

An Appraisal of Land Use Dimensions in Bijapur district

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1997

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The land, the most limited resource, decides the development of the economy. The allocation of this resource was studied in detail with respect to its use for various purposes. The study pertained to Bijapur district. The secondary data were collected for a period of 21 years starting from 1971-72 and primary data from 120 farmers for the year 1995-96. The farmers were post classified into small, medium and large groups and large groups based on size of land holdings.

The cluster analysis was employed for two periods to group the taluks with respect to their land use considering the land use pattern in different taluks. The taluks of the district were grouped into three clusters in the first period (1971-72), while the same number of taluks formed two clusters in the second period (1991-92). There was no change in the forest

cover in almost all the taluks of Bijapur district during the study period. The growth rates for area sown more than once and land put to non agricultural uses were positive and significant in almost all the taluks. The growth rates of jowar, bajra and maize were positive and significant in almost all the taluks. The results of the primary data revealed to the size of the holdings. The percentage of area under average yield to net cultivated area was high in large farmer group. The proportion of area under below average yield to the net cultivated area was high in medium farmer group. The area under high and moderate slopy lands indicated the scope for alternative land use. With this optimistic scenario, for a better land use programme, the planning, administration, execution and financial norms are to be tuned to suit the farmers with different size of holding and soil type.

Production, Marketing and Processing of Redgram in Gulbarga District - An Economic Analysis

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Redgram, being most important pulse crop of tropical and sub-tropical regions of the world, ranks second next to bengalgram in India. The present study was conducted in Gulbarga district, Karnataka during 1996-97.

The results on growth rate analysis indicated that the production of redgram between 1980-81 to 1994-95 did not increase significantly even though there was significant increase in productivity in Gulbarga district and Karnataka state, because of significant decline in area. Because of higher yields, IPM farmers realised (14.83%) more net returns (Rs. 5,362.42/ha) than Non-IPM farmers (Rs. 3,401.56/ha). Further, production function estimates indicated positive influence of plant protection chemicals in case of IPM farmers (0.1900) whereas, it was negative in case of Non-IPM farmers (0.3000). The returns to scale was increasing in case of IPM farmers (1.33) whereas, it was decreasing in case of Non-IPM farmers (0.50) as indicated by sum of output elasticities.

In general, farmers realised 75.30 per cent of the price paid by the dalmillers. The pattern of capital investments in redgram processing units indicated the direct relationship with size of units. However, the per quintal processing cost was marginally higher in small units (Rs. 2190.37) than large units (Rs. 2164.29). Of the total cost, variable cost formed the major item (98.21 per cent) in both size of dalmills. However, the net returns per quintal of redgram processed were higher in large size dalmills (Rs. 112.34), compared to small size dalmills (Rs. 90.16). Further, business ratio analysis showed that the large size dalmills earned higher profit as compared to small size dalmills indicating their efficient performance. The actual dal production was more than break-even point of output in both size of dalmills, indicating their operation on profitable lines. The constraints faced by farmers and processors were collected through opinion survey and suitable policy measures were drawn to overcome such type of problems.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING AND CO-OPERATION

Marketing of Potato in North Karnataka - An Economic Analysis

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1997

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Potato is one of the major constituents of our foods with very high dietary value. It forms one of the principal crops of the area selected for the study. In view of the low returns to farmers on account of exploitation by marketing agencies and other problems faced by farmers in marketing of potato, this study was taken up in Belgaum and Dharwad districts of North Karnataka.

The objective of the study were to identify the marketing channels, to estimate price spread and to analyse the relationship between arrivals and prices.

Belgaum and Hubli regulated markets in the respective districts were selected for the study and four villages from each district were randomly selected. A sample of 60 farmers were selected from four villages. The necessary data from the farmers was collected by personal interview method. The data was also collected from the selected market functionaries operating in these two markets. The secondary data was collected from Agricultural Produce Market Committees of Belgaum and Hubli, the data pertains to the reference year 1994-95.

The following are the conclusions drawn from the results obtained from the study. Of the two marketing channels identified, channel-I (producer-seller-commission agent-cum-wholesellers-retailer-consumer) was the important channel through which majority of the producer-sellers sold their produce and got highest share in the consumer's rupee.

