

A STUDY OF PRICE BEHAVIOUR AND MARKET INTEGRATION OF ONION IN GUJARAT

Jinjala Alpesh Kumar Raghavbhai¹, Kiran Kumari² and Ganga Devi^{1*}

¹Department of Agricultural Economics, B.A. College of Agriculture, AAU, Anand- 388 110 Gujarat (India)

²University of Rajasthan, Jaipur (Rajasthan)
Email: gangasaran1982@gmail.com

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Abstract: The present study was undertaken to analyse price behaviour and market integration of onion in Gujarat. It seeks to ascertain the optimum period for farmers to sale their produce, for the consumers to buy their goods and for the Government to take necessary policy decisions with regard to price support, procurement, storage and helping authorities to take up timely action. Thus, the analytical results of time series data related to prices and arrivals of onion in regulated markets of Gujarat is more useful as market intelligence for farmers, traders, exporters and policy makers. The compound growth rate of wholesale prices of onion in Vadodara market was found positive and significant. The onion arrival and price indices did not continuously increase or decrease uniformly over the years in all the selected markets. The negative relationship was observed between arrivals and prices of onion irrespective of the selected markets as expected. In Mahuva market, the seasonal arrival indices of onion increased gradually from February onwards and reached peak in the month of April. The highest seasonal price indices were observed in the month of May (143.11). Therefore, it was suggested that farmers can sale their produce during May because in this month prices found maximum. In Vadodara, Surat and Bharuch market the seasonal price indices of onion were above 100 from February to July. While in Rajkot market it was from January to July. Hence, it could be better if farmer's sale their produce during the period from February to July for fetching higher prices in these markets.

Keywords: *Allium cepa* (L.), Market integration, Price and Growth behavior

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*Corresponding Author

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