

NATIONAL HORTICULTURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

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A BRIEF REPORT ON ONION PRODUCTION AND AVAILABILITY
IN THE COUNTRY

1. PROSPECT OF KHARIF ONION PRODUCTION:

The seed sowing of kharif onion in major producing states like Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh is still continued and expected to be over by the end of July, 2015. The onion bulblet plantation in Rajasthan and Gujarat is expected to start in the 1st fortnight of August, 2015. The NHRDF has taken views of different kharif onion growers of major kharif onion producing states through its centers and noted that this year the area under kharif onion production is going to be increased in comparison to the last year, if the monsoon conditions are favourable.

The seed sowing of kharif onion in Karnataka is almost over. The area is expected to be the same as of the last year. The area under early kharif onion in Karnataka is expected to be 6000 ha. The harvesting of early kharif onion bulbs will be started from August, 2015 onwards.

The kharif onion seed sowing in Andhra Pradesh has been over and the area is expected to be the same as of the last year. The area under early kharif onion production in A.P. is around 4000 ha and harvesting of the same has already been started in a few pockets of Kurnool district.

The seed sowing of kharif onion in Tamil Nadu is continued and the area is expected to be the same as of the last year. The area under early kharif onion in Tamil Nadu is around 1500 ha and harvesting of the same is started.

2. ONION STORAGE:

Major storage of onion is being done by the producers and traders in Maharashtra, Gujarat, M.P., Rajasthan and Bihar States. The rabi onion produce is being stored at all the places to meet out the domestic demand from June, 2015 onwards. The NHRDF has estimated that around 40 lakh MT onion has been stored in different parts of the country but the quality of the stored bulbs is not so good as of the last year as the good cured onion bulbs are mixed with rain soaked bulbs. Around 15-20% stored onions have been sold in the market so far.