



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 and Palakkad, India.

Crop stage



- Sowing of the NFPP turmeric was completed during the last week of Jul-19 which is one month later than usual, owing to the delay of monsoon onset. The crop is in vegetative stage.
- Drought was reported in Kadapa and sowing area has reduced by c. 35% among NFPP farmers. Farmers switched to other crops which consume less water.
- In Palakkad, the crop is growing well, without any pest or disease incidence.

Climate development in NFPP area (2019/20 season)¹

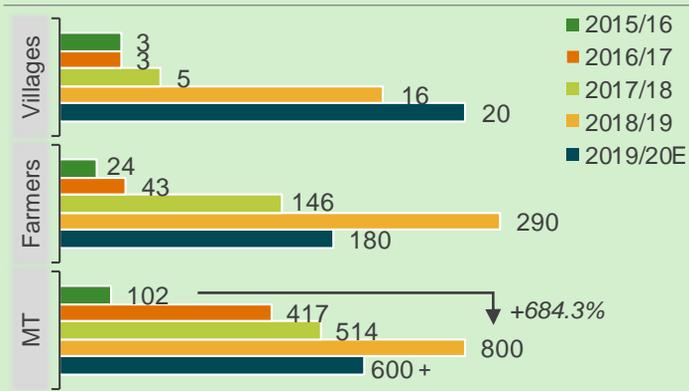
Stage	Period	☀ %	☁ mm	☁ Days	📅
Planting	Jun - Jul	6%	(41%)	17%	✗
Vegetative	Aug - Nov	1%	35%	57%	✓
Rhizome formation	Nov - Jan				
Rhizome maturation	Feb				
Harvesting	Mar - Apr				

Developments



- The NFPP for turmeric in Kadapa district of Andhra Pradesh was launched in the 2014/15 crop season. The programme quickly expanded over the subsequent seasons, more than quadrupling volumes in 2016/17 versus the previous year.
- Including the extension of the programme to Palakkad, Kerala, the 2018/19 programme has 290 farmer registrations, almost double the size of the previous season.
- Due to unfavourable weather conditions, the 2019/20 programme received less farmer registrations. As of Sep-19, 180 farmers were reported to continue the NFPP programme. With c. 120 ha registered, production is estimated to reach over 600 MT this season.
- Procurement target is set to be c. 500+ MT.

Programme impact and evolution



Crop stage



- Mydukur variety at Kadapa. - AFT variety at Palakkad.

NFPP area overview



¹ Stages are indicative for the Mydukur and Alleppey varieties. The percentages represent the change versus the same period last year in Kadapa, considering data until 20-Sep-19. Rainy days are defined as days with >2.5mm rainfall. Temperature is based on the average of day maximum temperatures over the period.



Activities

- 31-Jul-19: Farmer registrations in both Kadapa and Palakkad were completed.
- In Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh:
 - Farmer training on biodiversity conservation and waste management is continually being carried out from the onset of the crop season;
 - Fertiliser and micronutrient application, manual weeding and earthing up are being carried out in the fields;
 - Demarcation of biodiversity rich areas (buffer zones) have been done in the project farms.
- In Palakkad, Kerala:
 - Trial with new varieties, including Alleppey Supreme, Pratibha and Pragathi varieties which are recommended by Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR).
- Capturing the field activities on the NFPP turmeric app to ensure complete traceability.

Conferences and exhibitions



- Mr. Steve Clemenson (Nedspice Group Manager Quality and Sustainability) as a panelist at the 14th CII-Sustainability Summit in New Delhi on 28-Aug-19.



- Nedspice exhibition stall at training programme on Sustainable Agriculture, organized by Dept of Horticulture, Government of Andhra Pradesh on 17-Jul-19 at Mydukur village.



Waste management



- Polypropylene bags are displayed on the NFPP turmeric fields, to collect empty pesticide packets and other non-biodegradable waste for recycle/ proper disposal.



What's next?



- Oct-19 onwards: Regular field visits to monitor crop health and growth.
- Farmer training on crop protection practices, waste management and biodiversity conservation.
- Weather alerts and special updates from India Meteorological Department will be informed to farmers. This will help farmers to take precautionary measures in case of any extreme weather events like cyclones or heavy rainfall.
- Biodiversity assessment will be carried out in the turmeric project areas, involving key stakeholders from Nedspice, India Business and Biodiversity Initiative and The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).
- Co-developing on Biodiversity Action Plan for turmeric with GIZ.
- Purification of Mydukur variety by IISR – trial in progress at IISR campus.

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/>

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