

Turmeric Prices will cheer the farmers

In India, turmeric is cultivated in an area of 0.18 million hectares with a production of 0.83 million tonnes in 2014-15. Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Maharashtra, Karnataka and West Bengal are the major turmeric producing States contributing 85 per cent of total turmeric production of the country. Top export destinations of Indian turmeric are U.A.E., Bangladesh, Malaysia, Iran, UK and USA.

In Tamil Nadu, turmeric is cultivated in 0.03 million hectares with 0.1 million tonnes of production in 2014-15. Erode, Salem, Dharmapuri, Coimbatore and Thiruvanamalai are the major turmeric growing districts in Tamil Nadu.

Major turmeric growing regions of Telangana, Karnataka and Maharashtra have witnessed decreased intensity of rainfall during July-August caused the turmeric acreage to decline. Hence, there is heavy demand for turmeric of Tamil Nadu origin. Currently the arrivals are started coming from Bhavani, Sathyamangalam and some parts of Karnataka (Ulsur, Ramapuram). At present, turmeric of good quality is selling at Rs.10,500 per quintal in Erode market. Salem Local variety is highly preferred and fetches good price. Long, bulk and easily breakable turmeric are considered as good quality.

To help the farmers to take proper marketing decisions, the Back Office of Agro Marketing Intelligence and Business Promotion Centre (AMI &BPC) of Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University analyzed the last 19 years of turmeric prices prevailed in Erode Regulated market.

The current trend supports the farm gate price of good quality turmeric to rule around Rs.10,500-11,500/ Quintal during March - April, 2016. Hence,

turmeric farmers are advised to store and sell the produce to get better farm income.

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