



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
Coimbatore – 641 003

Dr. E. Somasundaram, Ph.D.,
Public Relations Officer &
Professor (Agronomy)

Phone: 0422 - 6611302
Fax: 0422 – 2431821
E-mail: pro@tnau.ac.in

To
The Editor,

Date: 1-3-2014

Sir,

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

Tomato prices to increase from 2nd week of March

Tomato is the world's largest vegetable crop and known as protective food both because of its special nutritive value and also because of its wide spread production. Tomato is a rich source of minerals, vitamins and organic acid, essential amino acids and dietary fibers. Tomato is known as productive as well as protective food. It is a rich source of vitamin A and C, it also contains minerals like iron, phosphorus. Tomato contains Lycopene and Beta-carotene pigments.

In India, Andhra Pradesh has the highest production share with 35 per cent followed by Karnataka with 10.44 per cent. Tamil Nadu stands ninth place with 3.45 per cent of total tomato production. In terms of productivity Karnataka occupies first place with 34.3 t/ha. and Tamil Nadu stands fourth place with 21.40 t/ha next to Gujarat (25.2 t/ha) and Bihar (22.60 t/ha).

In our country tomato crop is cultivated during winter and summer seasons. In Tamil Nadu, tomato is being cultivated mainly in Adipattam, Karthigaipattam and Thai pattam. Tamil months Thai and Maasi harvests coincide with harvesting time in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. Hence, market arrivals from Mysore and parts of Andhra Pradesh are very high in Oddanchatram and Coimbatore markets, affecting the farm harvest prices.

To advise the farmers about Tomato price during Feb-Mar months, the Back Office of Agro Marketing Intelligence and Business Promotion Centre (AMI &BPC)

in Centre for Agriculture and Rural Development Studies (CARDS), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University analyzed the prices of tomato that prevailed in Ottanchatram, Coimbatore, Hosur and Thalaivasal markets during the past 11 years.

In Coimbatore market, tomato arrivals is very high during this season. Although the harvest is not completed yet, the market arrivals are expected to increase further. Now a days tomato from Karnataka (Mysore and Bangalore) are also arriving. The present market rate is Rs 4/kg at farm level. In Oddanchatram market, tomato arrival is high from the village surrounding Ottanchatram. The present market price is Rs 2/kg at farm level. In Thalaivasal market, arrivals are more from major supply areas of Attur, Cuddalore and Panrutti regions and Krishnagiri districts. The present rate is Rs 4-5/kg at farm level. Hosur market also get arrivals from nearby Bangalore and Dharmapuri districts. The present market price is Rs 3-4/kg at farm level.

The result of the analysis and traders survey indicated that the prices will be stable for tomato and it will start increasing from second week of March 2014.

For further details contact:

Domestic and Export Market Intelligence Cell (DEMIC)
Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development studies,
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University,
Coimbatore 641 003.
Phone- 0422-2431405

For technical information farmers may contact:-

Professor and Head,
Department of Vegetable crops,
Horticultural College & Research Institute,
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University,
Coimbatore -641 003.
Phone - 0422-6611374 / 6611283

Public Relations Officer