



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 set out in the Nedspice - Farmers Partnership Programme (NFPP), which defines the approach, the key principles and the expected results. In this update you will find information about the latest NFPP activities for turmeric in Kadapa and Palakkad, India.

Crop stage



- This season, late monsoon arrival delayed the crop sowing in Kadapa, the main NFPP project area. Furthermore, c. 5-10% yield loss is estimated due to leaf spot and rhizome rot diseases resulting from excess rainfall during the Oct-19 period. Farmers have completed the harvest and post-harvest activities.
- India's lockdown extended until early May. The restrictions are eased for selective manufacturers and Nedspice buying and processing facilities in both areas are currently operational with limited work shifts. Transport between states remains hard, but is expected to improve in the next few days.

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

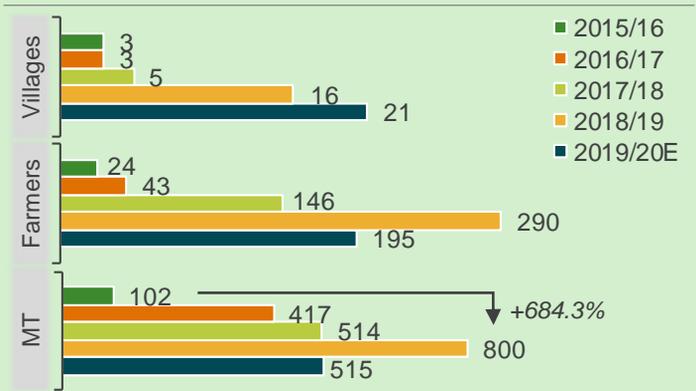
Stage	Period	☀️ C°	☁️ mm	☁️ Days	📏
Planting	Jun - Jul	6%	(41%)	17%	✗
Vegetative	Aug - Nov	(3%)	97%	61%	✗
Rhizome formation	Nov - Jan	(1%)	(94%)	(100%)	✓
Rhizome maturation	Feb	(3%)	n.a	n.a	✓
Harvesting	Mar - Apr	(4%)	(53%)	(50%)	✓

Developments



- The NFPP for turmeric in Kadapa (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 fewer 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

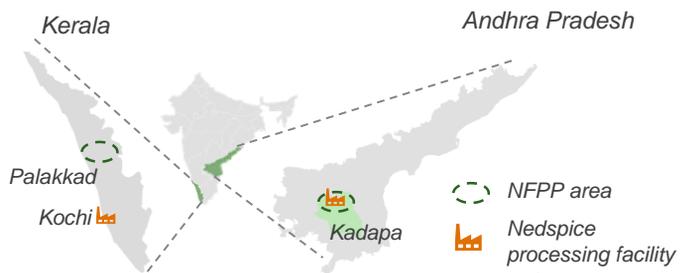


- Chopping turmeric leaves before harvest.



- Harvesting of turmeric.

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 13-Apr-20. Rainy days are defined as days with >2.5mm rainfall. Temperature is based on the average of day maximum temperatures over the period.



Activities

- Dec-19:
 - Farmers were provided technical practices regarding pest and disease controls in the occurrences of leaf spot and rhizome rot during Nov-19. By doing this, yield loss is expected to be mitigated by c. 5%.
- Jan-20:
 - After successful completion of the Waste management phase 1 (Training), the NFPP team in association with the Recykal team instructed farmer group leaders to deploy phase 2 (Implementation).
 - Given a clear action plan, NFPP farmer members were trained by group leaders to collect and separate non-natural waste materials arising from farm activities, helping farmer members to understand the importance of the environment in sustainable agricultural farming.
- Feb-20:
 - Farmer training on the right harvest and post-harvest practices to meet quality compliance level.

NFPP field activities



- *Nedspice field staff is providing training to a NFPP farmer.*



- *Waste management phase 2.*



Good agriculture practices



- *Removing mud clods from the turmeric rhizomes.*



- *Drying of steam boiled materials on the tarpaulin sheets to avoid any contact with soil, ensuring aflatoxin free produce.*



What's next?



- Apr-20: Turmeric sampling to classify material quality. Procurement continues until end of the crop season.
- The NFPP staff will regularly visit the farms during harvest and post harvest period, ensuring the right practices are applied to produce aflatoxin and allergen free superior quality.
- Apr - May-20:
 - Analyse the samples of new varieties (Alleppey Supreme, Pratibha and Pragathi) from the trial plots conducted this season in Palakkad. This research will be done in collaboration with Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR) in Kerala. With an expectation of positive results, these new turmeric varieties which have a higher disease tolerance and expected yield will be recommended to be planted on a larger scale.
 - The efficacy of the bio fungicides will be analysed on the trial plots of new varieties.
- May-20: Nedspice Corporate Social Responsibility activities:
 - Renovating the school facilities in 4 villages of the NFPP turmeric project area, providing new water tanks and improving water supply.

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