



RESEARCH ARTICLE :

Changes in cropping pattern and crop diversification in Yawatmal district

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SUMMARY : The research entitled “Changes in cropping pattern and Crop diversification in Yawatmal district” was carried with objective to study the changes in cropping pattern and extent of crop diversification in Yawatmal district. The present study was based on secondary data collected from different government publications. The data covered a period of 20 years *i.e.*, 1988-89 to 2008-09. In all 8 crops were considered for study. These crops covered more than 85 per cent of the total cropped area for the study area of 4 tahsils *i.e.*, Ghatanji, Digras, Darwha and Ner. The names of selected crops were Cotton, Soybean, Mung, Tur, *Kharif* Jowar, Wheat, Udid and Gram, for base year 1988 – 89. Simple tabular analysis was used to examine the changes in cropping pattern in various tahsils of Yawatmal district. In order to study the extent of crop diversification Herfindahl index has been used. Tahsilwise analysis showed that the area under *Kharif* jowar has found to be decreased in all the tahsils of Yawatmal district. Area under tur crop was decreased in Darwha and Ner tahsil. The area under mung has found to be decreased in all the tahsils. Cotton still remains as major crop of the district. In majority of tahsils Yawatmal district *i.e.*, Ghatanji, Digras, Darwha and Ner crop diversification has significantly increased during the study period. The diversification from subsistence crop to more commercial crops were took place in selected tahsils.

KEY WORDS:

Cropping pattern,
Crop diversification,
Herfindahl index

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