



## Knowledge of farmers about grape exporting procedures

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### ABSTRACT

The study was carried out in Nashik and Sangli districts of Maharashtra State. The profile analysis of respondents revealed that, they belonged to all the three age groups, all of them had education upto Middle School and above, more than one third of them belonged to small land holding category, majority of them belonged to medium extension participation, to medium risk orientation, medium economic orientation, medium innovativeness and medium to high management orientation. The results indicated that, majority of the respondents had knowledge about pre-production procedure for export, most of them had knowledge about quality production for the grape export and had low knowledge about post harvest practices for export.

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### INTRODUCTION

India is a large producer and consumer of agricultural commodities. It produces around 10 per cent of the world agricultural output, however, its share in world export of agricultural commodities is less than one per cent (Raghavulu, 2003). India has achieved self-sufficiency in food grain production and now the major concern is to achieve high growth rate of quality production, productivity and export. The focus has been shifted to horticulture which besides imparting nutritional security and offering a great potential for efficient use of resources, provides higher returns per unit area, crop diversification, foreign exchange and greater employment through post-harvest processing agro-industries.

The importance of agricultural and agro-based products in India's export trade has not been over-emphasized. Agriculture sector has been providing substantial support to export development since long. Agricultural export development played a significant role in employment generation particularly in rural

sector. Agricultural export has to increase the income of the rural population particularly the landless laborers and small and marginal farmers. Thus, agricultural export is important in rural development. The linkage of the agricultural sectors to rest of economy is so strong that the overall performance of the Indian economy is determined by its growth. Agricultural sector continues to play a predominant role in our economy and export earning. Since 1970s our demand for foreign exchange earnings increased to maintain the phase of import liberalization.

### METHODOLOGY

The research design adopted for the study was ex-post-facto since the phenomenon had already occurred. In India, Maharashtra state occupies first position in export of grape and specially Nasik and Sangli districts are the major ones and hence these districts were purposively selected to conduct study on the knowledge level of grape exporting farmers in respect of export procedure. A list of grape growing farmers who had registered their

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