



### 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 the better nutmeg initiative undertaken in Kerala, India.

### Crop stage



- The harvest is going to finish in Sep-19. The crop is estimated to be lower by c. 52% due to severe floods of last year.
- Heavy rains and overflowing of rivers in early Aug-19 have delayed harvest activities and increased fruit drop in the NFPP area. This situation was similar to unfavorable weather of last year which would likely impact the non-flowering and bud initiation stages in the coming period.
- Excessive moisture of harvested fruits is expected which requires a proper drying process to ensure aflatoxin free produce.

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

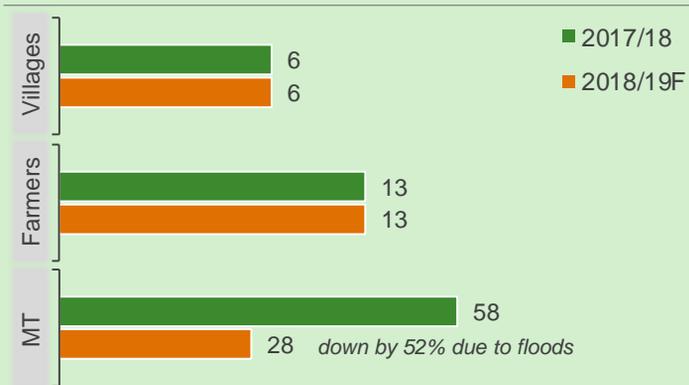
Stage	Period	☀️ C°	☁️ mm	☔ Days	📅
Non-flowering	Sep	(1%)	(87%)	(82%)	✗
Bud initiation	Oct – Nov	(0%)	(25%)	18%	✗
Fruit development	Dec – Mar	0%	121%	20%	✓
Fruit maturation	Apr – May	4%	(17%)	(32%)	✓
Harvest	Jun – Sep	3%	(2%)	(3%)	✗

### Developments



- The NFPP for nutmeg was initiated in the 2017/18 crop season. A pilot project started in Ernakulam district of Kerala, known as one of the traditional nutmeg growing regions in Kerala.
- 13 farmers across 6 villages, with productive nutmeg plantations that are 16+ years old, participated in the pilot programme, from which 25+ MT of superior quality aflatoxin free nutmeg was procured.
- The Better Nutmeg Initiative (BNI) has commenced for the 2018/19 crop season from 1-Sep-18. Nedspice aims to procure 25+ MT of superior nutmeg with aflatoxin free dried quality.

Programme impact and evolution



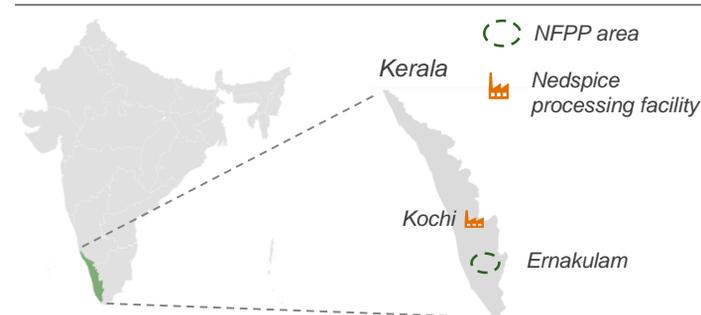
### Nutmeg crop stage



- Nutmeg fruit with pericarp split open.

- Harvested nutmeg with nuts and mace.

### NFPP area overview



<sup>1</sup> Stages are indicative for the Viswasree variety. The percentages represent the change versus the same period last year, considering data until 12-Aug-19. Rainy days are defined as days with >2.5mm rainfall. Temperature is based on the average of day maximum temperatures over the period.



- Jun - Jul-19: Farmer training on:
  - Harvest and post harvest practices
    - Fruits with pericarp split open should be harvested by pluckers to minimize ground contact, ensuring aflatoxin free produce;
    - The sun drying of nuts to reduce the occurrence of moisture associated with mould growth. Nuts are dried until the seed rattles inside.
  - Awareness on water conservation, ground water recharging methodologies and importance of biodiversity conservation were extended to the nutmeg growers.
- Jul - Aug-19: The number of drainage channels were increased to reduce waterlogging after the heavy monsoon rainfall and overflowing of rivers.

## Post harvest



- *Nuts after removing mace.*



- *Sliced nuts before drying.*



## Farmer training



- *Water conservation training to farmers*



- *Rain water harvesting pond.*



## What's next?



- Sep - 19: Preparation for the 2019/20 crop season:
  - The NFPP Better Nutmeg Initiative will be rolled out for the upcoming crop season from Sep-19 onwards, including more farmers
- Biodiversity assessment will be carried out in the nutmeg project area and initiatives for carbon sequestration measurement will be implemented, involving key stakeholders from Nedspice, India Business and Biodiversity Initiative and Confederation of Indian Industry.
- Farm Sustainable Assessment certification of the NFPP farmers will be proposed.

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