



Research Paper

Economics of production and marketing of summer capsicum in Nasik district of Western Maharashtra

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ABSTRACT : The per hectare cost of cultivation was Rs.76299.80 and the per hectare yield was 108.83 qt. at the overall level. The per hectare yield was highest (112 qt) in large size group followed by medium (107 qt) and small size group (105 qt), respectively. The per hectare net income was highest in large size group and per quintal cost was the lowest in large size group. At the overall level, the benefit cost ratio was 1.71 at Cost C. The highest benefit cost ratio at Cost A, Cost B was recorded in large size group and it was 4.14 and 2.45, respectively. The per quintal cost of marketing of grade I, II and III capsicum was Rs.114.79, Rs.103.74 and Rs.94.53, respectively, at the overall level. The per quintal cost of marketing was the lowest in large size group and highest in small size group. The price spread in marketing of grade I, II and III capsicum in Ghoti market indicated that the producers share in consumer rupees was 67.70 per cent, 66.82 per cent and 65.15 percent, respectively. The main constraints in production of capsicum faced by sample farmers were high cost of seeds and plant protection measures, inadequate irrigation and costly fertilizers. The main problems in marketing of capsicum faced by the growers were high cost of transportation, commission charges, un-awareness of market price and delay in payments. It is suggested that the cultivation of summer capsicum needs to be popularized among the farmers in Igatpuri Tahsil those who are having assured irrigation facilities in summer season.

KEY WORDS : production, Marketing, Summer, Capsicum

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INTRODUCTION

Summer capsicum locally known as 'Dhobli mirchi' or 'Simla mirchi' or 'Bell pepper' in the vicinity of Zonal Agricultural Research Station, Igatpuri. Generally, the bell pepper is grown under protected condition but in the vicinity of Igatpuri tahsil of Nasik district, this crop is grown under open field conditions having assured irrigation facilities. The demand for bell pepper is increasing day by day as it is widely used in hotels located in big cities and by the households. Thus, farmers are benefited from the cultivation of summer capsicum after rice crop.

Objectives :

– To study the per hectare resource use structure, productivity, costs and returns, to study the marketing practices and marketing costs and to identify the problems in production and marketing of summer capsicum.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Igatpuri Tahsil of Nasik district was selected purposively on the basis of higher area under summer capsicum. Two stage sampling design was adopted for the selection of sample with villages as primary unit and sample farmers as the secondary unit of sampling. In Igatpuri tahsil, out of 119 villages, six villages were selected randomly, from each village, fifteen sample cultivators were selected randomly. The selected farmers were grouped into three groups viz., Small (up to 1.00 ha.), Medium (1.01 to 2.00 ha.), and Large (above 2 ha.). From each selected village, fifteen farmers, five for each size group were selected, randomly. Thus, total sample farmers consisted of 90 sample farmers comprising of 30 each from small, medium and large size groups.

The data related to the cost of cultivation, marketing and production of summer capsicum during the year 2008-09 were