



About NFPP

Nedspice believes that backward integration and sustainability are some of the main challenges for the food industry in the years ahead. To ensure that spice farming remains financially attractive and offers a sustainable livelihood for farmers Nedspice has initiated the development of backward integration programmes for farmers in the countries it works in. This ambition is laid down in the Nedspice - Farmers Partnership Programme (NFPP) which defines the approach, key principles as well as the expected results. In this update you will find information about the latest NFPP activities for Turmeric in Kadapa, India.

Crop stage



- The turmeric crop varieties Mydukuru and Pragati have shown very good growth throughout the season and are presently entering the rhizome maturation and harvest stage.
- No significant disease or pest infestation was reported in the NFPP crop, although there is some root rot in the area.
- The rhizomes of the Pragati crop, which is a 7 month duration variety, have completely matured and harvest commenced in early February.
- Harvest of the Mydukuru crop, which is a 9 months duration variety, will commence in March.

Climate development in NFPP area (2017/18 season)¹

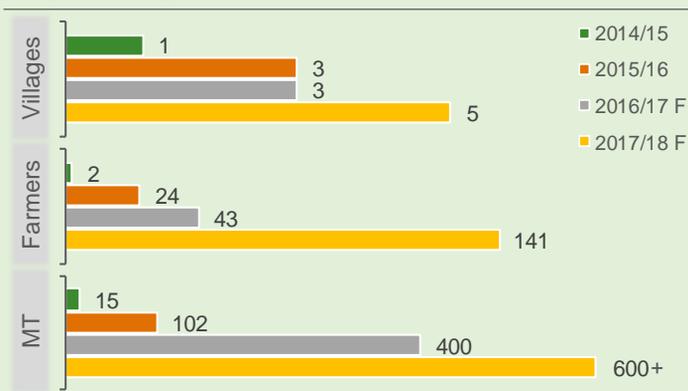
Stage	Period	°C	mm	Days	
Planting	Jun	+5%	+50%	(7%)	✓
Vegetative	Jul – Oct	+3%	+15%	+36%	✓
Rhizome formation	Nov – Jan	0%	(100%)	(100%)	✓
Rhizome maturation	Feb				
Harvesting	Mar – Apr				

Developments



- The NFPP for turmeric in Kadapa district of Andhra Pradesh was launched in the 2014/15 crop season, starting with 2 farmers in 1 village, from which 15 MT was procured.
- The programme expanded quickly over the subsequent seasons, almost quadrupling volumes in 2016/17 to 400 MT compared to 2015/16 volumes.
- The 2017/18 NFPP turmeric programme has 141 farmer registrations, a 325% increase versus last year, from which Nedspice aims to procure 600+ MT.
- The strong increase in farmer registrations is mainly a result of the Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) implemented over the previous years and the good yield results achieved by farmers which participate in the programme.

Programme impact and evolution



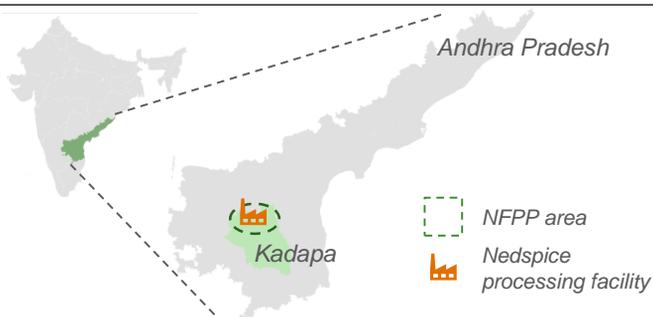
Crop stage



- Top picture depicts Pragati, a shorter duration variety, at the leaf drying / harvest stage. Harvest commenced early February, with leaf cutting.
- The Mydukuru variety, depicted below, in its rhizome maturation/ pre-harvest stage. Harvest of Mydukuru crop will commence by mid March-18.



NFPP area overview



¹ Stages are indicative for the Mydukuru variety. The percentages represent the change versus the same period last year, considering data till 27-Jan-17. Rainy days are defined as days with >0mm rainfall. Temperature is based on the average of day maximum temperatures over the period.



- 28th - 29th December 2017: Farmer meetings on right post harvest techniques were held in all 5 villages of the project area:
 - Awareness created on preparation of proper drying yards, with adequate soil compaction and usage of tarpaulins, for curing harvested and steamed turmeric.
 - Sustainable Agriculture Consultant (ex-Unilever), joined the meetings.
- Three farmers cultivating the Alleppey Finger Turmeric (AFT) variety in our NFPP Ginger pilot area in Palakkad district, Kerala state were identified and joined a pilot programme for AFT in Kerala.
 - Harvesting of AFT has commenced during the third week of Jan-18.
- Finalized preparations for the use of a cold storage facility, where cured turmeric can be stored:
 - Cold storage located at Allagadda town, approx. 30 km north of project area.
 - Facility has more than enough capacity to support growth in the project.

Early harvest of Mydukuru variety in non-NFPP farm due to root rot



Pragati vs Mydukuru variety (fresh)



What's next?



- Harvest of Pragati variety in Feb-18.
 - Color and curcumin content % of Pragati variety will be assessed post collection of samples of the harvested and cured material.
 - Results obtained will help in determining whether to increase the area for this variety in the 2018/19 crop season.
 - Pragati, besides being a shorter duration variety compared to the Mydukuru variety, appears to be more tolerant to disease incidences (leaf spot and root rot).
- Farmer training on pre and post harvest practices for Mydukuru variety to be held in second half of Feb-18, prior to commencement of crop harvest in March.
- Feasibility study for starting with a NFPP programme in Kerala with AFT variety during crop year 2018/19.
 - Cured AFT samples exhibited curcumin content above 5.5% and desirable bright yellow orange color.

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