



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



- Sowing completed by c. 90% and the early sown crop is currently in the vegetative stage.
- The project area in Barmer district recorded high rainfall last month. Furthermore, most of cumin growing areas were severely impacted by locust attacks.
- In the NFPP project area, c. 20-25% of the early germinated seeds got damaged. Most farmers are resowing. This has delayed sowing until end of December.

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

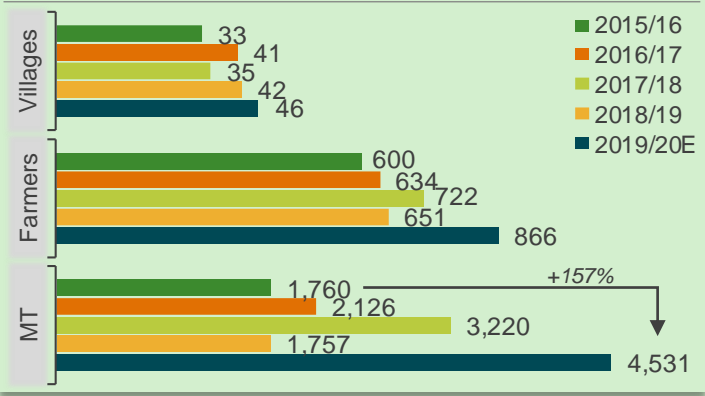
Stage	Period	☀ C°	mm ☁ Days	📅
Sowing	Oct – Dec	(11%)	1053%	100%
Vegetative	Dec – Jan	(14%)	n.a	n.a
Flowering	Jan – Feb			
Seed setting	Feb – Mar			
Harvest	Mar – Apr			

Developments



- The NFPP for cumin was initiated during the 2013/14 crop year in 5 villages located across 3 districts of Rajasthan.
- The number of farmers associated with the NFPP cumin programme has recently increased to over 850 farmers across 46 villages.
- Total registered growing areas are c. 11,300 ha which are estimated to produce over 4,500 MT this season. Nevertheless, some unexpected issues related to pest incidences and weather conditions in the coming months may have further impact on crop yields.
- The procurement target is set to be over 2,500 MT of compliant cumin this season.

Programme impact and evolution

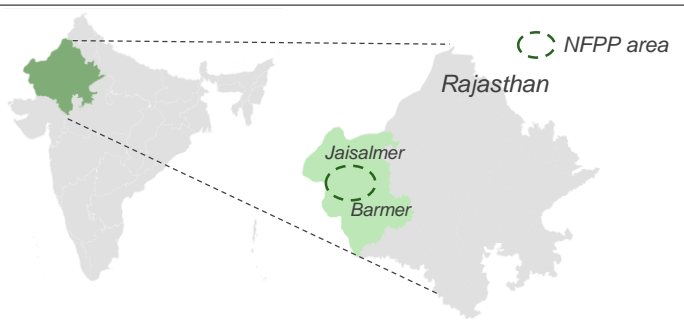


Crop stage



- Cumin sowing after seed treatment with bio fungicide.
- Germinated cumin.

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

- Oct - Nov-19:
 - Farmer training on seed treatment with bio fungicides before sowing. NFPP team recommended farmers to use Trichoderma for the treatment and issued this bio fungicide to Nedspice Kisaan Club (NKC) farmers;
 - Some farms in 3 main subregions are being monitored specially, to analyse the efficiency of bio insecticides against aphid infestation this season.
- Nov-19: Nedspice partly sponsored the Kabbadi tournament to support youth development and sport activities in CU-5 subregion.
- Nov - Dec-19:
 - Re-sowing is being carried out in the cumin fields affected by extreme rainfall and locust attack. NFPP team provided technical assistance regarding irrigation methods to support re-germination of cumin seeds;
 - The Nedspice call center was initiated at the NFPP Rajasthan to provide technical support such as cultivation techniques, weather information and market updates to NFPP farmers.

Farmer training and Nedspice contact center

- Farmer training on land preparation and seed treatment.



- NFPP farmer smart sign boards with Nedspice call center number.



Promoting youth development and sports

- Nedspice sponsored the Kabbadi tournament on 3-5th Nov-19.



What's next?



- Dec-19:
 - Soil and water samples will be collected and analysed from the farmer's fields. Based on the test results, nutrient management advice will be given to farmers;
 - NFPP smart sign boards will be placed on fields, helping farmers to stay connected to the NFPP technical team;
 - To increase the efficiency of inputs applied for cumin plants, mechanisation through introduction of spraying units will be provided to NKC farmers.
- Jan-20: Farmer training programme on good agricultural practices, using proper fertilisers and insecticides.

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