

Weekly Publication of



**Cotton  
Association  
of India**

# COTTON STATISTICS & NEWS

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## Technical Analysis

Price outlook for Gujarat-ICS-105, 29mm and ICE cotton futures for the period 1st February 2022 to 1st March 2022

*Shri. Gnanasekar Thiagarajan is currently the head of Commtrendz Research, an organization which, specializes in commodity research and advisory to market participants in India and overseas. He works closely with mostly Agri-Business, base metals and precious metals business corporates in India and across the globe helping them in managing their commodity and currency price risk. Further to his completing a post graduate in software engineering, he did a long stint with Dow Jones, promoters of "The Wall Street Journal" and had the opportunity of closely working with some of the legends in Technical Analysis history in the U.S.*

*His columns in The Hindu Business Line have won accolades in the international markets. He also writes a fortnightly column on a blog site for The Economic Times on Global commodities and Forex markets. He*

*We will look into the Gujarat-ICS-105, 29mm prices along with other benchmarks and try to forecast price moves going forward.*

*As mentioned in the previous update, fundamental analysis involves studying and analysing various reports, data and based on that arriving at some possible direction for prices in the coming months or quarters.*

*is a part an elite team of experts for moneycontrol.com in providing market insights. He was awarded "The Best Market Analyst", for the category- Commodity markets- Bullion, by then President of India, Mr. Pranab Mukherji.*

### EXPERT'S Column



**Shri Gnanasekar Thiagarajan**  
Director, Commtrendz Research

*He is a consultant and advisory board member for leading corporates and commodity exchanges in India and overseas. He is regularly invited by television channels including CNBC and ET NOW and Newswires like Reuters and Bloomberg, to opine on the commodity and forex markets. He has conducted training sessions for markets participants at BSE, NSE, MCX and IIM Bangalore and conducted many internal workshops for corporates exposed to commodity price risk. He has also done several training sessions for investors all over the country and is also a regular speaker at various conferences in India and abroad.*

*Some of the recent fundamental drivers for the domestic cotton prices are:*

- Cotton futures in MCX are at all-time highs in line with international prices, as sentiment still remains positive due to the ongoing supply tightness and robust demand. Daily arrivals were reported at around 160-65k bales (approximately). Though physical tightness continues to underpin

sentiment, the arrivals month on month are lower, but overall, they have been higher compared to the previous year. The difference is robust demand this time.

- Prices of other commodities remained steady post the FOMC, which saw some risk appetite return back. Weaker demand due to higher prices are still weighing on prices, but fear seems to be ruling with the prospects of uncertainty over Ukraine that could indirectly impact cotton prices.
- Cotton exports have begun to slide due to traders charging high premiums over US benchmark prices on expectations of lower output, at a time when demand is strong from mills.

Some of the fundamental drivers for international cotton prices are:

- ICE cotton futures touched a fresh decade high this Monday, with a global deficit of the fibre squeezing mills holding huge short positions. The drought across West Texas and Oklahoma continues to intensify, and the market is closely watching because that could affect planting and yield prospects for 2022-23. Higher input costs have also raised doubts on whether growers will plant more this year even with the higher prices.
- Amid two expected world deficits, mills are holding large, short positions as indicated by government data on unfixed call sales for the marketing year ending July, and they must be bought using options or futures by then. CFTC on Call report for the week to Jan 21 showed that total unfixed call sales were at 148127 lots up 153 lots on week. Mar 2022 unfixed call sales were at 43565 lots down 3781 lots on week. Mar 22 which has first notice day on Feb 22 still has sizeable unfixed call sales to be covered. This should continue to support Mar 2022 prices the way it did for December 2021 when prices peaked around \$1.20.
- For the first time in many months, speculators decreased net long positions in cotton futures by 1,720 contracts to 75,075 in the week to Jan. 25, data from the Commodity Futures Trading Commission showed last week, suggesting profit-taking and possibly the bullish view coming to an end. Shorts by commercials are on the rise though.

### Guj ICS Price Trend

As mentioned in the previous update, corrections could be short-lived and the trend could resume higher towards 19,000-500 eventually. Prices moved exactly as per expectations. More upside likely to 21,500-22,000 at least in the near-term with a possibility even to extend to 22, 500 eventually. But highly overbought conditions warn of being cautiously optimistic from present levels.



### MCX Feb Contract Chart

The MCX benchmark cotton prices moved higher as expected. The weekly/daily charts are dominated by bullish indications, favouring further advance towards 38,300-500. The steady rise in Volume as well



as Open Interest is likely to fuel further rally. Charts continue to be bullish but a corrective dip to 36,000 followed by 35220 is in the offing.

