Agriculture Update | February to July 2009 | Vol. 4 | Issue 1 & 2| 41-43 | RESEARCH ARTICLE

Economics of production of greengram in marathwada region of Maharashtra state

J.N. GHULGHULE, A.P. THOMBRE AND S.S. MORE

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :
J.N. GHULGHULE
Department of Agricultural Economics, Marathwada Agricultural University, PARBHANI (M.S.) INDIA

ABSTRACT

Attempt has been made to examine the economics of production of greengram in Marathwada region. The investigation was based on the data collected by survey method from 64 greengram growers from Nanded and Parbhani districts. The results indicated that the main product of greengram was 7.59 q/ha. In production process, rental value of land, bullock labour, hired human labour and interest on fixed capital were the major items of the cost. Per hectare total cost (cost 'C') was Rs. 12060.20. The proportion of cost 'A' in total cost was 54.11 %, while proportion of cost 'B' was 90.23 %. Output input ratio was 1.32. Cost of production was Rs. 1576.20/q.

Key words : Economics, Greengram, Costs, Returns, Profitability.

INTRODUCTION

Greengram [*Vigna radiata* (L.)] has been cultivated since ancient times in India. In human diet, greengram plays important role by providing the highest digestible protein than any other pulses. It provides ascorbic acid when it is allowed to sprout. The green pods are used as vegetable, split grains are used as *dal* and straw and husk as fodder for cattle. Unlike other pulses, it is said to be easily digestible, without producing heaviness. It is also used as green manuring crop. The crop has a restorative effect on soil. It also helps for preventing the soil erosion.

It is economically important crop and cultivated in *kharif* season mostly on rainfed farms. In Maharashtra, area under greengram was 5.34 lakh hectares with the production of 2.00 lakh tones. Similarly, in Marathwada region, area under greengram was 1.79 lakh hectares with production of 0.78 lakh tones for the year 2005-2006. By keeping in view its importance, study was carried out with the objective to estimate costs and returns of greengram.

METHODOLOGY

In relation to selection of farms, greengram farms were selected through multistage sampling design as follows. In the first stage, Parbhani and Nanded districts of Maharashtra state were selected purposely, because these districts are well known for these crops. In the second stage, Jintur tehsil was selected from Parbhani district and Mukhed tehsil from Nanded district on the basis of highest area under total pulses in the tehsil. In the third stage, eight villages from each tehsil were selected on the basis of the highest area under total pulses. The list of blackgram growers was obtained. Four blackgram growers were randomly selected from each of the villages. Thus, 64 blackgram growers were selected for present investigation. Total growers were grouped into three size groups *viz.,* small (up to 2.00 ha), medium (2.01 to 5.00 ha) and large (above 5.00 ha) on the basis of total holding.

For evaluation, data were converted into per hectare basis. Statistical tools like arithmetic mean, percentage and ratios were used for estimating the results. Cost concepts like cost 'A', cost 'B' and cost 'C' were used. Man days refers to a measurement of human labour whereas female labour is equal to 0.50 man day in case of both hired and family labour because the prevailing wage rates for female and male labour were Rs. 30 and Rs. 60 per day, respectively. Bullock labour cost was evaluated by considering the hiring rate of a bullock pair for Rs.150 per day. Machine labour rate was Rs. 300 per hour. The rate prevailing for nitrogen, phosphorus and potash were Rs. 11.30, Rs. 20.00 and Rs. 8.50 per kg, respectively. Rates of above ingredients

Accepted : October, 2008