

NATIONAL HORTICULTURAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

NASIK-422 003

**A BRIEF REPORT ON ONION PRODUCTION AND AVAILABILITY IN THE
COUNTRY**

The estimated area and production of onion (1st estimate) is around 11.92 lakhs ha and 193.57 lakhs MT, respectively which is little less in comparison with previous year area and production i.e. 12.04 lakhs ha and 194.02 lakhs MT.

Rabi onion area covered during the current season is around 5.70 lakhs ha area, which is 12% more compared to last year's rabi onion area of 5.07 lakhs ha in the major rabi onion growing states of the country.

The onion is coming in market presently from the harvest of late kharif onion grown in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. The harvesting of rabi onion, which is expected from mid March onwards delayed and in some of the pockets crop damaged due to hailstorm in different states. The damage to the onion bulb crop in Maharashtra due to recent rains & hailstorm in Nashik, Ahmednagar, Buldhana, Akola, Beed, Jalna, Aurangabad, Parbhani, Hingoli and Nagpur district is noted around 20-25%. Nashik district is most affected.

Recent rains particularly in Gujarat, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh have not much affected the rabi onion bulb crop. However, in northern states especially Haryana and Punjab water logging at some places noted which may affect the productivity of onion. No damage to rabi onion bulb crop noted in Gujarat. Due to rains overall rabi onion production in the country may not be less compared to last year, since rabi crop area estimated 12% more in the current year

The onion seed crop in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan has severely damaged due to recent heavy rains and hailstorm. Around 20-25% seed yield may reduce due to above factors.