



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 area reduced by c. 40% in the Kadapa project area owing to the delay of the southwest monsoon. In the late vegetative stage, the crop in Kadapa was reported to be damaged by leaf spot and rhizome rot due to heavy rainfall in October, leading to a 10-15% yield loss. Production in India was reported to drop by c. 15% this season, driven by lower yields in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.
- In Palakkad, the crop is growing well, without any pest or disease incidence.
- Overall the crop is in early rhizome formation stage, weather conditions during this period are a decisive factor influencing yields.

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

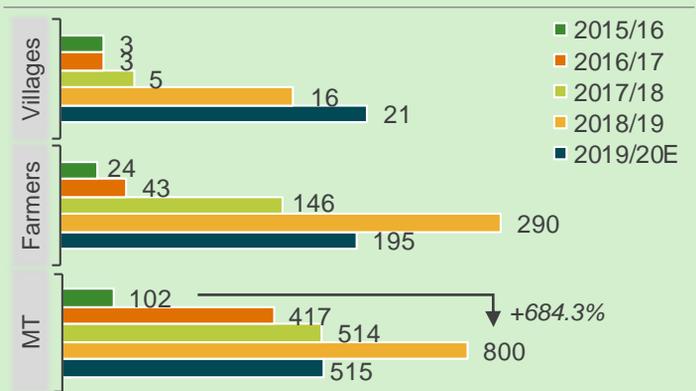
Stage	Period	☀️ °C	☁️ mm	☔ Days	📏
Planting	Jun - Jul	6%	(41%)	17%	✗
Vegetative	Aug - Nov	(3%)	97%	61%	✗
Rhizome formation	Nov - Jan	(3%)	(100%)	n.a	✓
Rhizome maturation	Feb				
Harvesting	Mar - Apr				

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 had 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 Oct-19, 195 farmers were reported to continue the NFPP programme.
- With c. 120 ha registered, production is estimated to reach over 500 MT this season.

Programme impact and evolution



Crop stage



- Rhizome rot disease.
- Leaf spot disease.

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 09-Nov-19. Rainy days are defined as days with >2.5mm rainfall. Temperature is based on the average of day maximum temperatures over the period.



- In Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh:
 - Oct-19: Bio fungicides were recommended to farmers to control leaf spot and rhizome rot disease. Besides, foliar nutrient spray, micronutrient application, manual weeding and earthing up have been done on the field;
 - Nov-19: Waste management phase 1 (Training) was provided to NFPP farmers in association with Recykal, Hyderabad, raising awareness on plastic waste separation and recycle. Recykal was founded in 2015 and is a technology platform that provides cloud based solutions for waste management and recycling industry.
- In Palakkad, Kerala:
 - Manual weeding and fertiliser application are being carried out on the field.
- Capturing the field activities on the NFPP turmeric app to ensure complete traceability.

Research trials at Palakkad

- *New variety trial plots at Palakkad, Kerala (The Alleppey Supreme and Pragati variety).*



Waste management training at Kadapa

- *Waste management training phase 1, involving 60 farmers in Kadapa.*
- *Recykal team provided a presentation regarding general pollution problems on field and sustainable agriculture methods.*



What's next?

- Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh:
 - Dec-19: Waste management phase 2 (Implementation): Recykal and Nedspice team will send an action plan to farmer group leaders who can drive next actions to farmer members;
 - Regular field visits to control the spread of leaf spot and rhizome rot.
- Palakkad, Kerala:
 - The efficacy of the bio inputs will be analysed on the trial plots of new varieties.
- Jan - Feb-20: Farmer training on harvest and post-harvest practices to ensure aflatoxin and allergen free produce.

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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