



### 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 ginger in Palakkad, India.

### Crop stage



- The harvest commenced from 10-Feb-19.
- Insufficient rainfall during vegetative and rhizome formation stages caused severe impact on rhizome development and quality of harvested ginger, c. 35-45% of yield loss is estimated over the project areas.
- Local fresh ginger price reached its highest level in almost a decade. For that reason, farmers prefer selling their crops as fresh quality. Conversion to dry ginger has not been observed at farmer level.

Climate development in NFPP area (2018/19 season)<sup>1</sup>

Stage	Period	☀️ C°	☁️ mm	☁️ Days	📊
Planting	Jun	(3%)	+157%	+17%	✓
Vegetative	Jul - Oct	(1%)	+49%	(13%)	✗
Rhizome formation	Nov	(2%)	(21%)	100%	✗
Rhizome maturation	Dec	3%	(59%)	(33%)	✓
Harvesting	Jan - Mar	2%	(100%)	(100%)	✓

### Developments



- The NFPP for ginger was initiated in the 2017/18 crop season. A pilot project started in Palakkad district of Kerala with 7 farmers in 5 villages, from which 9 MT of superior quality, sulfur and aflatoxin free dried ginger was procured.
- The Better Ginger Initiative (BGI) started in Jun-18 after the successful completion of the ginger pilot during 2017/18. The programme comprised of 15 villages in Palakkad district with c. 40 acres enlisted and a procurement target of c. 250+ MT of sulfur and aflatoxin free dried ginger being set.
- However, only 4 ha from 5 farmers across 4 villages were left in the BGI due to the severe damage mentioned above. Procurement volumes have been reduced to only 10MT.

Programme impact and evolution



### Crop stage

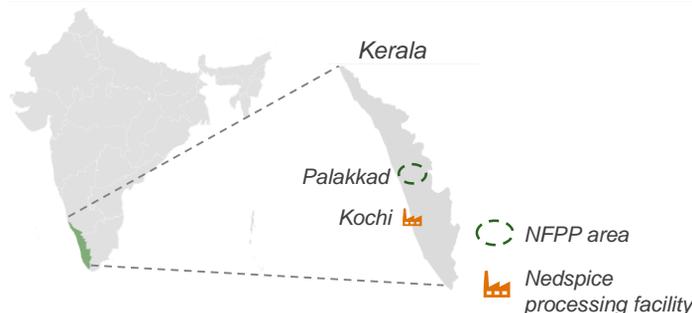


### NFPP area overview



- Farmers are harvesting ginger crop.

- Harvested ginger on field with mud clod.



<sup>1</sup>) Stages are indicative for the Himachal variety. The percentages represent the change versus the same period last year, considering data until 10-Mar-19. Rainy days are defined as days with >0mm rainfall. Temperature is based on the average of day maximum temperatures over the period.



- Early Feb-19: Ginger samples were collected to evaluate the crop yield and rhizome quality.
- Seed rhizomes have been selected, by marking the healthy and pest-free beds in the fields, which will be used to multiply for the next season. About 10-20% of the crop harvest is postponed to end of March to ensure the maturity of the rhizomes.
- Farmer training regarding harvest and post-harvest practices was done in Feb-19, to ensure superior quality aflatoxin, allergen and sulfur free dried products. The NFPP team also visits farmers regularly, providing technical support on the fields.
- Preparation of storage pits with better aeration has been started by the NFPP farmers, post training in Feb-19.
- Field activities are capturing on the NFPP App to ensure complete traceability.

## The late harvest crops



- *The crop area which will be harvested by end of March to ensure the maturity of the rhizomes, which will be used as seed material for the next season.*



## Field samples



- *Samples collected from the fields for yield and quality analyses.*



## What's next?



- Preparation for the next crop season 2019/20:
  - 15-Apr-19: Nutrient management for the next crop will be improved by conducting soil analysis before sowing.
  - Early May-19: Farmer registrations commence.
  - Mid May-19: Farmer trainings on land preparation and seed treatment will be carried out.
- June-19: Start the pilot NFPP project in Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh:
  - Introduce ginger cultivation practices to farmers, starting with 1-2 acres.
- Field visits will be conducted on regular basis to monitor seed storage and land preparation.

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