

Costs and returns in papaya production in Marathwada region of Maharashtra state

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ABSTRACT

Multistage sampling design was adopted in selection of district, tehsil, villages and papaya growers. In the first stage Nanded and Parbhani districts were purposely selected because of availability of area under papaya crop. In the second stage five tehsils from each district were selected on the basis of highest area under papaya crop. In the third stage from each of selected tehsil, two villages were selected. In fourth stage 3 papaya growers from each village were taken thus from 20 villages 60 papaya growers were selected for present study. The cross-sectional data were collected from 60 papaya growers with the help of pre-tested schedule for the year 2009-10. Mostly educated up to 12th standard middle aged papaya growers who have agriculture as main businesses were engaged in papaya production. Yield of papaya increased with an increase in garden size. Cost-C was minimum in small papaya garden as compared to medium and large papaya gardens. Thus, input-output ratio was higher with respect to small garden. Papaya production is profitable business in which at overall level, profit was Rs. 118899.86 per hectare.

KEY WORDS : Multistage sampling, Pre-tested schedule, Cost-C

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Papaya (*Carica papaya*) is one of the major grown crops of tropical and regions of the world. Marathwada region of Maharashtra has good climate for production of papaya. In the region area under papaya is expanding largely. Papaya being high value crop has got tremendous scope to increase the income of farmer with its high yield potential which can change the economic condition of farmers. The knowledge of cost, return and its profitability will be useful or the farmers, who want to substitute this crop for the traditional crops grown in the area. Keeping in view above aspects, the present study has been undertaken with the following objectives:

- To study the socio-economic characteristics of papaya grower.
- To examine the costs and returns in papaya production.

METHODOLOGY

In Marathwada region, papaya is grown in two districts *i.e.* Parbhani and Nanded. Hence, these two districts were selected for the current study. The major papaya growing tehsils were selected for current study. Multistage sampling design was adopted in selection of district, tehsil, villages and papaya growers. In the first stage, Nanded and Parbhani districts were purposely selected because of availability of area under papaya crop. In the second stage, five tehsils from each district were selected on the basis of highest area under papaya crop. In the third stage from each of selected tehsil, two villages were selected. In fourth stage, 3 papaya growers from each village were taken thus from 20 villages 60 papaya growers were selected for present study. The cross-sectional data were collected from 60 papaya growers with the help of

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