



Socio-economic status of *Lac* growers in Korba District of Chhattisgarh

GOVIND PAL* AND R.K. YOGI¹

Directorate of Seed Research (I.C.A.R.), Kushmaur, MAU (U.P.) INDIA

(Email : drpal_1975@scientist.com)

Abstract : The study pertains to data collected from randomly selected 100 *Lac* growers in Korba district of Chhattisgarh during the year 2008-09. The study indicated that 48 per cent *Lac* growers were marginal farmers followed by small (27 %), medium (18 %), semi-medium (5 %) and large (2 %). The majority of *Lac* growers had education up to middle level. Share of income from *Lac* was 19.8 per cent and 36.3 per cent of total income and farm income, respectively of *Lac* growers. In case of off-farm income, maximum income was contributed by labour activity which was 21.2 per cent of total income of farmers. The host utilization percentage was maximum for *kusum* (56.2 %) followed by *palas* (44.6 %) and *ber* (13.1 %). About 68.0 per cent *Lac* growers produced *Lac* with average production of 48.6 kg., 21.0 per cent *Lac* growers had average production of 118.9 kg. and 11.0 per cent *Lac* growers had average production of 336.8 kg. annually. The study of marketing behavior indicated that around 95 per cent grower sold their produce either in village or in the market/ *haat* up to 5 km radius. Grading practice was less operational in the area. *Lac* was used as a cash crop and majority of farmers sold *Lac* in the lots of 5-10 kg. Around 85 per cent farmers sold *Lac* immediately after harvesting. Implications of the present study will be helpful in strengthening the socio-economic condition of *Lac* growers and *Lac* marketing scenario in Chhattisgarh.

Key Words : *Lac*, Socio-economic, Chhattisgarh

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* Author for correspondence

¹Indian Institute of Natural Resins and Gums, RANCHI (JHARKHAND) INDIA