

## Socio economic status, constraint and suggestions in custom hired tractor service business in Maharashtra

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### ABSTRACT

An investigation was carried out during the year 2007-08 to study the economic evaluation of socio-economic status, constraints and suggestions in custom hired tractor service business. The results showed that 60 per cent of tractor service owners in 20 to 30 years of age group. In regard to educational level, about 56.67 per cent of tractor service owners had education upto high school level. It was observed that inflation in diesel prices was found severe problem which was expressed by 96.66 per cent of tractor service owners. Lack of knowledge on business accountancy was expressed by 83.33 per cent of tractor service owners as one of the major problems. About 90.00 per cent of tractor service owners suggested the need of reduction in diesel prices through enhancing bio-diesel production. About 63.33 per cent of tractor service owners suggested supplying of sufficient finance through nationalized banks.

**Key words :** Tractor service, Mechanization, Constraints, Suggestions

**F**arm mechanization in agriculture may be of either competing nature or of complementary nature. In a labour abundant country like India, mechanization may be of a complementary nature. Farm mechanization increases the efficiency of labour as well as land and, therefore, raises agricultural production per hectare and per worker. Tractor can dig deeper and being to the surface more fertile soils and contributes to greater productivity. Where water supply is assured and two to three crops can be raised from the same piece of land in a year. The introduction of tractor can reduce the period of sowing operations immediately after a rainfall. Mechanization which increases productivity of land and labour results in reducing cost of production. The new agricultural technology requires faster farm operations as well as accuracy in undertaking them.

The Marathwada region mostly comes under assured rainfall zone of Maharashtra. In the region, double cropping system has been adopted. The farmers who have commercial view are purchasing tractors mainly for custom hired purposes as well as own farm operations. There is necessity to study tractor services on business point of view. Hence, the present study has been

undertaken in order to know the socio-economic status of tractor service owner, constraints and suggestions of tractor service owners.

### METHODOLOGY

Multistage sampling design was adopted for selection of district, tehsils, cluster villages and tractor service owners. In first stage, Parbhani district was purposely selected because of higher mechanization in agriculture. In the second stage, Jintur and Manwat tehsils were purposely selected because of selection to them in Farm Science Centre, Parbhani. In third stage, Muda and Kolhawadi cluster villages were also selected purposely from Jintur and Manwat tehsils, respectively because of adopted cluster villages under Farm Science Centre, Parbhani. In the fourth stage, from each of cluster villages, 15 tractor service owners were randomly selected. Thus, 30 tractor service owners were selected for present study.

#### Collection of data:

Cross sectional data were collected from the tractor service owners, by personal interview methods with the help of pre-tested schedule. Data pertained for the year 2007-08.

#### Analysis of data:

Statistical tools like arithmetic mean, frequency and percentage method was used to analyse the socio-economic status as well as constraints and suggestions of the tractor service owners.

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