

Economic analysis of pulses on medium farms in Marathwada region of Maharashtra

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ABSTRACT

The study of economic analysis of pulse crops *viz.*, soybean, green gram and pigeonpea was undertaken on medium farm during agricultural year 2005-06 in Marathwada region of Maharashtra. The data were taken from cost of cultivation scheme, Marathwada Agricultural University, Parbhani. The sample of 100 medium farm size farmers throughout the zone was selected. Data were tabulated and analyzed by appropriate statistical tools. The results revealed that, in case of soybean per hectare cost of cultivation *i.e.* cost 'C' was Rs. 11355.60 and net profit was Rs. 4761.86. In case of pigeonpea per hectare cost of cultivation *i.e.* cost 'C' was Rs.12632.42 and net profit was Rs.2012.16. In green gram, per hectare cost of cultivation *i.e.* cost 'C' was Rs.8935.48 and net profit was Rs.3292.80.

INTRODUCTION

Pulses constitute an important component in Indian agriculture since centuries or long ago. The pulse crops are also called as grain legumes and have been valued as nutritious and protein rich food, fodder and feed. They have a pivotal role in agricultural economy of India, on account of ability to fix atmospheric nitrogen by symbiotic association with *Rhizobium*. The pulse crops are popularly considered as mini fertilizer factory, which contribute to the enrichment of soil substantially. Deep penetrating root system enables the pulse crops to utilize the limited available moisture more efficiently and maintain soil structure for sustainable productivity over years. Therefore, farmers have chosen pulse crops with diversified condition in India. Pulse crops also have a greater drought resistant than any cereal crop.

Pulses occupy important place in Indian food. They are a rich source of protein (20-24%), which is very important for the growth of human being. The per capita availability of pulses is below 40 grams. The current productivity level of pulses is very low which does not meet the per capita requirement of pulses *i.e.* 80 gms day as recommended by the FAO. The requirement of protein in Indian diet has to be met through pulses. So, we are

in position to increase the productivity of pulses.

METHODOLOGY

Economic analysis of pulses on medium farm in Marathwada region of Maharashtra was taken to study the farm business analysis. Multiple stage sampling design was used for selection of zone, tehsils villages and farms. Twenty eight tehsils under the assured rainfall zone were selected from the eight districts of region because of their involvement in cost of cultivation scheme. From each cluster villages, the two farmers of medium categories were selected. Thus, total 100 sample farms were selected. Data pertained to the year 2006-07. Technique like percentage, budgeting technique, cost concepts *i.e.* cost 'A', 'B' and 'C' were used to analyze the data in case of soybean, pigeonpea and green gram.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Per hectare costs and return of soybean:

Per hectare cost of cultivation of soybean was analyzed and is presented in Table 1. It revealed that total cost of production of soybean was Rs.11355.60 where as the expenditure incurred on cost 'A' was Rs.7415.29 (65.30 per cent) and cost 'B' contributed was Rs.10260.60 (90.35 per cent). Amongst the

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