

Relationship between selected characters of grape growers and extent of adoption of post harvest technology by Them in Tasgaon Tahsil of Sangli District

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ABSTRACT

The study was carried out in Tasgaon Tahsil of Sangli district where grape is extensively grown. Out of 460 grape growers from the selected villages, samples of 160 grape growers were drawn. It was observed that, grape growers education, size of land holding, area under grape, experience in grape cultivation, sources of information, risk orientation, cosmopolitaness, economic motivation, change proneness and facilities available with the grape growers had highly significant relationship with the adoption of post harvest technology. However age, annual gross income and social participation of grape growers showed non significant relationship with their level of adoption about post harvest technology.

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Grape is an important subtropical cash crop of the world. It is one of the delicious refreshing and nourishing fruit crop mainly used for table purpose, raisin making and wine preparation. However, the grape growing in India is mostly for table purpose.

Grape crop is commercially the most profitable fruit crop grown for last six decades in the country with the advancements in improvement of varieties and standard package of practices in improvement of varieties and standard package of practices during the last one decade, there has been considerable increase in area and production of this crop. Maharashtra state ranks first in cultivation of grape. In Maharashtra grape growing is mainly concentrated in Sangli, Pune, Nashik, Solapur and Ahmednagar districts.

Now a days marketing of grape becomes difficult due to certain causes such as interference of middleman, long distance markets, fluctuation in market prices. This results into loss of grape growers. So this can be avoided by increasing the storage life of berries through processing into different value added products. Therefore post harvest technology has great importance in preparation of processed products from increased production. Also post harvest technology plays major role in minimizing transportation costs, spoilage in transportation, avoiding fluctuation in market prices, exporting the fresh fruits and processed products to foreign countries and thereby getting maximum price to farmers and increasing their economic status. In view of this, the scientific adoption of the post harvest technology is must. Hence, it is necessary to find

out relationship between selected characters of grape growers and extent of adoption of post harvest technology by them

The present study was undertaken in Tasgaon Tahsil of Sangli district of Maharashtra. A list of grape growing villages was obtained and out of these villages ten villages were randomly selected. Out of 460 grape growers, a sample of 160 grape growers was drawn by using stratified random sampling method. The data from the grape growers were collected through personal interview schedule. The qualitative data were converted into quantitative form. The independent and dependant variables were measured by assigning score. The information collected from grape growers through the personal interview schedule was processed through primary and secondary tables. The data thus, quantified were used to find out the nature of relationship between selected independent and dependant variables.

It is observed from the Table 1 that, relationship between the age of grape grower and their level of adoption of post harvest technology was negatively significant ($r = -0.2852$). Relationship between education and adoption level of grape growers was found to be positively significant ($r = 0.2144$). The correlation coefficient ($r = 0.2655$) indicated that there was highly positive and significant relationship between size of land holding and adoption of grape growers. Also the correlation coefficient ($r = 0.3338$) revealed that there was highly positive and significant relationship between area under grape and adoption of grape growers. The relationship

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