

## India Cotton Advisory Board revises 2010-11 cotton output downwards

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### **Dr Ramkumar Seshadri**

LUBBOCK, USA (Commodity Online): India's Cotton Advisory Board has revised downwards the estimate of cotton production for 2010-11. On Saturday, February 26th, India's Cotton Advisory Board (CAB) met and produced the revised estimate for 2010-11 cotton.

According to the latest estimate by CAB, India's cotton production for 2010-11 (October 2010- September 2011) is expected to be 31.2 million bales (170 kg each). This is 1.7 million bales less than CAB's earlier estimate on January 6th. In January, CAB estimated the 2010-11 production to be 32.9 million bales (170 kg each).

India is now expected to plant 11.16 million hectares of cotton this season and the all India average yield is expected to be 475.23 kg per hectare.

The Central Zone comprising of the states of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh is expected to produce 20.1 million bales. The Southern Zone comprising of the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu is expected to produce 6.8 million bales.

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The three largest cotton producing states are Gujarat, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. Gujarat is estimated to produce 10.2 million bales, Maharashtra is estimated to produce 8.2 million bales and Andhra Pradesh is estimated to produce 5.3 million bales.

The cotton area in Maharashtra is estimated to be 3.97 million hectares and Gujarat is estimated at 2.63 million hectares. The state of Gujarat is expected to have an average yield of 658.56 kg/ hectare. While the revised output figure by India's CAB is estimated at 31.2 million bales, Coimbatore based The Southern Indian Mills' Association has estimated the crop to be 30.9 million bales which is less than the revised CAB's estimate.

The total consumption for 2010-11 season will be 27.5 million bales. The opening cotton stock this year (October 2010- September 2011) is provisionally pegged at 4.05 million bales. As of today, India's allowable cotton export for this season stands at 5.5 million bales (170 kg each). (The author is Associate Professor at Texas Tech University, USA)