In both the selected areas, of the per unit total marketing cost, packing charges constituted a major share. The price spread was greater in channel-I compared to channel-II.

The retailers and village merchant secured larger part of marketing margin in channel-I and channel -II, respectively. A negative relationship between prices and arrivals was found in the Hubli market while it as positive in Belgaum market.

The findings of the study implies that there is a need for improving the infrastructural facility like storage, grading and transportation facilities in view of the problems faced by producer and sellers as well.

The farmers-sellers had incurred higher marketing cost per quintal of potato in Hubli (Rs. 34.00) area than that of producer-sellers of Belgaum area (Rs. 33.24), it warrants that proper marketing infrastructural facilities are needed to farmers of Hubli market area. The price spread has also indicated that the channel-II was superior than that of channel-I because of its better performance by securing highest producer's share in the consumer rupee to the extent of 84.07 per cent to 87.61 percent in Hubli market and Belgaum market respectively. In view of this the future marketing policy of the apex institutions like NAFED, MARKFED and HOPCOMS should aim to provide better marketing infrastructural facilities for the producer-sellers in securing the highest share of consumer's rupee in potato crop.

AGRIL. EXTENSION EDUCATION

A Study on Management of Mango Gardens by Farmers in Krishnagiri taluk of Dharmapuri district, Tamilnadu

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1996

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The study was undertaken in Krishnagiri taluk of Dharmapuri district to know the knowledge level of mango growers, their method of cultivation, differential characteristics,

perceived training needs and problems faced by the mango growers. One hundred and twenty growers constituted the sample for the study.

Abstract of Theses

Majority of the mango growers had medium level of knowledge about the mango production technology. Almost all the mango growers had grown Bangalora and Neelum variety. More than half the number of mango growers had followed the recommended spacing, irrigated the young gardens and applied different chemicals for the control of the pest mango hopper and the disease powdery mildew. Only 15.0 per cent of the respondents had applied the fertilizers for mango trees and none of them irrigated the old gardens. Majority of the respondents belonged to middle age group, had medium level of education and land holding, had low level of participation in social activities and extension organisations.

Further they had medium level of economic motivation, risk orientation and scientific orientation respectively.

Significant relationship was found between land holding, education with knowledge of mango growers. The other variables like economic motivation, risk orientation and scientific orientation had non significant relationship with the knowledge level of mango growers.

Majority of the respondents perceived the main areas plant protection measures, training and puming in which training was most needed. Lack of technical guidance, high cost of plant protection chemicals, inadequate irrigation facilities and non-availability of labour were the major problem faced by them.

Involvement of Women in Chrysanthemum Cultivation in Gadag District

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1996

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The study was conducted in eight selected villages in Gadag taluk of Dharwad district involving 150 farm women from chrysanthemum growing families to know the knowledge level and their involvement in chrysanthemum cultivation.

The result revealed that majority (69.33%) of the respondents had medium level of knowledge about chrysanthemum cultivation. Cent percent of the respondents performed the activities like planting, weeding and picking of flowers. On an average, farm women spent 240.16 hours (30.02 mandays) on various activities in chrysanthemum cultivation and had a dominating self decision making role in labour management (39.33%). Majority of the respondents were middle aged (47.33%), illiterates (54.67%), married (90.00%), belonged to joint (58.67%) family and had medium sized family (53.33%), big landholders (92.00%), high annual income (89.33%) and they had low social organisation participation (20.67%).

Age, family size, annual income, landholding, economic motivation and risk orientation of the respondents had non-significant relationship with their knowledge level of chrysanthemum cultivation practices. A positive significant relationship was observed between the knowledge level and the respondent's education.

Training was most needed by the respondents in the areas such as selection of variety (67.33%), cultivars/ suckers selection (56.00%), fertilizer application (54.00%) and control of pests and disease (51.33%). Majority of the respondents expressed greater price fluctuation (98.00%), more pest and disease (80.00%) and high cost of fertilizers (61.33%) as their major problems. The suggestions made by the respondents were : need for stable price to produce (90.67%), information about pest and diseases control (74.67) and reduction in the price of fertilizers (67.33%).