

## Analysis of trends and instability in area, production and productivity of Indian coffee

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### ABSTRACT

This paper attempts to estimate trends in area, production and productivity of Arabica and Robusta coffee for the period of 1995-96 to 2011-12. The analysis is based on data for past 17 years. The entire analysis was done separately for all coffee growing states for the study. The trend in growth analysis reveals that the trend in area, production and productivity over the years were positive in first and third period and while in the second period, was shown negative as indicated by the cubic equation. The study also noticed that the trend of Robusta with respect to area and production surpassed Arabica at national level. Further, as the crop was introduced in the last decades in to non-traditional areas in a bigger way, the instability with respect to both Arabica and Robusta was very high and hence, affecting on stability at national figures. The main sources of instability in coffee production (Arabica and Robusta) were found to be changed in area variance and changed in yield variance.

**KEY WORDS :** Area, Coffee, Production, Productivity, Trend, Stability

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Coffee is the second largest commodity in the world trade next only to petroleum, and hence aptly described as 'Brown gold'. Coffee occupies a pride place among plantation crops grown in India, which is most important cash crop grown in tropics. India ranks sixth in coffee production after Brazil, Vietnam, Colombia, Indonesia and Ethiopia. India produces both Arabica and Robusta varieties of coffee in proportion of 31:69 per cent with an area of 49:51 per cent respectively. Coffee is cultivated in about 4.04 lakh hectare (comprises about 1.97 lakh hectare of Arabica and 2.06 lakh hectare of Robusta) with production of 3.22

lakh metric tons where in Arabica accounts 1.05 lakh metric tons and 2.17 lakh metric tons of Robusta (Coffee Board, 2011). Cultivation of this stimulating beverage crop is mainly confined to the southern states of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu which are traditional coffee growing regions in India. To a lesser extent, coffee is also grown in Non-Traditional Areas (NTAs) which includes Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and north-eastern states (Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Sikkim, Tripura and West Bengal). In Karnataka, Coorg, Chikmagalur and Hassan are major districts, which produce both Arabica and Robusta in almost an equal proportion while Kerala specialized in Robusta and Tamil Nadu in Arabica. The focus of coffee cultivation in NTAs is an integral part of tribal development and afforestation programme (Babu Reddy, 2001). Summer showers are important for flowering in coffee and are received during the month of March-April.

Coffee is predominantly export oriented commodity in India with 70 per cent of its production is being exported thereby earning sizeable foreign exchange. The objective of

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