



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University
Coimbatore – 641 003



Dr. P. Murali Arthanari Ph.D.,
Public Relations Officer
Mobile: 94890 56730

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

To
The Editor,
Sir,

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

TNAU announces Price Forecast for Pulses

India is the largest producer, consumer and also the largest importer of pulses in the world. As per the First Advance Estimates by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, total pulses production in India was 26.96 million tonnes in 2021-22. The total pulse production of the country is reached 23.02 million tonnes during 2019-20. Blackgram and Greengram accounted for 16.93 and 10.04 percent respectively in the total pulses production of India during 2019-20.

A. Blackgram

According to the First Advance Estimates of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (2021-22), the production of blackgram is 2.66 Million tonnes in India. The major states producing blackgram are Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Jharkand and Maharashtra accounting for 89 per cent of the total blackgram of the country. The major consuming cum importing countries of blackgram are India, China, Pakistan, Japan and Thailand. These countries import mainly from countries like Myanmar, Thailand, Canada and Australia.

Blackgram is normally cultivated in Tamil Nadu in an area of 4.05 lakh hectares with a production of 3.17 lakh tonnes. Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Viluppuram, Thanjavur and Tiruvarur are the major districts cultivating blackgram. Major cultivars are ADT 3, ADT 4, ADT 5, KKM1, CO 6, VBN (Bg) 5 and VBN Blackgram arrivals from Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have already started and it is expected that arrivals from Tamil Nadu will commence from the March first week. Trade sources also

stated that blackgram imports from Myanmar will also affect the domestic prices of blackgram.

B. Greengram

According to the First Advance Estimates of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (2021-22), the production of Greengram is 3.06 Million tonnes in India. The major greengram producing states are Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. These states together contribute for 79 percent of total greengram production. Importing countries of greengram are Myanmar, China, Tanzania, Mozambique and Indonesia.

Greengram is annually cultivated in Tamil Nadu in an area of 1.71 lakh hectares with a production of 0.76 lakh tonnes. Greengram is cultivated in Thiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Thoothukudi, Cuddalore, Thiruvallur, Salem and Thanjavur. Major varieties under cultivation in the state are CO 6, CO 7, CO 8 and VBN 3.

The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) is the nodal agency for procurement of these pulses. Procurement has already begin on February 1 in the districts of Thoothukudi, Virudhunagar and Tiruvallur, all for greengram, and Tirunelveli, Dindigul, Pudukottai, Ariyalur, Tiruvannamalai, Cuddalore, Villupuram and Tirupur besides Thoothukudi, all for black gram.

The TN-IAM Project funded Price Forecasting Scheme of the Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University analyzed the past 20 years prices for blackgram and greengram that prevailed at Viluppuram Regulated Market. As per the results of the analysis, the farmgate price of good quality blackgram will be Rs. 65-67 per kg. Good quality greengram farmgate price will be around Rs. 63-65 per kg and fluctuation would be subjected to the variations in the arrivals from the major production centres and imports from other countries. Now harvesting season has commenced for greengram and blackgram especially in the rice fallow areas. Hence, farmers are advised to take appropriate selling decision accordingly.

For further details contact:

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

ii).The Director and TN-IAMP Nodal Officer
Water Technology Centre,
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University,
Coimbatore-641 003.
Phone: 0422-6611278

For Technical Details please contact:

Professor and Head
Department of Pulses,
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University,
Coimbatore-641003
Phone: 0422-2450498

Public Relations Officer