



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



- Land preparation for sowing cumin seeds will start shortly once the current crops (e.g pearl millet) finish harvesting.
- Cumin sowings will commence by the beginning of November which normally last for 3-4 weeks.
- Weather temperature was observed as a similar level to the previous crop so far with high day temperature.
- The poor and patchy germination may happen if day temperatures do not start dipping by early November, re-sowing may require for the impacted areas.

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

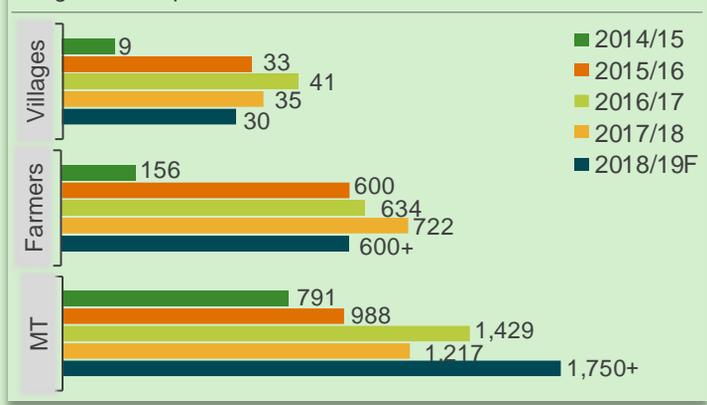
Stage	Period	☀ C°	☁ mm	☁ Days	📅
Sowing	Oct – Nov	0%	n.a	n.a	✗
Vegetative	Dec				
Flowering	Jan				
Seed setting	Feb				
Harvest	Mar – Apr				

Developments



- The NFPP for cumin was initiated during the 2013/14 crop year, in 5 villages located across 3 districts of Rajasthan.
- Last season, the no. of farmers associated with the NFPP cumin programme saw a 5 fold increase versus the 2014/15 crop.
- The procurement volumes of sustainably grown, IPM compliant cumin increased by c. 54% from programme inception in 2014/15 to last year's programme, across 35 villages from 722 participating farmers.
- About 6,000 ha from 600+ farmers are registered for the 2018/19 crop season from which Nedspice aims to procure 1,750+ MT of sustainably grown cumin.

Programme impact and evolution



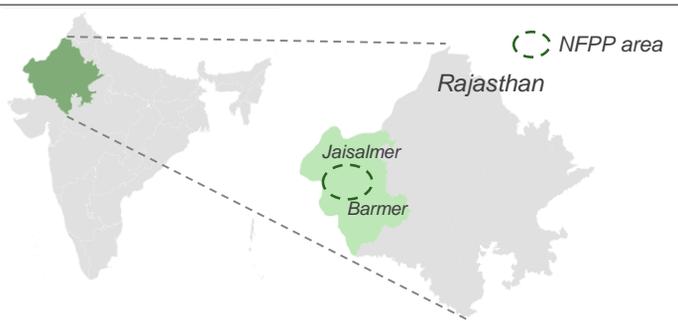
Farmer training



- Training on land preparation, seed treatment and fertilizer application by NFPP team and Subject Matter Expert (SME) prior to sowing.



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 15-Oct-18. Rainy days are defined as days with >0mm rainfall. Temperature is based on the average of day maximum temperatures over the period.
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- Farmer registrations for the 2018/19 crop season have commenced from 2nd October. The number of registrations will likely decrease this crop season versus last as the programme has become more selective, focusing on enhancing crop productivity and increasing procurement efficiency:
 - Up till now, 674 farmers have registered for the NFPP 2018/19, which is being further assessed.
- 15th – 16th Oct-18: Farmer trainings on seed treatment, land preparation and fertilizer application in 3 areas of CU7 sub-regions:
 - 15 - 20 farmers attended the training programmes in each area.
 - Similar farmer trainings were held in CU%, CU6 and CU8 sub regions in the last week of October.
- Specific agricultural inputs (e.g pesticides) from agri input companies will be selected by the Nedspice Farmer Club (NKC). This is a new initiative in NFPP this crop season.

Nedspice Kisaan Club (NKC) card



Farmer training



- NKC Card with QR code will be issued to the selected NKC members.
- Ensures better quality agri inputs at lower costs and higher ROI.

What's next?



- The NKC will be launched in Nov-18 in 2 sub-regions of the programme area:
 - NKC members are being selected from the NFPP farmer database by screening the farmers' performance over the past 3 seasons.
 - Issue smart cards to the NKC registered members at the time of the NKC launch.
- Supply of quality pesticides will be done to NKC members from the NFPP distribution centres post the launch of the NKC.
- All NFPP cumin farms will have smart signboards this season, providing details of all farms and farmer activities.
- Additional features (e.g. QR code scanner) will be incorporated in the NFPP app to help capture farmer information and inputs from NFPP farmers.
- Farmer trainings for agricultural practices will be held in all project sub regions in early Dec-18, post germination of cumin.

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