Govt Begins Basmati Crop Survey to Estimate Expected Yield During Crop Year 2022-2023



The Basmati crop survey is being held after a two-year hiatus because it could not be held in 2020 and 2021 due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Basmati rice is a geographically indicated (GI) agricultural product that commands a premium on the global market.

The survey is being carried out by the APEDA-affiliated Basmati Export Development Foundation (BEDF). The final survey report is expected to be completed by December of this year.

According to the survey model, a field-based and satellite imagery survey is being conducted on the basis of a sample group of farmers chosen at the district level in seven Basmati producing states: Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Delhi, western Uttar Pradesh (30 districts), and three districts in Jammu and Kashmir.

GPS points will be recorded to determine accuracy levels, and each farmer will be photographed while participating in the survey. Exports of Basmati rice increased by 25.54 percent to USD 1.15 billion in April-June 2022-23, compared to USD 922 million in the same months last fiscal.

APEDA is assisting state governments in promoting Basmati rice cultivation through the BEDF. Farmers are informed about the use of certified seeds, good agricultural practices, and the prudent use of pesticides through various awareness programmes organized by APEDA and BEDF in order to meet international standards.

Basmati rice cultivation is an Indian tradition, and it is our collective responsibility to keep this tradition alive, as there is a high demand for Basmati rice in the global market. Farmers have also been encouraged to register with basmati.net via the State Agriculture Department.

BEDF, in collaboration with the rice exporters associations of Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh, as well as concerned state agriculture universities and state agriculture departments, has organized 75 awareness and training programmes in the seven states to

encourage farmers to grow high-quality Basmati rice. BEDF also serves as a technical partner for various FPOs, exporter associations, and other organizations in key growing states.

In the last three years, India has exported Basmati worth nearly USD 12 billion. Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Yemen, the United Arab Emirates, the United States of America, Kuwait, the United Kingdom, Qatar, and Oman will account for nearly 80% of total aromatic long-grained rice shipments from India in 2021-22.

Basmati rice is one of India's most important agricultural exports. India exported 4.63 million MT of Basmati rice worth USD 4.02 billion in 2020-21.

Basmati rice exports have more than doubled in the last decade, with 2.17 million MT exported in 2009-10.

Punjab bans use of 10 insecticides



Reports show that the long grain rice contained residues of pesticides above limit
Amid reports that several samples of the aromatic, long-grain basmati rice, contained the residue value of certain pesticides above the Maximum Residual Level (MRL), which could be a potential constraint in its export, the Punjab Government has decided to ban the use of as many as 10 insecticides.

The ban has been imposed for 60 days starting from August 12, 2022.

The State Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department in its notification pointed out that the State Government believes that the sale, stock distribution, and use of the 10 insecticides which include — Acephate, Buprofezin, Chloropyriphos, Methamidophos,

Propiconazole, Thiamethoxam, Profenofos, Isoprothiolane, Carbendazim, and Tricyclazole — is not in the interest of basmati rice growers.

It is said that there is a risk of higher pesticide residues than the Maximum Residual Level (MRL) fixed by the competent authority in the basmati rice grains, on account of the use of these agrochemicals. Besides, the Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) has recommended alternative agrochemicals to control pests of basmati rice in Punjab.

Pointing out that the Punjab Rice Millers and Exporters Association had also reported that several samples got tested by them contained the residue value of these pesticides above the MRL values in basmati rice, the notification said the Association requested the ban of these agrochemicals to save the State's basmati produce and to ensure its hassle-free export of to other countries.

The notification added that It is imperative to prohibit the sale, stock, distribution, and use of the insecticides on the basmati crop, for it being a potential constraint in the export and consumption of rice. The alternatives to the said insecticides, which are low in residue are available in the market, it added.

Join Us

Join Agri learner WhatsApp Group	=> Click to Join <=
Get Monthly Agriculture Current affairs PDF	⇨ Download Agri current affairs <=
Follow Agri Current Update On Instagram	=> Click to Follow <=



Agriguru