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Millets in India

International Year of Millets

Data Guide – February 2023

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International Year of Millets' 2023



Millets have been an integral part of our diet for centuries. They offer plethora of health benefits and are also good for the environment with low water & input requirement for production.

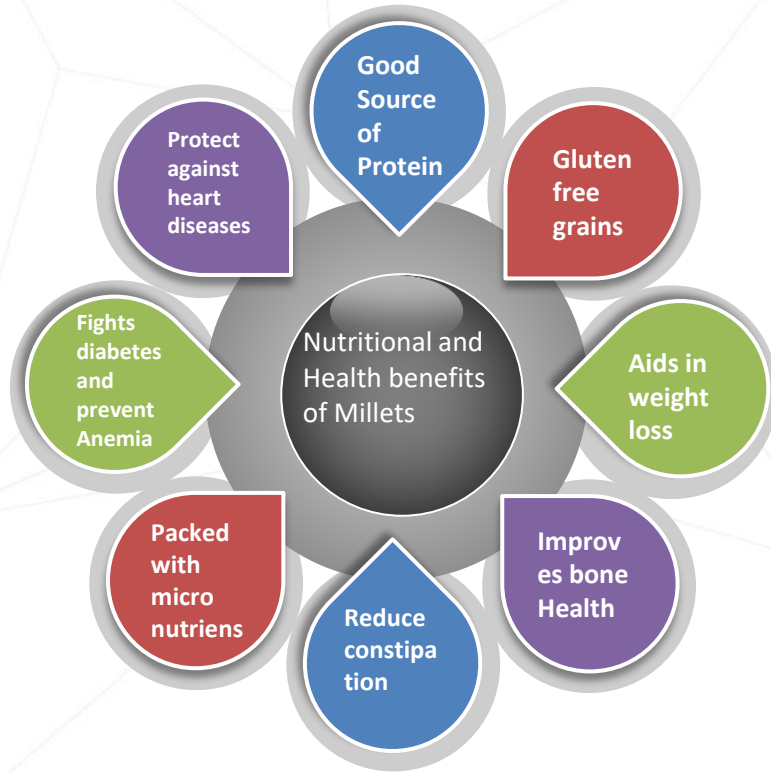
With the aim to create awareness and increase production & consumption of millets, United Nations, at the behest of the Government of India, declared 2023 as the '***International Year Millets***'.

The Indian government has also been promoting millet production as part of its ***National Food Security Mission***. As a result of these factors, millet production in India is expected to continue to grow in the coming years.

To commemorate this, Government is also hosting various interactive activities around Millets.

With the right level of promotion of millets around its health benefits, it can widely increase the consumption of millets which will further contribute to nutrition, food security and welfare of farmers.

