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Performance of chickpea production in Buldana district of Vidarbha region

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ABSTRACT

Chickpea (*Cicer arietinum* L.) is the premier pulse crop of Indian subcontinent. India alone has nearly 75 per cent of the world acreage and production of chickpea. The present study is an attempt to evaluate the growth and instability of such important crop. For the present study, Buldana district from Vidharbha region was chosen purposively as area under Chickpea is highest in this district Buldana. The study was based on the secondary data pertained to the year 1990-91 to 2008-09. The growth rates for area of Chickpea were found significant. Instability studied in Buldana indicated that production of chickpea witnessed high instability.

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Key words : Chickpea, Performance, Production

INTRODUCTION

Chickpea (*Cicer arietinum* L.) commonly known as "Bengal gram" is the most important pulse crop. India alone has nearly 75 per cent of the world acreage in production of gram. It is used for human consumption as well as feeding to animals.

An agricultural sector being unstable in nature may substantially impede the economic growth of the country. The spectacular performance of agricultural sector primarily is determined by the generation and sustenance of growth in production. The production instability tends to be transmitted to the markets and may cause wide fluctuations in prices of agricultural commodities. With this view it is essential to study the growth and instability of chickpea production in Buldana district from Vidharbha region with the following objectives : to study the growth rates of area, production and productivity of chickpea in Buldana district and to study the degree of instability in area, production and productivity of chickpea in Buldana district.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study covered a 19 year period of study predominantly based on secondary data pertaining to the year 1990-91 to 2008-09. Data on area, production and productivity of chickpea were collected from various issues pertinent literature of agriculture. The entire study was divided into two sub periods. The growth rates were calculated separately for the overall period (1990-91 to 2008-09) and for two sub periods, periods I (1990-91 to 2000-01) and period II (2001-02 to 2008-09), in order to study the instability in area and productivity which are the major sources of production instability. The Coppock's instability index, coefficient of variation were estimated for the study period.

Estimation of growth rates:

The growth rates in area, production and productivity were studied estimating compound growth rates at different periods. Both linear and compound growth rates were estimated. However, finally the compound growth rate was used for the study.