



Research Article

## An economic analysis of papain production under contract farming in Western Zone of Tamil Nadu

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**SUMMARY :** The study has evaluated cost of raw papain production, technical efficiency of farmers engaged in papain contract farming and determinants of participation of contract farming in Erode and Dindigul districts of Tamil Nadu. The study reported that papain production was a profitable enterprise but there is a potential to further increase the profit. The stochastic frontier analysis for technical efficiency reveals that the mean technical efficiency of the papain farmers was 94.43 and labour was used most efficiently compared to other factors of production. The logit analysis for determinants of participation in papain contract farming shows that household size, age and economic status of farmers has a positive impact on farmers' participation in papain contract farming. Contract farming of untraditional products like papain should be implemented under the close supervision of developmental department to avoid contract breach.

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