



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
Coimbatore – 641 003

Dr. E. Somasundaram Ph.D.,
Public Relations Officer
Mobile: 94890 56730

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

To
The Editor,

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Sir,

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

Chances of price increase for coconut during festive season

According to the Second Advance Estimates of Ministry of Agriculture, coconut is grown in an area of 2.10 million hectares with the production of 14,721 million nuts in India during 2015-16. Coconut was cultivated in 0.46 million hectares with a production of 6,917 million nuts in Tamil Nadu during 2014-15. Coimbatore, Thanjavur, Kanyakumari, Trippur, Dindigul, Krishnagiri, Theni, Vellore, Salem, Dharmapuri and Tirunelveli are the major coconut producing districts in Tamil Nadu.

Export of coconut and coconut products from India has shown an increase of 10.5 per cent to Rs. 1450.24 crores in 2015-16 when compared to last year. Significant increase was recorded in the export of desiccated coconut, coconut oil and activated carbon when compared to previous year. The major export destinations are United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Kuwait and Iran.

As per trade sources, the production is low compared to last season due to uneven rainfall. The festival season in forthcoming months will enhance the demand for coconut in domestic market and the price may increase. But the increase in coconut prices during current season will not influence the copra price as it is festival occasion in major part of the South India. No arrival has been observed from other states. But the markets like Aanaimalai, Pollachi and Perunthurai received more arrivals of copra from nearly production centres.

The Price Forecasting scheme of Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University analyzed the last 14 years of coconut and copra prices prevailed in Avalpoonthurai Regulated market of Erode district and Perundurai Cooperative Marketing Society. As per the results of the analysis, the farm gate price of good quality coconut during December, 2016 will be Rs. 9 -10 per nut and good quality copra will fetch around Rs. 58 - 60 per kg. Hence, farmers are advised to take selling decision accordingly.

For further details, contact:

Domestic and Export Market Intelligence Cell,
Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies,
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University,
Coimbatore – 641 003.
Phone: 0422-2431405

For technical details, please contact:

Professor and Head,
Department of Spices & Plantation Crops,
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University,
Coimbatore – 641 003.
Phone: 0422 -6611284

Public Relations Officer