

Farmers all smiles over fair prices of coriander leaves

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Salmonirhat*

Farmers in the district are all smiles as they are earning handsome amount of money from coriander cultivation.

This year, the growers are getting fair prices for the coriander leaves compared to last year's prices like in 2019, per kg of coriander leaves was sold at Tk 8 to Tk 10, which is being sold at Tk 35 to Tk 40 in the local markets this year.

Afzal Hossain, a farmer from Jamurtari village in Saptibari union of Aditmari upazila, said he has already earned Tk 20,000 from selling coriander leaves on one bigha of land. He can sell coriander leaves for Tk 3-4 thousand more.

"This year the coriander field was destroyed twice due to floods and heavy rains. I got the yield by sowing seeds for the third time," he said.

Afzal's wife Jamila Begum said they had to work hard to get the yield. They spent Tk 3,000 for the cultivation.

Dinesh Chandra Barman, another grower from Mogholhat village in Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila, said farmers are earning



A farmer couple pluck coriander leaves from a land at Jamurtari village in Lalmonirhat's Aditmari upazila.

Malta cultivation sees success in Majapara of Nilphamari

The sandy land brought fortune to many growers as it is suitable for malta cultivation

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Nilphamari*

Once people of Majapara in Sadar upazila used to cultivate tobacco because of sandy land but now the locality has attained new identity as 'green malta producing village' amid the pandemic as the villagers cultivate the tasty fruit containing vitamin C that help boost immunity against Covid-19.

The sandy land has brought fortune to them as they found that it is suitable for malta cultivation where water does not stand during monsoon, said Abdus Salam, pioneer of malta cultivation in the village.

He added that sub-assistant agriculture officer of Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE) in Nilphamari Anarul Islam motivated youths to cultivate the fruit as it is more profitable than tobacco.

In 2017, Salam first cultivated 65 malta saplings on one bigha of land as the officer supplied him BARI Malta-1 variety from his office free of cost and also gave him technical support.

"A year after plantation, I collected 25 kg of malta from each tree and sold per kg at Tk 100. Thus, I earned Tk 1.5 lakh. It is very profitable," he said.

Seeing Salam's success, educated youth in Umaruzaman Razu in 2018 created a malta orchard on five bigha of land.

At present, there are 35 orchards in the area, said local resident Dr Atiar Rahman, adding that Majapara is now widely known as green malta producing village.

At the beginning of March when coronavirus spread in the country, distant traders stopped buying. Razu then created a Facebook page for advertisement of his orchard's green malta containing vitamin C that help to boost immunity and fight Covid-19 as well.

"Elite consumers from Dhaka and other

big cities started giving orders over online. I sold the fruits at higher rate. I benefitted financially from selling the malta," said Razu.

Following him, many other growers in the area adopted same marketing policy as Razu earned good profit from selling the fruits.

Orchard owner Mahfuzar Rahman said many buyers even booked their orchards



A farmer at his malta orchard in Majapara village of Nilphamari Sadar upazila.

PHOTO: STAR

Last year per kilogram of coriander leaves was sold at Tk 8 to Tk 10 in the local markets, but this year it is selling for Tk 35 to Tk 40

a good amount of money from selling coriander leaves, but the coriander fields were damaged several times.

"All kinds of vegetables have been severely damaged due to floods and heavy rains this year. The cost of vegetable production has doubled since last year," he said.

Farmer Nazer Ali of Bhatibari village in Sadar upazila said he used to cultivate coriander leaves on 60 decimals of land but he got the yield from 20 decimals of land. The coriander leaves on 40 decimals

of the land have been completely damaged due to heavy rains.

However, they are earning good amount of money from the cultivation as the market price of coriander leaves is high, he said.

Hamidul Islam, a resident of Sabhepara area in Lalmonirhat town, said that they were not buying much coriander leaves now as its price is high.

Meher Ali, a vegetable seller at Goshala Bazar in Lalmonirhat town, said they were buying coriander leaves from farmers at high rate and selling them to buyers

at high prices.

Although the price of coriander leaves is high, its demand has not decreased, he said.

Shamim Ashraf, deputy director (DD) of Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) in Lalmonirhat, said coriander leaves on about 1,800 bighas of land in the district have been damaged due to heavy rains and floods this year.

The farmers are earning satisfactory money from selling the coriander leaves due to its high demand among the consumers, said the DD.

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Web: www.btc.com.bd

DIGITAL BANGLADESH

Date: 19/11/2020 AD

Reference No. 14.33.0000.752.07.008.20-95

Invitation for International Tender

1 Ministry/Division

2 Agency

3 Procuring entity name

4 Procuring entity code

5 Procuring entity district

6 Invitation for

7 Invitation Ref. No.

8 Date

9 Procurement method

10 Budget and source of funds

11 Development partners (if applicable)

12 Project/programme code

13 Project/programme name

14 Tender package No.

15 Tender package name

16 Tender publication date

17 Tender last selling date

18 Tender closing date and time

19 Tender opening date and time

20 Name & address of the office(s)

-Selling tender document

-Selling tender document (others)

-Receiving tender document

-Opening tender document

21 Pre-tender meeting

22 Eligibility of tenderer

23 Brief description of goods

24 Brief description of related services

25 Price of tender document (Tk)

26 Identification of lot

27 Name of official inviting tender

28 Designation of official inviting tender

29 Address of official inviting tender

30 Contact details of official inviting tender

31 The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.

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Bangladesh Telecommunications Company Limited.

Managing Director, BTCL.

BTCL-001.

Dhaka.

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14.33.0000.752.07.008.20-95

19/11/2020 AD.

05/01/2021 AD up to 05:00pm.

06/01/2021 AD @ 12:00pm.

06/01/2021 AD @ 12:10pm.

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Not applicable.

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Completion time in days

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