



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 cumin in Rajasthan, India.

Crop stage



- Cumin crop harvest was completed in early April, as higher day temperatures in February and March resulted in quicker maturation of the seeds.
- Aphid infestation observed in the crop has resulted in a significant drop in the average crop yield this year, from a projected 400-450 kg per hectare to 250-300 kg per hectare.
- Furthermore, this has led to a revision in the procurement targets for 2018 from the earlier 2,000 MT to approximately 1,600 MT of customer compliant sustainable material.

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

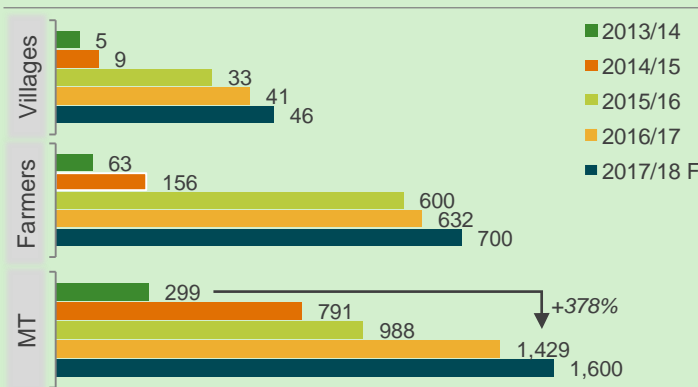
Stage	Period	☀️ °C	mm ☁️ Days	📅
Sowing	Oct – Nov	1%	(100%) (100%)	~
Vegetative	Dec	(15%)	n.a n.a	✓
Flowering	Jan	22%	(100%) (100%)	✓
Seed setting	Feb	4%	n.a n.a	✓
Harvest	Mar – Apr	2%	(77%) -	✓

Developments



- The NFPP for cumin was initiated during the 2013/14 crop year, in 5 villages located across 3 districts of Rajasthan.
- The programme rapidly scaled up and witnessed a 6 fold increase in the no. of villages to 33 by the 3rd year, despite discontinuing activities in Jodhpur district from year 2.
- The no. of farmers associated with the cumin programme saw a 10 fold increase to 632 by year 4 (2016/17).
- The procurement volumes of sustainably grown, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) compliant cumin increased by 378% from inception in 2013/14 to last year.
- About 1,600 MT of sustainable cumin is targeted to be procured from the 2017/18 NFPP area, across 46 villages from up to 700 participating farmers.

Programme impact and evolution



Threshing and procurement operations



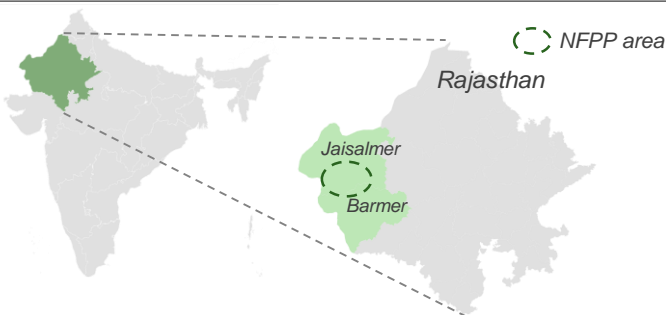
- Threshing of dried cumin commences once the material is completely dried at the field.



- Physical purity of the material in each cumin bag is checked at the buying station. Uncleaned material is returned to the farmer for re-cleaning.



NFPP area overview



¹) Stages are indicative for the GC-4 variety (commonly grown variety). The percentages represent the change versus the same period last year, considering data till 20-Apr-18. Rainy days are defined as days with >0mm rainfall. Temperature is based on the average of day maximum temperatures over the period.

Disclaimer: This document is for information purposes only. The information contained herein does not constitute the provision of investment advice. It is not intended to be and should not be construed as a recommendation, offer or solicitation to purchase any product.



- 20th – 23rd February: Training on the right harvest and post harvest practices was imparted to the cumin farmers of all 4 sub regions in the cumin project area by NFPP team members and our Subject Matter Expert.
- 28th Feb – 2nd March: NFPP team meetings across all 4 sub regions, emphasizing on the Standard Operating Procedures to be followed during procurement, with special focus on preparation and sampling of composite cumin seed lots with complete traceability, for further pesticide residue testing and analysis
 - Cumin seed procurement in the project area commenced from 11th March.
- 5 - 7th March: Awareness campaign on Sustainable Agriculture
 - Initiative of spreading awareness on Sustainable Agriculture (SA) through wall paintings was extended to the 3rd sub region (Gulle ki Beri) of the NFPP project area.

Harvesting and post-harvest practices



- Training on proper harvesting and post harvest practices was imparted to the farmers at each sub region.



- Proper labelling of packed material at the buying stations ensures traceability of the material till the farmer plots.



Harvesting and procurement of cumin



What's next?



- Procurement of cumin seed is likely to continue until Sep-18 as project farmers are not willing to sell their total production in one go. They anticipate a rise in market auction prices during the second half of 2018. Hence, 2/3 of the projected procurement is likely to get completed within July-18 with spill overs extending till Sep-18.
- NFPP Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative for school children in one of our project sub regions, Jhinhinyali, to be rolled out in Jun-18.
- Unilever Sustainable Agricultural Code (USAC) desktop audit for NFPP Cumin to be completed by mid Jun-18.
- Planning for the 2018/19 cumin project to get under way from Jul-18.
 - NFPP Cumin project area to be extended into neighbouring district of Jodhpur besides Jaisalmer.
 - Concept note for the NFPP Farmer Club is under preparation for the next crop season (Oct/ Nov 2018).

Nedspice

Netherlands: +31 10 2801 380

United States: +1 843 443 4007

Vietnam: +84 274 37 18 005

India: +91 484 22 23 286

spices@nedspice.com

<http://www.nedspice.com/>

NEDSPICE

