

Karpooravalli Banana Prices Will Retain Its Consistency

December 2013

India ranks first with a contribution of 296.2 lakh tonnes (27.8 % of world banana production) from an area of 8.1 lakh ha during 2011. Globally 1065.4 lakh tonnes of banana is produced from an area of 51.5 lakh ha and the average productivity of the crop is 20.7 tonnes/ha during 2011. In India, Tamil Nadu has the highest productivity of 65.8 tonnes/ ha which produced about 82.53 lakh tonnes from an area of 1.25 lakh ha, and has the highest production share with 26.47 per cent (2011).

Karpooravalli is a popular variety grown for table purposes in medium fertile soils. Commercial cultivation is spread over central and southern districts of Tamilnadu and Kerala. In TamilNadu, it is mainly grown in Coimbatore, Trichy, Kancheepuram, Salem, Namakkal, Karur and Kanyakumari districts. Karpooravalli is planted during February – April and November – December. It is tall, robust with large leaves and hence it is also raised for leaf production. The bunch has 8 – 9 compact hands with 13 -14 fingers per hand amounting to 100 - 120 fruits/bunch weighing between 15 - 20 kg/bunch. Fruits are medium sized, yellow with ashy coating and have good keeping quality. October - January are the months of peak arrivals and February - May face lean arrivals.

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) in Tamil Nadu Agricultural University has analyzed the trend pattern in prices of Karpooravalli that prevailed in Coimbatore Farmers shandy for the past 10 years.

Present market price for Karpooravalli in Coimbatore farmers shandy varies between Rs 22 – 25/kg. As per the study, price of Karpooravalli banana in Coimbatore farmers shandy during November, 2013 will be around Rs 23 - 25/ kg. The prices are expected to be stable between Rs 23 – 24/kg in December, 2013 and January, 2014.

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