Economics of farming system in Ratnagiri, India

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ABSTRACT

The present study on Economics of farming system was undertaken with specific objectives Viz. to study different farming systems, input use, cost and profitability, income and employment generation, intention in adoption of specific farming system and adoption of modern farm technologies undertaken by farmers. In Ratnagiri district, four farming systems were evaluated viz., only crops, crops + dairy, crops + poultry and crops + goat adopted by 56 (46.66 per cent), 31 (25.83 per cent), 25 (20.83 per cent) and 8 (6.68 per cent), respectively. Net return earned was highest from crops + dairy of Rs. 41,373.21 followed by crops + goat earned 37,902.95, crops + poultry earned Rs. 37,710.24 while only corps earned Rs. 36414.81 revealed that crops + dairy enterprise was most profitable than other enterprises. Per farm income was increased with addition of dairy or poultry. Among the enterprise combinations, the highest employment of 123 days was provided for crops + goat enterprise. Main purposes of keeping animals were production of FYM and utilization of farm by-products. Keeping dairy, poultry and goat was to meet family requirement of eggs, milk and meat. Main reason observed to take sole crop food, insufficient water supply, costly Labour, short duration in nature and it was a main staple food crop.

Key words : Farming Systems, Crop & Dairy Profitable Resource Utilization.

INTRODUCTION

Farming system is a system that represents an appropriate combination of farm enterprises like cropping, livestock, fisheries, poultry etc. and means available with farmer to raise them for productivity. Farming system is a concept takes into account the components of soil, crops, livestock, labour and other resources with the farm family at the centre managing agricultural and related activities on even non-farm avocations. It is a unique and reasonably stable arrangement of farming enterprises that a household manages according to well defined practices in response to physical, biological and socio-economic factors and in accordance with household goals, preferences and resources. The farm family functions, within the limitation of the actual farm situation. This is an indication of general recognition for location- specific programme and planning for a farming system approach, which will benefit the country as a whole, and the resource-poor farmers in particular who are toiling under disadvantage conditions.

The objective of the present study is to identify different farming systems, their input use and profitability and to work out income and employment generation and their intensification adoption.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Ratnagiri district of the Konkan region was selected purposively for the study as it has more diversified farming practices. For the selection of cultivators, three stage random sampling technique was followed with tahsil as primary unit, village as secondary unit and cultivator as ultimate unit to draw a cross sectorial sample of 120 cultivators. The data pertained to the agriculture year 2003 – 04.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the study of farming system, four enterprise combinations were identified viz.

i) Only crops
ii) Crops + dairy
iii) Crops + poultry
iv) Crops + goat

There were 56 cultivators (46.66 per cent) followed only crop production, there were 31 cultivators (25.83 per cent) followed crops + dairy. There were 25 cultivators (20.83 per cent) followed crops + poultry and there were 8 cultivators followed crops + goat (Table 2).

Table 1 : Information of farming systems:

Farming systems identified	No. of cultivators (N = 120)	Percentage
Crops + Dairy	31	(25.83)
Crops + Goat	08	(6.68)
Crops + Poultry	25	(20.83)
Only crops	56	(46.66)
Total	120	(100.00)

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