### ICE Cotton Futures



As mentioned previously, our next objective would be at \$119.20. Prices have gone way beyond that and indicate further strength. The charts show a potential to rise towards \$129.80/\$130.30 level shortly. A rise above 129.15 would be encouraging. Supports are around 126.00 and a deeper one at 124.60. A fall below 124.50, though not hinted at, could lessen the chances for the expected rise. Such a fall could see a sharper fall to 120.55 followed by an important target around \$1.16 levels in the coming weeks.

### Conclusion:

The domestic prices are hinting at more upside in the coming weeks, but with the possibility of a downward correction and retracements subsequently, as prices seem to be extremely overbought and are showing exhaustion signs. International cotton futures are showing bullish signs and it needs to be seen if markets are able to take the \$1.30 level, which could be a strong resistance. Important support is at \$1.21 followed by \$1.16c on the downside and in that zone, prices could find a lot of buying interest again. The domestic prices have risen sharply higher as expected, and perfectly in line with our expectations over the past several months now. The international price indicates that it is in the process of a mild rise followed by a downward correction in the coming sessions with the possibility of extreme moves.

For Guj ICS supports are seen at 19,500/qtl and for ICE Mar cotton futures at \$1.21 followed by \$1.15c. The domestic technical picture looks extremely overdone now and one needs to be cautiously bullish, as prices are ruling at all-time highs. It could grind higher. The international prices are relatively more bullish compared to the domestic prices. We expect domestic prices to see a sharp retracement lower. Therefore, we can expect sharp moves lower in both domestic and international prices.

## Revision in Testing Charges at CAI Laboratories

The following are the charges for cotton testing in the laboratories of the Cotton Association of India with effect from 1st October 2020.

Particulars	Per Sample Testing Fees in Rs.		
	Testing Fees	GST	Total
HVI Test	145	26	171
Micronaire Test	85	15	100
Colour Grade on HVI	85	15	100
Gravimetric Trash Test on HVI	85	15	100
Moisture	85	15	100
Grading (Manual Classing)	235	42	277

### VOLUME BASED DISCOUNTS

Particulars	Per Sample Testing Fees in Rs.		
	Testing Fees	GST	Total
For 250 samples and above but less than 500 samples	140	25	165
For 500 samples and above but less than 750 samples	135	24	159
For 750 samples and above but less than 1000 samples	130	23	153
For 1000 samples and above but less than 2000 samples	125	23	148
For 2000 samples and above but less than 5000 samples	120	22	142
For 5000 samples and above but less than 10,000 samples	115	21	136
For 10,000 samples and above	100	18	118

The fees under the above volume based discount scheme is payable within 15 days from the receipt of the invoices to be raised on monthly basis.

We would also like to inform that the parties can avail the benefit of testing of cotton at multiple laboratories of the Associations against the CAI Credits made by them.

We earnestly request you to avail the facility of testing at the Association's laboratories.



**COTTON  
ASSOCIATION  
OF INDIA**  
Established 1921  
ISO 9001:2015

### Cotton Association of India

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## Since 1921, we are dedicated to the cause of Indian cotton.

Just one of the reasons, you should use our Laboratory Testing Services.

The Cotton Association of India (CAI) is respected as the chief trade body in the hierarchy of the Indian cotton economy. Since its origin in 1921, CAI's contribution has been unparalleled in the development of cotton across India.

The CAI is setting benchmarks across a wide spectrum of services targeting the entire cotton value chain. These range from research and development at the grass root level to education, providing an arbitration mechanism, maintaining Indian cotton grade standards, issuing Certificates of Origin to collecting and disseminating statistics and information. Moreover, CAI is an autonomous organization portraying professionalism and reliability in cotton testing.

The CAI's network of independent cotton testing & research laboratories are strategically spread across major cotton centres in India and are equipped with:

- State-of-the-art technology & world-class Premier and MAG cotton testing machines
- HVI test mode with trash% tested gravimetrically

### LABORATORY LOCATIONS

**Current locations :** • **Maharashtra** : Mumbai; Yavatmal; Aurangabad; Jalgaon • **Gujarat** : Rajkot; Ahmedabad • **Andhra Pradesh** : Adoni  
• **Madhya Pradesh** : Khargone • **Karnataka** : Hubli • **Punjab** : Bathinda • **Telangana**: Warangal, Adilabad



### COTTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

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UPCOUNTRY SPOT RATES

January 2022

2020-21 Crop

Growth	P/H/R	P/H/R	P/H/R	P/H/R	M/MP/	M/MP/	M/MP/	P/H/	P/H/	M/MP/	M/MP/	M/MP/	R(L)	M/MP/	SA/	GUJ	GUJ	SA/	M/MP/	SA/	M/MP/	SA/	M/MP/	SA/	M/MP/	SA/	M/MP/	SA/	M/MP/	SA/	M/MP/	SA/	M/MP/	SA/	M/MP/				
Grade-Standard	ICS-201	ICS-202	ICS-202	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105	ICS-105			
Staple	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine	Fine		
Micronaire	50-70	4.0-6.0	4.0-5.5	3.5-4.9	3.0-3.4	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.0-3.4	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	3.5-4.9	
Gravimetric Trash	4%	13%	4.5%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	
Strength/GPT	15	15	20	21	23	26	26	26	26	25	26	26	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	26	27	27	27	27	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	
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H = Highest L = Lowest A = Average



