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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:

Price forecast for Adipattam vegetables –Tomato, Brinjal and Bhendi

To advise the farmerson Adipattam sowing, the Back Office of Agro Marketing Intelligence and Business Promotion Centre (AMI &BPC) operating in the Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University has taken major vegetables for their price forecast. Such as, Tomato, Brinjal and Bhendi as follows:

Tomato

In Tamil Nadu, peak market arrivals of Tomato is periodic and that too during June-July (Chitirai pattam sowing crop) and October – November (Adipattam sowing crop). Apart from local harvest, neighbouring states Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh has significant contribution to meet our lean period demand during April – May, August – September and December. Invariably wholesale markets in Coimbatore, Hosur, Oddanchatram and Thalaivasal are experiencing very low arrivals even during July 2014. Failure of seasonal rainfall in this summer and subsequent drought could be the possible reasons for the low production. Traders survey revealed that due to procurement by traders from Kolkata and Odisha in Kolar market of Karnataka state, arrivals from that market to Coimbatore has come down recently. Arrivals in the nearby Nachipalayam market is also poor.

In Oddanchatram wholesale market also arrivals are below normal because of continuous drought for past three years. Traders source their supplies from Udumalpet region which is also experiencing drought. Thalaivasal wholesale market, experience medium arrivals. Recently farmers in Karumandurai area started to cultivate panthal hybrid tomato with the help of meagre water available during summer.

Normally the price would be on decreasing trend during July-October in the above wholesale markets. However in recent times, the price is higher in Coimbatore market due to arrivals from Mysore and Kolar regions of Karnataka. The current tomato

price in those markets hover around Rs 25-30/kg according to their size and quality. To advise the farmers about Tomato forecasted price during August-October months, the Uzhavar sandai prices of tomato during the past 11 years and conducted the traders survey in Coimbatore, Ottanchatram, Hosur and Thalaivasal markets.

The result of the analysis and traders survey indicated that the prices will be in increasing trend for tomato during next two months and the expected farm gate price would be Rs 20-22 per kg in Coimbatore and Hosur, Rs 16-18 per kg in Oddanchatram, Rs 18-20 per kg in Thalaivasal in October 2014. However occurrence of rainfall in the coming months may affect the price. Hence farmers are advised to take sowing of tomato.

Brinjal

Brinjal is largely cultivated during winter and summer months. The major producers of brinjal are Salem, Dindigul, Vellore and Krishnagiri districts. Among these districts Salem stands first with a contribution of 12 percent of production.

As per trade sources, currently Coimbatore, Oddanchatram and Thalaivasal markets are experiencing low arrivals than normal supply during this period. Normally brinjal price is at increasing trend during this period because of exhaustion of summer harvest. But most of the farmers have not taken sowing in this summer due to failure of summer shower during April-May, 2014. In Coimbatore whole sale market, supplies drastically reduced than normal arrivals. Produce from areas of Karamadai, Annur and Thondamuthur blocks are not of expected marketable quality because of damage due to wind and pest occurrence. Traders from Coimbatore and Oddanchatram source their supplies from Thalaivasal wholesale market.

The current Brinjal price in those markets hover around Rs 25-30/kg. To forecast the price of brinjal during August-October months, the Brinjal price prevailed during the past 11 years in Coimbatore, Ottanchatram and Thalaivasal. Uzhavar sandai were analyzed and conducted the traders survey

The price analysis and traders survey result revealed that the brinjal price during August-September will be higher followed by marginal decrease in October. The forecasted farm gate price of brinjal during October upon harvest of Adi pattam brinjal sowing would be around, Rs. 12-15 per kg in Coimbatore market, Rs. 10-12 in Oddanchatram and Thalaivasal markets. Hence farmers are advised to take up planting decision based on the above forecast.

Bhendi

Bhendi is mostly cultivated during June to August (Adi pattam) and in February (Thai pattam). It is largely grown in Thalaivasal and Magudanchavadi blocks of Salem, Karamadai, Periyanyakkanpalayam and Thondamuthur blocks of Coimbatore, Andipatti block of Theni and Vaiyampatti block of Trichy district.

As per the trade sources, the wholesale markets of Coimbatore, Oddanchatram and Thalavasal are experiencing very low arrivals in this season due to severe drought. Traders from Coimbatore and Oddanchatram wholesale markets are sourcing their supplies from Thalavasal and Salem -Vaikundam region. Normally the price would be on decreasing trend during July – October in the above whole sale markets. However in recent times the price is higher in Coimbatore market due to arrivals from Thalavasal and Salem district-Vaikundamregions.

In Thalavasal market arrivals of bhendi will be normal. Trade sources indicated that most of the farmers in surrounding regions have started bhendi cultivation in this season. Hence this market may obtain enough arrivals during next one or two months which may be diverted to Coimbatore and Oddanchatram markets also.

The current Bhendi price in those markets hover around Rs 25-30 per kg. To advise the farmers on expected price of bhendi during August-October months, the Uzhavar sandai prices ofbhendi during the past 11 yearswas analysedand conducted the traders survey in Coimbatore, Ottanchatram and Thalavasal markets.

Trade sources and Price analysis result indicated that the forecasted farm gate price of bhendi during October upon harvest of Adi pattam sowing would be around, Rs 10-15 per kg in Coimbatore and Oddanchatram wholesale markets. In Thalavasal wholesale markets the forecasted price would be around Rs 10-12 per kg. Hence farmers are advised to take up sowing bhendi.

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