






The Solvent Extractors' Association of India

Castor Crop Survey: 2009-10

Executive Summary

-  The Solvent Extractors' Association (SEA) is a broad based all India apex body of solvent extraction industry and at present practically all-working solvent extraction units are its members. The association continuously gives feedback to the members about the developments taking place in the country and world.
-  As one of the activity, SEA was interested in crop estimation for Castor Seeds in Gujarat, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh. Thus SEA commissioned Nielsen India to conduct a crop estimation study for Castor Seeds in Gujarat, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh.
-  Nielsen India is the largest market research agency in the subcontinent with the requisite experience, expertise and infrastructure to conduct such studies.
-  Nielsen India is conducting such studies since 2004 on behalf of SEA. This year, Nielsen India conducted the study on behalf of SEA in Gujarat, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh during the period **October 2009 – February 2010**.
-  Entire study was carried out in major districts of Gujarat, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh, in three rounds.

GUJARAT

- Total area under Castor crop in Gujarat for the year 2009-10 is **4.37 lakh hectares**. It has decreased by 3% as compared to previous year. Area under Castor crop has increased in all the major castor growing districts except Ahmedabad, Patan, Rajkot, Surendranagar and Vadodara.
- Estimated total production of Castor Seeds in Gujarat for the year 2009-10 is **7.34 lakh tonnes**, it has increased by merely 1% as compared to previous year. However this growth is mainly in the districts such as Vadodara (28%), Ahmedabad (24%), Rajkot (19%), Patan (16%) districts and Sabarkantha (8%).
- Average yield for the year 2009-10 is **1679 kg/hectare** as against 1608 kg/hectare during the year 2008-09.

District-wise Area, Yield and Production of Castor Seeds in Gujarat (2009-10)

District	Estimated Area Under Crop * ('000 ha.)			Estimated Production * ('000 tonnes)			Estimated Yield * (Kg/ha.)		
	2008-09	2009-10	% Change	2008-09	2009-10	% Change	2008-09	2009-10	% Change
Ahmedabad	12.00	14.26	19%	19.89	24.60	24%	1657	1725	4%
Banaskantha	102.41	97.93	-4%	180.72	178.24	-1%	1765	1820	3%
Bharuch	7.20	6.81	-5%	11.14	9.60	-14%	1547	1409	-9%
Gandhinagar	30.40	29.24	-4%	53.62	55.25	3%	1764	1890	7%
Jamnagar	12.36	10.36	-16%	21.60	17.77	-18%	1748	1716	-2%
Kachchh	67.88	52.21	-23%	73.18	61.19	-16%	1078	1172	9%
Kheda	13.10	10.83	-17%	20.36	17.04	-16%	1554	1574	1%
Mahesana	53.37	52.09	-2%	93.29	98.22	5%	1748	1886	8%
Panchmahal	2.35	1.95	-17%	3.51	2.76	-21%	1494	1414	-5%
Patan	37.50	41.22	10%	62.92	72.77	16%	1678	1765	5%
Rajkot	12.81	15.20	19%	19.80	23.59	19%	1546	1552	--
Sabarkantha	54.81	54.33	-1%	94.98	102.35	8%	1733	1884	9%
Surendranagar	29.11	34.87	20%	46.62	43.07	-8%	1602	1235	-23%
Vadodara	11.00	11.42	4%	15.69	20.02	28%	1426	1754	23%
Others	4.80	4.65	-3%	7.84	7.81	--	1597	1679	5%
Total	451.10	437.37	-3%	725.16	734.28	1%	1608	1679	4%

* Nielsen India estimates

Rainfall

This year, Castor producing districts of Gujarat state have received 478 mm, which is 31% lower than average rainfall in these districts. About 56% farmers perceived that the rainfall during sowing period was favourable this year.

RAJASTHAN

- Total area under Castor crop in Rajasthan for the year 2009-10 is **1.18 lakh hectares**. It has decreased by 7% as compared to previous year. This year, area under Castor crop has mainly decreased in Hanumangarh (43%) and other major district is Sirohi (4%). Where as the area under crop is increased in Pali district by 10%.
- Estimated total production of Castor Seeds in Rajasthan for the year 2009-10 is **1.26 lakh tonnes**. It has decreased by 8% as compared to previous year. Production in Hanumangarh and Sirohi district has decreased by 66% and 18% respectively as compared to previous year. As against this, the production in Pali, Jodhpur, Barmer and Jalore districts has increased this year.
- Average yield for the year 2009-10 is **1065 kg/hectare**, which is 1% lower than previous year. Yield has mainly decreased in Hanumangarh and Sirohi districts. Last year also yield was lower than the average yield of Rajasthan