Various Nutritional and health benefits offered by Millets

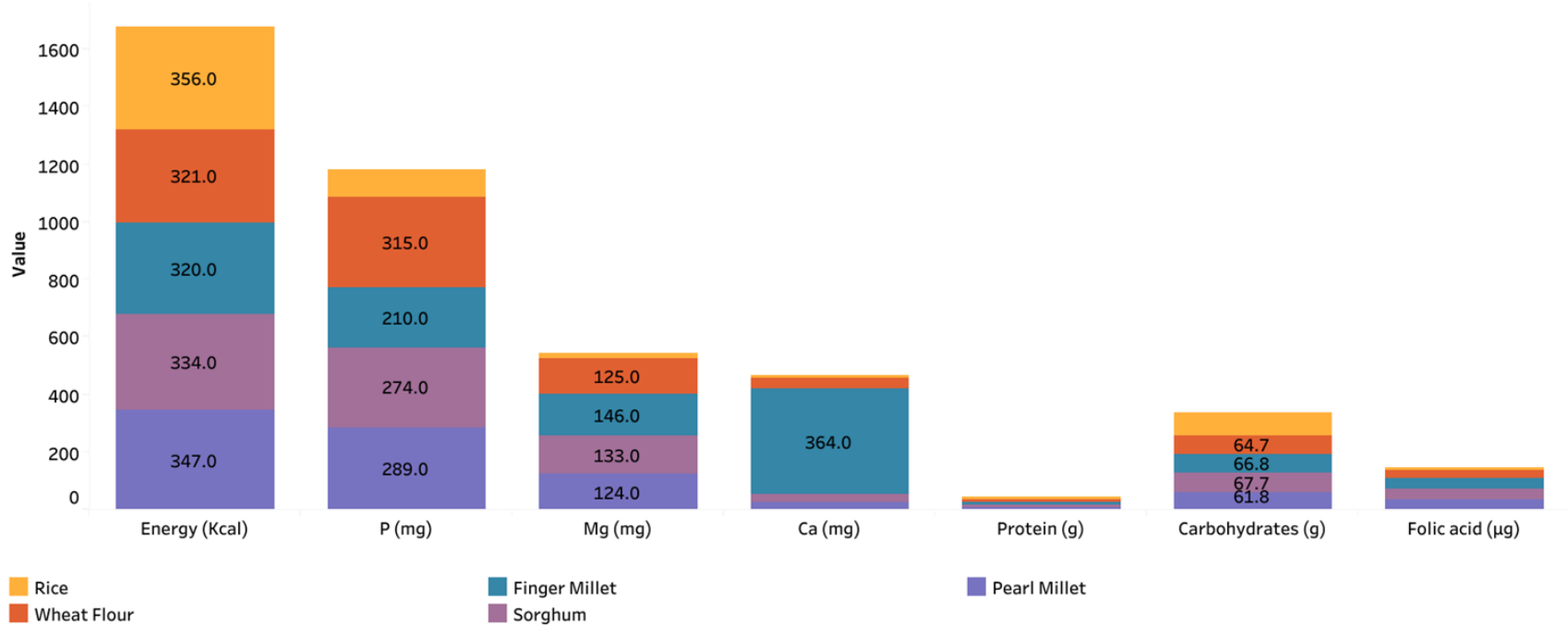


- Millets are more nutritious than wheat and rice in terms of proteins, minerals and vitamins.
- Millets need very little water for production
- They can be grown in vast dry land areas using farmyard manures. Due to this, they reduce the dependence on synthetic fertilizers.
- Millet's cultivation is good for the environment, making it a sustainable crop to cultivate.

Types of Millets:

Major Millets	<input type="checkbox"/> Sorghum <input type="checkbox"/> Pearl <input type="checkbox"/> Finger
Minor Millets	<input type="checkbox"/> Barnyard <input type="checkbox"/> Proso <input type="checkbox"/> Foxtail <input type="checkbox"/> Kodo <input type="checkbox"/> Brown top <input type="checkbox"/> Little Mille

Nutrient composition of Major Millets in comparison with Rice and Wheat



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- Millets have complex carbohydrates and are rich in dietary fiber.
- They are natural source of iron, zinc, calcium and other nutrients.
- They have higher content of folic acid, calcium, iron, potassium, magnesium and zinc.
- Finger millet is the richest source of calcium (300- 370 mg/100 g) .

Government Schemes & Fund allocation to promote Millets

- The Government has approved the ***Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Food Processing Industry for Millet-based products (PLISMBP)*** for implementation during 2022-23 to 2026-27 with an outlay of 800 crores. The scheme is being implemented by Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI).
 - The primary objective of this scheme is to encourage the use of millets in Ready to Eat (RTE) and Ready to Cook (RTC) products and incentivize them under the PLI scheme to increase the usage of millets in food products and promote its value addition and sale in domestic and exports markets.
- Millets were promoted during 2011-12 to 2013-14 under the programme of Initiative for ***Nutritional Security through Intensive Millets Promotion (INSIMP) – as a sub scheme of RKVY*** which is the only comprehensive initiative to support millet production. This was later merged as component of ***National Food Security Mission (NFSM) as NFSM-Coarse Cereals*** from 2014-15.
- ***Rainfed Area Development Programme – RADP***: a component of the *Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)* to widen the cultivation area for millets..
- A Sub-Mission on ***National Food Security Mission – Nutri Cereals*** is implemented from the year 2018-19 in 212 districts of 14 states.
- Measures to introduce Millets through PDS across the country to improve nutritional content in diet of masses.

Data sources:

- Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
- Agriculture & Food Processed products exports development authority (APEDA)
- Millet Statistics by Indian Council of Agricultural Research
- Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- Indian Institute of Millet Research
- Millets Statistics-IIMR
- International Year of Millets (<https://www.nutricereals.dac.gov.in>)

Millets in India

Historic Millet Farming - Summary

Millet Farming at a glance



Yield estimates have more than doubled however **area of cultivation** has reduced by 63%



As of 2021-22, India is the largest producer of Millets (41% of the world's share)



The **production of millets** has increased merely by 7% (1966-2021)



India's millets exports stands at INR ~479.6 crore as of 2021-22*



1208 kgs. per hectare is India's average **yield** in Millet farming (2021-22*)



Rajasthan constitutes to 36% of India's area of cultivation for millets and 26% to the production of millets as of 2021-22*.

Trends in Major Millets across Area, Production and Yield Estimates



Among the Area, Production and Yield estimates of Millets in India, the **area for millets** has been consistently decreasing. It has **reduced by 63%**, while the **yield estimates have more than doubled** since 1966.

The production of millets has increased merely by 7% (1966-2022).

The consistent improvement in Yield estimates over years indicates adoption of better farming practices in India over the decades.

Decadal Percentage change in Area and Production



The major drop in area for millets existed between 2006-2016.

The erratic trend in decade wise change in Production of millets from 1966 highlights the underlying problems associated with millet cultivation.

The production of millet cultivation has not shown any significant improvement in last two decades.