

## **Sesame Price will be Stable**

Globally, India is the largest producer, consumer and exporter of sesame. As per the Solvent Extractor's Association of India (SEAI), the area under sesame is 13.84 lakh hectares with the production of 7.10 lakh tonnes during 2018-19. The major sesame growing states are Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal in India. In Tamil Nadu the major sesame growing districts are Villupuram, Erode, Thanjavur, Karur, Salem, and Cuddalore. Major varieties cultivated in Tamil Nadu are TMV 3, TMV 4, TMV 6, TMV 7 (Brown), Co 1 (black), VRI(SV) 2(Reddish brown) and SVPR 1 (white sesame).

The ever-increasing demand for gingelly oil among the general public, particularly the oil extracted from traditional way using wooden mill, has encouraged a number of farmers to take up cultivation of sesame crop. About 65 per cent of the annual sesame crop is processed into edible oil and 35 per cent used in confectionaries. Brown and black sesame varieties are used for oil purpose and white sesame varieties are mainly used in confectionaries.

During the last season, area sown under sesame was normal, owing to extended monsoon. According to the trade sources, sesame arrivals to Tamil Nadu are from Andhra Pradesh (Kadapa & Vempalli) will commence from February, 2020 onwards, which nearly contribute to 30 per cent of the total demand in Tamil Nadu. Domestic arrivals are from Karur, Kodumudi, Mylambadi and major areas from Trichy district. The arrivals are expected to end with second week of January, 2020.

In this situation, TN-IAMP Price Forecasting Scheme implemented at the Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies (CARDS), Tamil Nadu Agricultural University analyzed the past 17 year prices for

sesame that prevailed in Sivagiri Regulated Market of Erode district. As per the results of the time series analysis, the farm gate price of good quality of sesame during January to March, 2020 would be around Rs. 115 to Rs. 120 /- kg. Hence, the farmers are advised to take appropriate sowing decision.

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