



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
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To
The Editor,

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Sir,

I request that the following matter may kindly be published in your esteemed daily:

Prices of Poovan Banana to be stable

Globally 106.54 million tonnes of banana is produced from an area of 5.15 million ha with an average productivity of 20.7 tonnes/ha during 2011. India is the world leader with a contribution of 27.8 per cent of global banana production during 2011. In India, Tamil Nadu produced about 82.53 lakh tonnes from an area of 1.25 lakh ha, and has the highest production share of 26.47 per cent (2011).

Poovan is a leading commercial cultivar grown throughout the country with location specific ecotypes like Palayamkodan in Kerala, Poovan in Tamil Nadu, Karpura Chakkarakeli in Andhra Pradesh and Alpan in North Eastern Region. Tamil Nadu is the leading producer of Poovan cultivar owing to its climatic and soil conditions. Poovan is also commercially cultivated for leaf purpose throughout Tamil Nadu and in certain parts of Kerala. Fruit is slightly acidic, firm and has typical sour-sweet aroma. Fruits turn to attractive golden yellow on ripening. Poovan bunches are medium sized, closely packed with good keeping quality and is resistant to fruit cracking.

In TamilNadu, it is mainly grown in Coimbatore, Trichy, Cuddalore, Viluppuram, Erode, Pudukottai, Theni, Dindugul, Virudunagar, Sivagangai and Kanyakumari districts. Poovan is planted during February – April and November – December. October - January are the months of peak arrivals and February - May face lean arrivals. Present market price for poovan varies between Rs 21 – 24/kg in Farmer's Shandies at Coimbatore. To make the farmers aware of the future trend in farm harvest prices, Back Office of Agro Marketing Intelligence and Business Promotion Centre (AMI & BPC)

functioning in Tamil Nadu Agricultural University had analyzed the prices of Poovan that prevailed in Coimbatore R.S. Puram Farmer's shandy for the past 10 years.

As a result it is forecasted that price of poovan banana in Coimbatore farmer's shandy during August, 2013 will be around Rs 21 - 23/ kg. Festival season in September might fetch Rs 1 - 2/kg higher ie. between Rs 22 – 25/kg. The prices are expected to be stable between Rs 20 – 23/kg during October, 2013.

For further details contact

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