

Crop and Trade Reports

Statistics—Crop—Gingelly—1949—1950—Madras Province—First Forecast Report: The area under gingelly upto 25th July 1949 is estimated at 308,400 acres. When compared with the area of 246,100* acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it shows an increase of 25 per cent.

2. The estimated area is the same as that of last year in the districts of Guntur and Kurnool. An increase in area is estimated in the other districts of the Province. The increase is due mainly to favourable season this year and the prevalence of attractive prices for gingelly seed. The increase in area is marked in the districts of Visakhapatnam (+ 4,100 acres), West Godavari (+ 3,400 acres), Chingleput (+ 8,900 acres), South Arcot (+ 3,400 acres), North Arcot (+ 3,900 acres), Salem (+ 15,800 acres) and Coimbatore (+ 15,200 acres). The condition of the crop is reported to be generally satisfactory and the yield per acre is expected to be normal except in parts of Nellore district where the crop was affected by insect pests.

3. The wholesale price of gingelly seed per imperial maund of 82 2/7 lbs. (or 3,200 tolas) as reported from important market centres on 6th August 1949 was Rs. 35—11—0 in Eluru, Rs. 30—10—0 in Vizianagaram, Rs. 30—9—0 in Tuticorin, Rs. 30—7—0 in Tirunelveli, Rs. 29—10—0 in Tiruchirapalli, Rs. 28—5—0 in Cuddalore, Rs. 27—9—0 in Kakinada, and Rs. 27—4—0 in Salem. When compared with the prices published in the report for the corresponding period of last year i.e., those which prevailed on 9th August 1948, these prices reveal a rise of 17 per cent in Eluru, and 3 per cent in Tuticorin and a fall of 23 per cent in Salem, 22 per cent in Tiruchirapalli and 13 per cent in Kakinada.

Statistics—Crop—Groundnut—1949—Madras Province—Second Forecast Report. Summer Crop Area and Yield: The area under the Summer crop of groundnut in parts of the Madras Province during the five months January to May 1949 is estimated at 91,700 acres as against 81,900 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, representing an increase of 12 per cent. The increase is due mainly to the prevalence of high prices for groundnut. The yield per acre is expected to be normal in the districts of Nellore, Tiruchirapalli, Tanjore and Mathurai and below the normal in other districts of the Province. The total yield is estimated at 75,800 tons of unshelled nut as against 66,000 tons estimated for the corresponding period of last year representing an increase of 14·8 per cent.

Early Crop: The area under the early crop of groundnut (mostly irrigated) upto 25th July 1949 in the districts of Salem and Coimbatore is estimated at 148,400 acres. When compared with the area of 143,500 acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals an increase of 3·4 per cent. The increase is due to the prevalence of high prices for groundnut. The yield per acre is expected to be normal in Salem district and below the normal in Coimbatore district. The yield in these two districts is estimated at 71,300 tons of unshelled nuts as against 71,200 tons estimated for the corresponding period of last year representing an increase of 0·1 per cent.

2. The wholesale price of groundnut (machine-shelled) per imperial maund of 82 2/7 lb. or 3,200 tolas as reported from important market centres on 6—8—1949 was Rs. 29—12—0 in Guntur, Rs. 29—7—0 in Adoni, Rs. 28—6—0 in Nandyal, Rs. 27—14—0 in Cuddalore and Salem, Rs. 27—9—0 in Hindupur, Rs. 27—0—0 in Cuddapah, Rs. 26—9—0 in Tadpatri and Rs. 26—6—0 in Erode and Coimbatore. When compared with the prices published in the last report i.e., those which prevailed on 9—4—1949, these prices reveal a rise of 15 per cent in Cuddapah, 14 per cent in Guntur and Adoni, 9 per cent in Erode, 7 per cent in Nandyal and Salem, 6 per cent in Cuddalore, 5 per cent in Hindupur and 4 per cent in Tadpatri and a fall of 7 per cent in Coimbatore.

* Revised figure including the area under the crop in the merged States.

Statistics—Crop—Sugarcane—1949—First Forecast Report : The area under sugarcane upto 25th July 1949 is estimated at 122,000 acres. When compared with the area of 124,530* acres estimated for the corresponding period of last year, it reveals a decrease of 2,530 acres or 1.9 per cent. The estimated area is the same as that of last year, in Kurnool, Nellore, Pudukottai, Tanjore and South Kanara. An increase in area is revealed in the districts of West Godavari, Guntur, Anantapur, the Carnatic, Chittoor, and Ramnad and a decrease in the other districts of the Province.

2. The condition of the standing crop is reported to be generally satisfactory.

3. The wholesale price of jaggery per Imperial maund of 82 2/7 lb. (equivalent to 3,200 tolas) on 13th August 1949 was Rs. 24-10-0 in Erode, Rs. 23-12-0 in Cuddalore, Rs. 23-8-0 in Mangalore, Rs. 22-12-0 in Coimbatore and Tiruchirapalli, Rs. 22-4-0 in Vellore, Rs. 21-0-0 in Bellary, Rs. 20-15-0 in Chittoor, Rs. 18-1-0 in Visakhapatnam, Rs. 15-10-0 in Kakinada, Rs. 12-13-0 in Vizianagaram and Rs. 11-12-0 in Adoni. (From Economic Adviser, Government of Madras)

Cotton Raw in the Madras Presidency : The receipts of loose cotton at presses and spinning mills in the Madras Presidency from 1st February, 1949 to 26th August, 1949 amounted to 295,399 bales of 392 lb. lint. The receipts in the corresponding period of the previous year were 314,128 bales. 389,027 bales mainly of pressed cotton were received at spinning mills and 3,946 bales were exported by sea while 80,135 bales were imported by sea from Karachi and Bombay. (Director of Agriculture, Madras).

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