

Global Hulled Sesame Seed Supply & Demand: Key Insights from the Webinar

On 2 July 2026, SesameInfo hosted an exclusive webinar on Global Hulled Sesame Seed Supply & Demand, bringing together leading industry experts from India, Türkiye, Pakistan and Nigeria to discuss production trends, processing, trade flows, demand patterns and the near-term market outlook.

The webinar featured:

Mr Jay Chandrana, Dhaval Agri Exports LLP,
Mr Mustafa Talha Bulaycı, Bulaycı Kardeşler A.Ş.
Mr Kapeel Kumar Leemani, Balaji Commodities
Mr Shailendra Singh Rajput, Olam Agri

The discussions highlighted the increasing importance of hulled sesame as a value-added product, the changing dynamics across producing countries, evolving buyer preferences in major consuming markets and the challenges shaping global trade.

Hulled Sesame Market Continues to Grow

The webinar estimated that the combined hulled sesame exports from the major producing origins discussed—including India, Türkiye, Pakistan and Nigeria—together with other African suppliers, are in the range of 210,000–225,000 MT annually. Demand for hulled sesame continues to grow steadily, driven by expanding applications in bakery products, confectionery, tahini, snack foods and premium food ingredients.

While consumption continues to increase across several regions, the industry is also witnessing greater investments in processing capacity as producing countries focus on exporting value-added products rather than raw sesame seed.

India: Insights given by Mr Jay Chandrana



India continues to be one of the world's leading exporters of hulled sesame seed, supplying an estimated 150,000–175,000 MT annually to more than 100 countries. A well-developed processing industry, consistent quality standards and an extensive export network have enabled India to maintain its leadership position in the global market.

The webinar highlighted that the 2026 summer white sesame crop is expected to be smaller than initially anticipated. Lower production, combined with reduced imports from Brazil and other origins, has tightened raw material availability for processors.

As a result, domestic sesame prices have strengthened, and hulled sesame prices have also moved higher. Although export demand remains healthy, buyers have become more cautious about long-term commitments at current price levels.

Despite the tighter supply situation, India continues to benefit from strong processing capabilities, diversified export destinations and long-standing relationships with international buyers.

Türkiye: Insights given by Mr Mustafa Talha Bulaycı

Türkiye occupies a unique position in the global sesame industry. Unlike many producing countries, it imports significant quantities of raw sesame seed and adds value through processing before re-exporting finished products.



The country exports around 14,000–15,000 MT of hulled sesame annually, with Europe remaining its largest destination. Poland, Germany, Greece and Romania continue to be important markets, while exports also reach Iraq, the United States and several other countries. One of Türkiye's biggest strengths is its geographical location. Short transit times allow exporters to supply European customers much faster than competitors from Asia or Africa, offering greater flexibility and lower inventory costs.

At the same time, processors continue to face increasing production costs due to inflation, labour expenses, energy prices and financing costs. Since Türkiye depends heavily on imported raw sesame, any disruption in global supply or increases in raw material prices directly impacts the competitiveness of its processing industry.

Pakistan: Insights given by Mr Kapeel Kumar Leemani

Pakistan has steadily expanded its presence in the international hulled sesame market and currently exports an estimated 20,000–25,000 MT annually.

China remains the primary destination for Pakistan's natural sesame exports, while premium hulled sesame is supplied to Europe and other quality-conscious markets. The country's competitive pricing and favourable trade access continue to support exports.

The new crop outlook indicates that sesame sowing is expected to decline by around 25–30%, as many farmers have shifted to cotton and other crops. However, improved yields could partially offset the reduction in acreage if weather conditions remain favourable.

Overall, Pakistan remains optimistic about maintaining export supplies, although production will depend largely on crop performance during the growing season.



Nigeria: Insights given by Mr Shailendra Singh Rajput

Nigeria continues to strengthen its position as one of Africa's leading suppliers of value-added sesame products.

Although the country exports approximately 350,000 MT of sesame annually, an increasing share is now being processed locally. Hulled sesame exports are estimated at around 25,000 MT, while the overall value-added sesame segment continues to expand as new processing investments come online.



However, several operational challenges continue to affect competitiveness. Inland transportation remains one of the biggest bottlenecks, with cargo movement from factories to ports often taking several weeks. Long logistics chains increase costs while also creating additional quality risks.

Food safety remains another major priority. International buyers continue to place increasing emphasis on pesticide residue compliance, microbial safety and traceability. Improving certified seed adoption and farm productivity will also be essential to strengthening Nigeria's competitiveness over the long term.

Despite these challenges, continued investments in processing infrastructure position Nigeria as one of the fastest-growing origins in the global hulled sesame industry.

Demand Trends Across Major Markets

Demand patterns continue to vary across major importing regions, although the overall market remains positive.

Europe remains one of the largest consumers of premium hulled sesame. Buyers have gradually adjusted to higher prices as supplies tighten, while maintaining strict quality, pesticide residue and food safety requirements.

The Middle East continues to demonstrate stable demand, supported by strong consumption from the bakery, confectionery and tahini industries.

Buying interest from the United States has also improved following greater clarity on tariff policies. However, buyers continue to prioritize consistent quality, traceability and regulatory compliance.

China remains the dominant destination for natural sesame seed and continues to play a critical role in global sesame trade flows, particularly for exporters such as Pakistan and several African origins.

Market Outlook

The overall sentiment during the webinar was cautiously optimistic.

Tighter supplies across several producing countries, combined with resilient demand from major importing regions, are expected to keep the hulled sesame market firm over the coming months. While weather conditions, crop performance and logistics will continue to influence price movements, current market fundamentals remain supportive.

Increasing investments in value addition, improving processing technologies and growing consumer demand for premium sesame ingredients are expected to further strengthen the hulled sesame industry in the years ahead.