

## Export performance of grapes from India

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### ABSTRACT

In India Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Punjab are the leading producers of the grapes. The quantity of grape exported over the period 1996-97 to 2008-09 has achieved moderate CGR of 18.78 per cent. In comparison the value of grape export has grown at a CGR of 20.06 indicating the realization of better price in the international market over a period of time. India exports grapes mainly to Bangladesh (46 per cent of total grape exports) but European countries namely, Netherlands and U.K contributed about 55 per cent to the total export earnings from the grape. The CGR for the quantity of grapes exported was the highest for Germany with 33.46 per cent followed by Netherlands with 31.29 per cent.

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The performance of agriculture sector influences the growth of the Indian economy. The contribution of agriculture towards the national income is about 17.8 per cent (GDP in constant prices in 2007-08) and accounts for about 10.23 per cent of the total exports. The growing performance of horticulture sector in strengthening the Indian economy has been realized of late. Horticulture, which forms an area of just about 10 per cent of the total cropped area of the country, is estimated to have contributed over 24.5 per cent of the agricultural GDP of the country (Anonymous, 2009). It is a potential source of employment especially for the youth and women in the rural areas where 72.2 per cent of the Indian population resides. The income generated through effective horticulture farming is higher as compared to the agriculture farming. Horticulture has also increased the

sustainability of the small and marginal land holdings, helping the small and marginal farmers who form the majority of farmers in India, to increase their per capita income. This intern has increased the disposable income of the rural population and helped the overall economic development of the country.

The process of globalization initiated in the early nineties has resulted in free flow of the goods including the agricultural good across the international boundaries. The Indian farmer is being exposed to numerous challenges because of this growing phenomenon. However, if the challenges are overcome then there is a great opportunity for export of horticultural commodities from India as the country grows variety of fruits of excellent quality.

India is the second largest producer of fruits in the world with an area of about 6.1 million ha and production of about 68.47 million MT. It contributes 11.84 and 13.35 per cent of world production of fruits and vegetables, respectively. The major fruit producing states in the country are Andhra Pradesh followed by Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Karnataka, producing 16.65, 15.90, 11.98, 8.50 and 7.69 per cent, respectively of the total production of 68.47 million MT of fruits (National Horticulture Database, 2009)

### METHODOLOGY

The present study in the export performance of grapes from India is based on secondary data. The relevant secondary data for grapes with respect to the

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