

## Economics of chilli cultivation in Jaipur district of Rajasthan

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### ABSTRACT

Economic analysis of data indicated that the total cost of chilli cultivation was Rs. 25155.00 per ha. Fertilizer, plant protection measures and labour cost constituted the major portion of the total cost of cultivation. The total return from chilli cultivation was Rs. 83273.40 per ha, with the BC ratio of 3.31.

**Key words :** Chilli, Cost of cultivation, Jaipur

Chilli (*Capicum annum* L.) is one of the most important commercial crops of India. It is grown throughout the country. Chillies are rich in vitamins, (A and C). The chilli is believed to be originated in the tropical America (Raja and Lucose, 1991). The most important chilli growing states in India are Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamilnadu and Rajasthan. They together constitute more than 75 per cent of the total area. In Rajasthan, chilli is generally grown in almost all the districts, but the main producing areas are Jodhpur, Ajmer, Bhilwara, Pali, Sikar and Jaipur. The present study was undertaken in Jaipur district of Rajasthan to analyse cost and returns of chilli cultivation.

### METHODOLOGY

The present study was undertaken during 2006-07 in Jaipur district of Rajasthan. The random sampling technique was adopted in designing the sampling frame for the study. Chomu Tehsil of Jaipur district was selected purposively because of having maximum area under chilli cultivation. From Chomu Tehsil, five villages having highest chilli cultivation were selected. 20 farmers from each village were selected at random. Thus, the sample size constituted 100 farmers for the study. The primary data from sample farmer were collected by personal interview method by using pre-tested structured questionnaires. Cost concept defined by Commission of Agricultural Cost and Prices (CACP) were followed. The data thus collected were presented in tabular form. This technique of tabular presentation was employed for estimating the cost and return structure. The data were summarized with the help of statistical tools like percentages etc. to obtain meaningful results.

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### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The findings obtained from the present study are presented below:

#### Cost of chilli cultivation:

The production cost revealed for material cost was 72.79 per cent. Labour cost for nursery preparation was 2.47 per cent and 32.12 per cent accounted for labour cost in field (Table 1). Among the material cost incurred on an average of overall farmer, cost of fertilizers was the major item that accounted for 28.22 per cent of the total cost followed by plant protection measures which accounted for 19.99 per cent. Among the labour cost incurred in the main field, land preparation, which included ploughing and harrowing, constituted nearly 15.0 per cent of the total cost. Cost involved in transplanting of farm yard manure (FYM) was another major cost (2.18 per cent) of the total cost.

It is quite clear from the data presented in Table 1 that due to considerable increase in the prices, mainly of fertilizers, seed and plant protection chemicals, material cost incurred by chilli growers in raising the crop increased considerably. Now-a-days, due to increase in irrigation facilities and introduction of high yielding varieties (HYV), majority of the farmers in the study area have been using FYM on large scale. This higher rate of FYM further created demand for it, resulting in an increase in its price, raising material cost upwards. Further, in areas like Jaipur where ample of employment opportunities are available for labour, there is a heavy demand for skilled agricultural labour. This factor has resulted in considerable rise in the labour wage rate. Therefore, in raising commercial crops like chilli, which is labour intensive, labour cost increased was nearly 36 per cent of the total cost of production. The present study shows similarities with the work of Hiremath (1994) who reported material cost like fertilizers, plant protection measures and labour charges as the major