District-wise Area, Yield and Production of Castor Seeds in Rajasthan (2009-10)

District	Estimated Area Under Crop * ('000 ha.)			Estimated Production * ('000 tonnes)			Estimated Yield * (Kg/ha.)		
	2008-09	2009-10	% Change	2008-09	2009-10	% Change	2008-09	2009-10	% Change
Barmer	6.01	5.98	-1%	6.33	6.60	4%	1053	1104	5%
Hanumangarh	17.93	10.18	-43%	13.60	6.07	-66%	758	597	-21%
Jalore	49.11	48.85	-1%	56.81	58.13	2%	1157	1190	3%
Jodhpur	15.84	15.94	1%	16.83	17.67	5%	1062	1108	4%
Pali	3.58	3.92	10%	3.66	4.12	13%	1021	1052	3%
Sirohi	27.93	26.94	-4%	32.40	26.48	-18%	1160	983	-15%
Others	7.27	6.65	-7%	7.80	7.08	-9%	1076	1065	-1%
Total	127.67	118.46	-7%	137.41	126.16	-8%	1076	1065	-1%

* Nielsen India estimates

Rainfall

This year, Castor Seeds producing districts of Rajasthan state have received 214 mm average rainfall, which is 43% less than average rainfall in these districts. Almost all farmers opined that rainfall during sowing and post sowing was inadequate this year.

ANDHRA PRADESH

- Total area under Castor crop in Andhra Pradesh for the year 2009-10 is **1.35 lakh hectares**. It has decreased by 30% as compared to previous year. Area under Castor crop has decreased in all other districts of Andhra Pradesh this year except Kurnool. Similar trend has observed in last year also. Since last 2-3 years, area under Castor crop in Andhra Pradesh is continuously decreasing.
- Estimated total production of Castor Seeds in Andhra Pradesh for the year 2009-10 is **0.44 lakh tonnes**. It has decreased by 38% as compared to previous year due to decrease in area and yield.
- Average yield for the year 2009-10 is **325 kg/hectare**, which is 12% lower than the previous year.

District-wise Area, Yield and Production of Castor Seeds in Andhra Pradesh (2009-10)

District	Estimated Area Under Crop * ('000 ha.)			Estimated Production * ('000 tonnes)			Estimated Yield * (Kg/ha.)		
	2008-09	2009-10	% Change	2008-09	2009-10	% Change	2008-09	2009-10	% Change
Kurnool	14.85	18.53	25%	6.59	6.17	-6%	444	333	-25%
Mahbubnagar	118.29	79.25	-33%	41.20	24.55	-40%	348	310	-11%
Nalgonda	33.05	18.36	-44%	13.53	6.83	-49%	409	372	-9%
Rangareddy	5.34	4.24	-21%	1.94	1.56	-20%	363	367	1%
Other Districts	20.16	14.15	-30%	7.44	4.61	-38%	369	326	-12%
Total	191.70	134.53	-30%	70.70	43.72	-38%	369	325	-12%

* Nielsen India estimates

Rainfall

This year, all the Castor Seeds producing districts of Andhra Pradesh state have received 460 mm average rainfall, which is 10% lower than average rainfall in these districts. Except Nalgonda district, all other districts have received Normal rainfall this year. Heavy rainfall during last week of Sept and 1st week of October washed out crop at many places, mainly in Kurnool and Mahboobnagar districts.

ALL INDIA

- Total area under Castor crop in India for the year 2009-10 is **7.40 lakh hectares**. It has decreased by 10% as compared to previous year.
- Estimated total production of Castor Seeds in India for the year 2009-10 is **9.34 lakh tonnes**. It has decreased by 4% as compared to previous year.
- Average yield for the year 2009-10 is **1261 kg/hectare** as against 1180 kg/hectare during the year 2008-09. It has increased by 7% as compared to previous year.

State-wise Area, Yield and Production of Castor Seeds in India (2009-10)

District	Estimated Area Under Crop * ('000 ha.)			Estimated Production * ('000 tonnes)			Estimated Yield * (Kg/ha.)		
	2008-09	2009-10	% Change	2008-09	2009-10	% Change	2008-09	2009-10	% Change
Gujarat	451	437	-3%	725	734	1%	1608	1679	4%
Rajasthan	127	118	-7%	137	126	-8%	1076	1065	-1%
Andhra Pradesh	192	135	-30%	71	44	-38%	369	325	-12%
Other States #	56	50	-11%	43	30	-30%	760	600	-21%
Total	826	740	-10%	976	934	-4%	1180	1261	7%

* Nielsen India estimates; # Secondary source