scientific methods of agriculture to raise crop yields

Besides soil health, the Prime Minister asked farmers to use drip irrigation to get more crop from each drop of water and to keep the land and soil away from the hazards of using water more than required.



<http://www.plinews.com/>

Agro-Economic Research Centre

Government not to extend export subsidy on raw sugar for 2015-16



The government has decided not to extend export subsidy on raw sugar in the current 2015-16 marketing year starting this month.

In March, the government had extended subsidy at a fixed rate of Rs 4,000 a tonne for export of up to 1.4 million tonnes of raw sugar for the 2014-15 marketing year (October- September) to help boost sugar millers' cash flow and enable payment of huge sugarcane arrears to farmers. Mills have availed the subsidy and managed to export only about 4,00,000 tonnes of raw sugar in 2014-15. The subsidy scheme will not be extended further for this year.

The export subsidy scheme was not successful as very few millers took advantage of the incentive. The quantity of exports undertaken in 2014-15 was much lower than 7.5 lakh tonnes of raw sugar done under the export incentive scheme in the 2013-14 marketing year.

At present, cane arrears have come down to Rs 12,248 crore from Rs 14,500 crore in March. Last year, the Centre had announced a subsidy for exports of raw sugar up to four million tonnes in order to help the cash-starved industry clear arrears to sugarcane farmers. The subsidy scheme ended in September 2014 but it was in March that the new government decided to extend it for the 2014-15 marketing year. The quantum of subsidy fixed at Rs 4,000 per tonne for 2014-15 was much higher than Rs 3,371 per tonne fixed last year for August-September period. Sugar production is estimated at record 28.3 million tonnes in 2014-15 marketing year (October-September), as against 24.3 million tonnes in the previous year, while the total annual demand is pegged at 24.5 million tonnes.

India to enter new cotton season with historically highest closing stock: CAI

The cotton year is from October to September as arrival of new cotton normally begins from October. The Cotton Association of India (CAI) lowered its estimate for the cotton season 2015-16 and placed the same at 377.00 lakh bales of 170 kgs each, down by 1.5% over the cotton production in the previous year. The CAI had also released its August estimate for the cotton season 2014-15 and retained the crop at 382.75 lakh bales of 170 kgs each.

"The projected Balance Sheet drawn by the CAI estimated total cotton supply for the season 2015-16 at 467.65 lakh bales while the domestic consumption is estimated at 325.00 lakh bales thus leaving an available surplus of 142.65 lakh bales," stated a CAI release. With prices ruling much below the government mandated minimum support price (MSP), farmers and the industry is waiting for the government to announce market intervention to support cotton prices.



<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com>

Kharif crop sowing crosses 1,026 lakh hectares



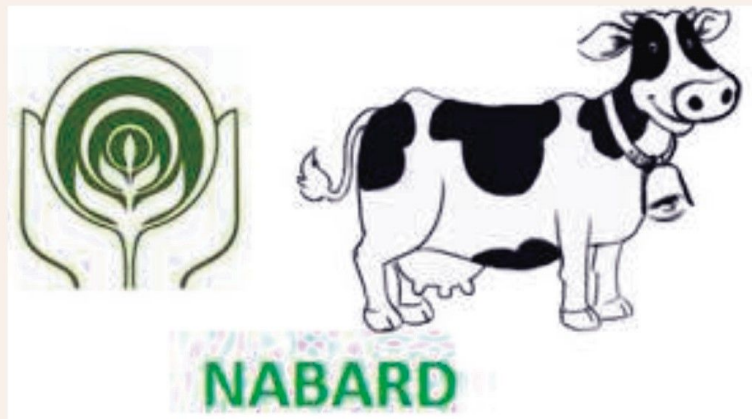
The total area sown under kharif crops registered a marginal increase of 1.18 per cent at 1,026.23 lakh hectares against 1,014.24 lakh hectare in the same period in the previous year. Going through the latest figures furnished by the Ministry of Agriculture, total area under pulses accounted for a significant increase of 11.41 per cent. While areas sown under coarse cereals and oilseeds recorded a rise of 2.65 per cent and 3.49 per cent respectively, cotton saw a big fall of 8.39 per cent, followed by jute & mesta (4.06 per cent). There was a marginal increase in area under sugarcane at 0.21 per cent. With sowing operations for kharif season nearly coming to an end, the area under rice, the main kharif crop, remained almost flat at 374.09 hectares against 373.86 lakh hectares.

The recently released first advance estimates of production of major kharif crops for 2015-16 by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare revealed that total production of kharif foodgrains at 124.05 million tonnes a rise of 3.78 million tonnes over the previous year advance estimates of 120.27 million tonnes.

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/agri-business>

<i>In lakh hectare</i>		
AREA UNDER KHARIF CROP		
Crop	2015-16	2014-15
Rice	374.09	373.86
Pulses	113.45	101.83
Coarse cereals	183.16	178.44
Oilseeds	183.68	177.49
Sugarcane	48.84	48.74
Jute & Mesta	7.80	8.13
Cotton	115.20	125.75
Total	1,026.23	1,014.24

NABARD offers Rs 147 crore loan to promote dairy farming



Rural development lender NABARD is offering a loan to the sum of Rs 147 crore to promote dairy farming in the country: Nabard is promoting various projects such as dairy, producer's organisation, farmer's club in order to have sustainable development. Farmers and individual entrepreneurs not only can avail the opportunity of getting loan besides they can also avail 25 to 30 per cent subsidy on the same.: NABARD Chief General Manager P M Ghole.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com>



*Wishing you and your family a very
Happy Diwali & a Prosperous New Year.*



Book Post

To,

From:

Agro-Economic Research Centre

For the states of Gujarat and Rajasthan

(Ministry of Agriculture, 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;

Website: www.aercspu.ac.in

Acknowledged the information used/taken from the public domain