

Economics of ginger production in Latur district of Maharashtra

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ABSTRACT

Investigation was carried out during the year 2010-2011. Ten ginger cultivators were selected from Mahalagra, Mohnal, Hadolti, Shankarwadi and Gavan village of Latur district for present study. The techniques like mean, percentage, ratio and cost concept of Cost-A, Cost-B and Cost-C were used to analyze the data. The results revealed that per hectare gross returns from ginger was found to be Rs. 514228.30. Net profit was Rs.210928.30 The output-input ratio was 1.70. The per quintal cost of production in ginger was Rs.1987.68.

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Key words : Ginger, Net profit, Cost-C, Gross returns

Ginger (*Zingiber officinale* L.) is the rhizome or rootstock of herbaceous perennial plants, which belongs to the family 'Zingiberaceae'. The aroma of ginger is pleasant and spicy, its flavour and test penetrating, pungent and slightly bitter. Ginger is cultivated in India, Japan, Thailand, Indonesia, China, Bangladesh, South Korea and Nigeria. India and Jamaica produce the best quality ginger followed by West Africa. Superior quality of ginger is produced from Kerala though it is grown throughout the country. In the world market, Indian ginger is popularly known as 'Cochin ginger' and 'Calicut ginger'. The increase demand may lead to increase in prices of ginger and the farmers may be benefited. The need was felt to answer some queries such as costs, returns and profitability. Keeping in view the above aspects, the present study has been undertaken.

METHODOLOGY

Investigation was carried out during the year 2010-2011. Ten ginger cultivators were selected from Mahalagra, Mohnal, Hadolti, Shankarwadi and Gavan villages of Latur district for present study. The cross sectional data were collected from ten ginger growers by personal interview method with the help of schedule. The

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cost concepts viz., Cost-A, Cost-B and Cost-C were used to analyze the data in the present investigation. Cost-A includes items of cost like hired human labour, bullock labour, fertilizer, manures, insecticide, irrigation, land revenue and taxes, interest on working capital, depreciation on implements and machinery. Then Cost-B consists with Cost-A + rental value of land, interest on fixed capital. Cost-C includes Cost-B + imputed value of family human labour. Evaluation of cost item was as the human labour was measured in man days. One man day consisted with 8 hours. Labour cost was evaluated at the rate of Rs.150 per day for male and Rs.75 per day for female. The female labour was converted in to man days by multiplying to number of female with 0.50. Bullock labour was charged at the rate of Rs. 450 per day for one pair of bullocks. Machine labour in case of owned machine was evaluated as per the hired charge prevailed in the village and in case of hired machine as per the actual amount paid was Rs.400 per hour. Rate prevailing in the market for nitrogen, phosphorus and potash was Rs.10.87, Rs. 23.75 and Rs.7.00 per kg, respectively. One cartload of manure was considered as five quintals and its prevailing price was Rs.600 per tonne.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The findings obtained from the present study are presented below:

Physical inputs and cost of cultivation of ginger production:

Per hectare physical inputs and itemwise expenditure