



Research Article

Performance of cotton in traditional paddy fields of Uttara Kannada district, Karnataka

■ A.S. MENASINAHAL, L.B. KUNNAL AND P.B. GAMANAGATTI

Article Chronicle :

Received :
15.12.2011;

Revised :
28.01.2012;

Accepted :
18.04.2012

SUMMARY : The study was under taken in Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka state. The two major taluks viz., Mundagod and Haliyal where paddy has been largely replaced by cotton were selected for the study. From each taluk 30 farmers growing paddy and 30 farmers growing cotton were selected randomly for the study. The growth rates in area, production and productivity of cotton for Uttara Kannada district were 7.27 per cent, 17.01 per cent and 6.11 per cent, respectively. Whereas paddy registered a growth rate of -1.74 per cent in case of area, -2.16 per cent in production and -1.69 per cent in case of productivity. The cost of cultivation of cotton was higher than that of paddy but the gross returns were also higher in cotton cultivation resulting in higher net returns compared to these from paddy. Change in temperature (78.33% of farmers) and change in rainfall patterns (70.00% of farmers) were the major reasons for the farmers to shift over to cotton cultivation from their traditional paddy cultivation. Among the financial factors responsible for this shift in cultivation, the major ones were high income from cotton (76.67% of farmers) and low income from paddy (70% of farmers).

How to cite this article : Menasinahal, A.S., Kunnal, L.B. and Gamanagatti, P.B. (2012). Performance of cotton in traditional paddy fields of Uttara Kannada district, Karnataka. *Agric. Update*, 7(1&2): 129-132.

Key Words :

Cost and returns,
Growth rates, Cotton,
Paddy

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Cotton is the most important agricultural and industrial commodity world wide. India has secured a place of pride at the global cotton scenario due to several distinctive features such as first rank in the world cotton acreage, second rank in textile processing capacity, third in cotton production, second largest producer of extra-long-staple cotton and native home for coloured cotton. Karnataka is one of the major cotton producing states in the country.

Rice is an important food crop of India and stands first in area and second in total food production. Among the rice growing countries, India has the largest area under rice in the world next only to China in the world with respect to production. Karnataka is one of the major rice growing states in India.

RESOURCES AND METHODS

The study was undertaken in Uttara

Kannada district of Karnataka state. Uttara Kannada district is situated roughly in the mid-north-western part of the state. Uttara Kannada district is the major paddy growing area in the state of Karnataka. The late the paddy crop is being replaced by cotton in uplands of the district and hence the district was purposively selected for the study. The two major taluks viz., Mundagod and Haliyal where paddy has been largely replaced by cotton, were purposively selected for the study. From each Taluk, 30 farmers growing paddy and 30 farmers growing cotton were selected randomly for the study. Thus, the total sample size selected for the study was 120 consisting of 60 paddy growers and 60 cotton growers. The primary data with respect to cost, returns in paddy and cotton cultivation and reasons or shifting over to cotton cultivation were collected from the sample farmers by personal interview method with the help of pre-structured schedule. The secondary data with respect to area, production and productivity of cotton and paddy

Author for correspondence :

A.S. MENASINAHAL
Department of
Agricultural Economics,
University of
Agricultural Sciences,
DHARWAD
(KARNATAKA) INDIA

See end of the article for
authors' affiliations