



**Research Paper**

# Constraints faced by khasi mandarin growers in North-Eastern Himalayas- A case study from Assam

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**ABSTRACT :** North-Eastern Himalayan region of India is characterized with diversified agro-climatic condition and is considered as one of the richest places for plant survival in the world. This region is well known as one of the centers of origin of various citrus species. Among the citrus crops, khasi mandarin is one of the most widely cultivated commercial fruit crop and plays a vital role in the socio-economic development of the people in this region. The present study was conducted to study the various constraints faced by the khasi mandarin growers in Tinsukia district of Assam which falls under the citrus belt of North-East India. The results of the study revealed that the growth rate for area (9.09%) and production (9.76%) of khasi mandarin in Assam was found to be significantly positive while for productivity growth rate was non-significant. The results related to constraints faced by khasi mandarin growers revealed that problems of insects and diseases, inadequate FYM/vermicompost, lack of irrigation facilities, low repayment capacity, poor economic status, high interest rate/cumbersome procedure of banks, lack of knowledge about package of practices, lack of extension facilities, inadequate training facilities, non-remunerative price for the produce, lack of regulated market and lack of market intelligence were the major production and marketing constraints in the study area. Overall, marketing problems with MPS 73.20 were ranked 1<sup>st</sup> by the respondents followed by institutional problems, production problems and financial problems with MPS of 70.60, 66.81 and 60.00, respectively.

**KEY WORDS :** Citrus, Constraints, Khasi mandarin

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