



Tamil Nadu Agricultural University

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To

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The Editor,

Sir,

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

Red Chillies Prices will Cheer Farmers

Red chilli is the major spice crop occupying nearly 26 per cent of total area under spices in India. According to First Advance Estimates of National Horticultural Board (2021-22), the area under red chilli is 7.28 lakhs hectare with a production of 20.92 lakhs tonnes. Major chilli growing states are Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka, Odisha, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu contribute nearly 89 per cent of total production under chillies. Andhra Pradesh alone accounts for 53 per cent of total chilli production in the country.

Nearly 75 per cent of total chillies production is consumed within the country. There is always high demand for chillies in nutraceutical industries because of its antioxidant and medicinal properties. Export orders for high quality chillies are emerging from China, Sri Lanka and Malaysia. Further, trader /stockists buying spree attitude, low output in Andhra Pradesh due to viral disease, crop diversification to maize in some of the chilli growing areas, suspension of trading in chillies in the futures platform would firm up chilli prices in coming months.

In Tamil Nadu, chilli is grown during October – November. Sannam, Teja and Mundu (Bullet) are the major types of chillies grown in Tamil Nadu. Ramnad, Sivaganga, Thoothukudi, Virudhunagar and Thirunelveli are the major districts cultivating chillies and the crop area is below normal. It is expected that local arrivals will commence by first month of April. Chilli arrivals has started coming from the 35Km radius area of Virudhunagar, Ramnad, Paramakudi, Kamuthi, Vilathikulam.

The TN-IAM Project funded Price Forecasting Scheme of the Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University analyzed the past 19 years prices that prevailed in Ramanathapuram Regulated Market for sannamchillies. As per the analysis and market survey, the farm gate price of good quality chillies will be Rs.110-120 per kg. From April to July, increase in arrivals may decrease the price of chillies. Hence, farmers are advised to take up appropriate marketing decision.

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