

Inter and intra – year fluctuations in arrivals and prices of groundnut in Thiruvannamalai district (T.N.)

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ABSTRACT

A study was carried out in Thiruvannamalai district of Tamil Nadu State with a view to study the inter and intra year fluctuations in market arrivals and monthly whole sale prices of groundnut and to study the relationship between market arrivals and prices of groundnut. Inter year variation in market arrivals of groundnut was between 23.67 and 45.67 per cent of the average annual arrivals during the period 1993 to 2007. The coefficient of correlation between annual arrivals and annual prices was negative. There was a clear seasonality in the pattern of arrivals of groundnut. The inter year coefficient of variation of prices varied between 35.12 and 52.16 per cent. The intra year variation in market prices ranged between 52.14 and 88.25 per cent. The lowest price for groundnut was observed during March and the highest in the month of October.

Key words : Coefficient of correlation, Whole sale prices, Market arrivals, Inter and Intra year fluctuations

Oilseed crops play an important role in the agricultural economy of India. Oilseed prices are widely affected by domestic arrivals and also by the world market prices after globalization.

The study of pattern of market arrivals of groundnut and the relationship between the quantities of market arrivals and the price of the crop at different points of time helps us to know the extent of inter and intra year variation in them. The same was noticed by Agarwal and Hari Om (1990) and Shelke and Kalyankumar (2000). Such studies are useful to formulate economic policies and are beneficial for consumers, producers, traders and the government. The farmers will be aware about the optimum time to sell their produce to get maximum price for their produce by such studies.

In the light of the above facts, a study was carried out in Thiruvannamalai district of Tamil Nadu state with a view to study the inter and intra year fluctuations in market arrivals and monthly wholesales prices of groundnut in the district and to study the relationship between market arrivals and prices of groundnut.

METHODOLOGY

Thiruvannamalai district of Tamil Nadu was purposively selected because it has been a leading district

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in groundnut area and production among all other districts. The time series (secondary) data on market arrivals and whole sale prices of groundnut for each month from 1993 to 2007 for the Thiruvannamalai district were collected from the Thiruvannamalai District Market Committee, Thiruvannamalai. The month wise 15 years total were added to arrive at the total of all months of the period under study. Percentage variation for arrivals and prices for each month were also calculated. The relationship between whole sale prices and market arrivals of groundnut was studied using simple correlation coefficient technique.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The market arrivals of groundnut and their coefficient of variation during the different months of the period under study is presented in Table 1. It is revealed that inter year variation in market arrivals of groundnut was between 23.67 and 45.67 per cent of the average annual arrivals during the period 1993 to 2007. The variation in market arrivals was directly related with the annual production of groundnut in the district. The coefficient of correlation between annual arrivals and annual prices for the period 1993 to 2007 revealed that market arrivals and prices of groundnut were negatively correlated. It indicates that the increase in arrival tends to decrease in price and vice versa. The same result were noticed by Pagire (1994), Rao (1993) and Suryaprakash and Venkatram (1979) in case of potato and Shelke and Kalyan kumar (2000) in safflower. The intra year coefficient of variation in the market arrivals of groundnut was between 35.72 and 62.34 per cent of