UPCOUNTRY SPOT RATES													
								(Rs./Qtl)					
Standard Descriptions with Basic Grade & Staple in Millimetres based on Upper Half Mean Length [ By law 66 (A) (a) (4) ]								Spot Rate (Upcountry) 2020-21 Crop January 2022					
Sr. No.	Growth	Grade Standard	Grade	Staple	Micronaire	Gravimetric Trash	Strength /GPT	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th
3	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 – 6.0	13%	20	13638 (48500)	13919 (49500)		14060 (50000)	14060 (50000)	14060 (50000)
								Spot Rate (Upcountry) 2021-22 Crop					
1	P/H/R	ICS-101	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	4%	15	13835 (49200)	13947 (49600)		14229 (50600)	14369 (51100)	14650 (52100)
2	P/H/R (SG)	ICS-201	Fine	Below 22mm	5.0 – 7.0	4.5%	15	14004 (49800)	14116 (50200)		14397 (51200)	14538 (51700)	14819 (52700)
3	GUJ	ICS-102	Fine	22mm	4.0 – 6.0	13%	20	-	-		-	-	-
4	KAR	ICS-103	Fine	23mm	4.0 – 5.5	4.5%	21	-	-		-	-	-
5	M/M (P)	ICS-104	Fine	24mm	4.0 – 5.5	4%	23	17153 (61000)	17238 (61300)		17378 (61800)	17378 (61800)	17659 (62800)
6	P/H/R (U) (SG)	ICS-202	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	4.5%	26	19403 (69000)	19543 (69500)		19684 (70000)	19684 (70000)	19825 (70500)
7	M/M(P)/SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	26mm	3.0 – 3.4	4%	25	-	-		-	-	-
8	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	4%	26	19656 (69900)	19796 (70400)		20021 (71200)	20021 (71200)	20162 (71700)
9	M/M(P)/SA/TL/G	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.0 – 3.4	4%	25	-	-		-	-	-
10	M/M(P)/SA/TL	ICS-105	Fine	27mm	3.5 – 4.9	3.5%	26	-	-		-	-	-
11	P/H/R(U)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.5 – 4.9	4%	27	19937 (70900)	20078 (71400)		20303 (72200)	20303 (72200)	20443 (72700)
12	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.5	3.5%	27	-	-	I	-	-	-
13	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.5	3.5%	27	-	-		-	-	-
14	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	28mm	3.7 – 4.5	3%	27	-	-		-	-	-
15	R(L)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.5	3.5%	28	19628 (69800)	19796 (70400)		20021 (71200)	20021 (71200)	20303 (72200)
16	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.5	3.5%	28	21231 (75500)	21287 (75700)		21512 (76500)	21512 (76500)	21652 (77000)
17	SA/TL/K	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.5	3%	28	21287 (75700)	21343 (75900)		21568 (76700)	21568 (76700)	21709 (77200)
18	GUJ	ICS-105	Fine	29mm	3.7 – 4.5	3%	28	21174 (75300)	21231 (75500)		21371 (76000)	21371 (76000)	21512 (76500)
19	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.5	3.5%	29	21934 (78000)	21934 (78000)		22074 (78500)	22074 (78500)	22215 (79000)
20	SA/TL/K/O	ICS-105	Fine	30mm	3.7 – 4.5	3%	29	22074 (78500)	22074 (78500)		22215 (79000)	22215 (79000)	22355 (79500)
21	M/M(P)	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 – 4.5	3%	30	22355 (79500)	22355 (79500)		22496 (80000)	22496 (80000)	22637 (80500)
22	SA/TL/K/TN/O	ICS-105	Fine	31mm	3.7 – 4.5	3%	30	22440 (79800)	22440 (79800)		22580 (80300)	22580 (80300)	22721 (80800)
23	SA/TL/K/TN/O	ICS-106	Fine	32mm	3.5 – 4.2	3%	31	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)		N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)	N.A. (N.A.)
24	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	33	31775 (113000)	30932 (110000)		30932 (110000)	30932 (110000)	30932 (110000)
25	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	34mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	34	32057 (114000)	31213 (111000)		31213 (111000)	31213 (111000)	31213 (111000)
26	M/M(P)	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	4%	35	32338 (115000)	31494 (112000)		31494 (112000)	31494 (112000)	31494 (112000)
27	K/TN	ICS-107	Fine	35mm	2.8 - 3.7	3.5%	35	33463 (119000)	32900 (117000)		32900 (117000)	32900 (117000)	32900 (117000)

(Note: Figures in bracket indicate prices in Rs./Candy)