



Research Article

Study of land use pattern and cropping pattern of marginal farmers of Marathwada region of Maharashtra

■ P. S. BANSODE AND S. S. NIMBALKAR

ARTICLE CHRONICLE :

Received:
24.06.2013;

Revised :
12.08.2013;

Accepted:
17.08.2013

KEY WORDS :

Cropping pattern,
Land use pattern

SUMMARY : Agriculture has a place of pride in Indian economy and is one of the main source of national income. About 65 per cent population is directly and indirectly engaged in farming. India with land area of 2.4 per cent of the world supports a population 16 per cent. Farming is a business with high fixed costs, uncertain yields and price conditions. It also varies from farm to farm, season to season, region to region and from year to year. The land holding pattern is made up of relatively large number of small units which differ in cropping pattern, type of livestock. A farm with less than 1 hectare land holding is known as marginal farm. Farm management covers aspect of farm business which has a bearing on the economic efficiency of the farm. Thus, the type of enterprises to be combined, the kind of crops and varieties to be grown, the dosage of fertilizers to be applied, the implements to be used, the way the farm functions are to be performed, all these fall within the subject of the farm management. Production efficiency is an important criterion in determining the innovative behavior of the people of rural community. It is expected that a farmer with high production efficiency get more yield which build up his economic background. In villages of India land is most important asset of a farmer, which indicates his economic standing in the society. Multistage sampling design was used for selection of zone, tehsils, village and farms in Marathwada region of Maharashtra. In all 100 samples farmers were selected from 50 villages, 30 tehsils and 8 districts. Tabular analysis consisting of mean, percentage and ratios were used. It was used to calculate costs and returns of different crops and live stocks on the farm. It was also used in land use pattern, cropping pattern and socio-economic characteristics of the farmer. Average holding size of marginal farm was 0.75 hectare in which proportionate irrigated area was 28.00 per cent. Large numbers of crops were grown on marginal farm in which proportionate area of cereals and pulses was 29.63 per cent followed by cash crops (25.92 per cent), horticultural crops (10.19 %) and oilseeds (4.63 %). Wheat, soybean and cotton were major crops grown on marginal farm. Wheat was most profitable crop followed by rainfed cotton and soybean.

How to cite this article : Bansode, P.S. and Nimbalkar, S.S. (2013). Study of land use pattern and cropping pattern of marginal farmers of Marathwada region of Maharashtra. *Agric. Update*, 8(3): 440-442.

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Agriculture has a place of pride in Indian economy and is one of the main source of national income. About 65 per cent of our population is directly and indirectly engaged in farming. India with land area of 2.4 per cent of the world, supports a population 16 per cent. Farming is a business with high fixed costs, uncertain yields and price conditions. It also varies from farm to farm, season to season, region to region and from year to year. The land holding pattern is made up of relatively large

number of small units which differ in cropping pattern, type of livestock. A farm with less than 1 hectare land holding is known as marginal farm. Farm management covers aspect of farm business which have a bearing on the economic efficiency of the farm. Thus, the type of enterprises to be combined, the kind of crops and varieties to be grown, the dosage of fertilizers to be applied, the implements to be used, the way the farm functions are to be performed, all these fall within the subject of the farm management. Production efficiency is an important criterion in determining the

Author for correspondence :

P. S. BANSODE

Department of Agricultural
Economics, Dr. D.Y. Patil
Education Academy, P.V.D.P.
College of Agriculture,
Talegaon, PUNE (M.S.)
INDIA

See end of the article for
authors' affiliations