

Crop and Trade Report.

Cotton Raw in the Madras Province. The Receipts of the loose cotton at presses and spinning mills in the Madras Presidency from 1st February 1948 to 7th January 1949 amounted to 355,946 bales of 400 lb. lint as against an estimate of 283,700 bales of the total crop of 1947-48. The Receipts in the corresponding period of the previous years were 406,165 bales. 504,288 bales mainly of pressed cotton were received at spinning mills and 33,171 bales were exported by sea while 115,668 bales were imported by sea mainly from Karachi and Bombay.

Statistics—Crop—Sugarcane—1948—Intermediate—condition report. The condition of the sugarcane crop is generally satisfactory in all the districts of the Province except in Anantapur, Chingleput, North Arcot, Salem and Ramnad Districts where the crop has been affected adversely due to inadequate rains during the growing period and the yields are expected to be below the normal. The crop had a set back in the early stages due to the attack by insect pests in parts of the Vizagapatam District but has since revived.

2. The wholesale price of jaggery per imperial maund of 82-2/7 lb. (equivalent to 3,200 tolas) in the important market centres in the Province on the 18th December 1948 was Rs. 17-13-0 in Erode, Rs. 17-10-0 in Tiruchirapalli, Rs. 15-13-0 in Salem, Rs. 14-10-0 in Vizagapatam, Rs. 13-1-0 in Coimbatore, Rs. 12-8-0 in Mangalore, Rs. 12-6-0 in Cuddalore and Vellore, Rs. 10-15-0 in Vizianagaram, Rs. 10-13-0 in Adoni, Rs. 10-11-0 in Rajahmundry, Rs. 9-7-0 in Chittoor, Rs. 8-10-0 in Bellary and Rs. 8-4-0 in Kakinada. When compared with the prices published in the last report i.e., those which prevailed on 6th November 1948, these prices reveal a rise of approximately 20 per cent in Salem, 16 per cent in Vellore, 14 per cent in Chittoor, 10 per cent in Bellary, 9 per cent in Tiruchirapalli, 8 per cent in Cuddalore and 7 per cent in Vizagapatam and a fall of approximately 30 per cent in Adoni, 29 per cent in Coimbatore, 9 per cent in Kakinada and 7 per cent in Rajahmundry, the prices remaining stationary in Vizianagaram, Erode and Mangalore.

Statistics—Crop—Castor—1948—First and final report. The average area under castor in the Madras Province during the five years ending 1944-45 represents 18.2 per cent of the total area under castor in India. The area under castor in the Madras Province upto 25th November 1948 is estimated at 230,800 acres. When compared with the area of 230,500 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals an increase of 0.1 per cent. The estimate of last year was less than the actual area of 240,700 acres by 4.1 per cent. The crop is grown on a large scale in the districts of Guntur (23,900 acres), Kurnool (33,300 acres), Bellary (18,100 acres), Anantapur (57,400 acres), Nellore (43,200 acres) and Salem (17,200 acres). The area estimated for the current year is the same as that of last year in the districts of Kurnool, South Arcot, Ramnad, Malabar and South Kanara. An increase in area is estimated in the districts of East Godavari, Krishna, Bellary and Tanjore and a decrease in area in the other districts of the Province due mainly to want of timely rains. The decrease in area is marked in Anantapur District (-1,600 acres), Cuddaph District (-2,400 acres), Nellore District (-2,800 acres) and Salem District (-1,500 acres).

The yield per acre is expected to be normal in the districts of East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna, Nellore, South Arcot, Chittoor, Madurai, Ramnad, Tirunelveli and Malabar and below the normal in the other districts of the Province. The seasonal factor for the Province as a whole is estimated at 94 per cent for the normal. On this basis, the total yield is estimated at 21,200 tons as against 21,800 tons estimated for the corresponding period of last year. The wholesale price of castor seed per Imperial maund of 82-2/7 lbs. or 3,200 tolas, as reported from important market centres on 17-12-1948 was Rs. 24-13-0 in Nandyal, Rs. 23-1-0 in Guntur, Rs. 21-1-0 in Vizianagaram and Rs. 14-2-0 in Bellary. When compared with the prices which prevailed on 20-12-1947, these prices show an increase of 15 per cent in Nandyal and 4 per cent in Bellary and a decrease of 13 per cent in Vizianagaram and 6 per cent in Guntur.

Division	Stat
Orissa & Circars.	Gopalpo Calinga Vizaga Anakap Samalk Kakinad Maruti Masulip Guntur Agri. C Veerava (College
Ceded Dists.	Kurnool Nandya Hagari Sirugup Bellary Rentich Cuddap Ananth
Carnatic.	Nellore Buchire Madras Tirurku Palur* Tindiva Cuddal
Central.	Vellore Gudiya Salem Coimba (A. C Coimba (C Coimba Tiruchi

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