

Economics of sugarcane cultivation under organic and inorganic farming in Bagalkot district of Karnataka

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ABSTRACT

Indian agro-climatic conditions are favourable for the production of sugarcane. Sugarcane plays a pivotal role in the agro-industrial economy of India. The present study was undertaken with objective of assessing cost and returns involved in organic and inorganic sugarcane cultivation in Bagalkot district of Karnataka. Multistage sampling design was used for drawing samples and tabular analysis was employed to analyse collected data. The results showed that, the per acre cost of sugarcane cultivation on organic farms (Rs. 45,974.50) was less when compared to that on inorganic farms (Rs.54, 331.82). This marginal difference was due to the higher cost incurred on chemical fertilizers, cost on more quantity of setts used as less spacing and more human labour used by inorganic sugarcane farmers. The return structure in sugarcane clearly revealed that the per acre gross returns was higher (Rs. 82,328) on organic farms compared to that of inorganic farms (Rs. 81,360) with a positive net return on both the categories of the farms. The net return on organic farm was Rs. 36,353.90 and was Rs. 27,028.18 on inorganic farms. The B:C ratio was also higher on organic farms (1.79) compared to inorganic farms (1.50). Hence, cultivation of sugarcane in organic is better compared inorganic and it will improve soil health and farmers income.

KEY WORDS : Sugarcane cultivation, organic, Inorganic farming, Economics

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