



Research Paper

Economics of production of chilli in Amravati district

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Paper History :

Received : 01.02.2012;

Revised : 10.05.2012;

Accepted : 12.07.2012

ABSTRACT : Chilli (*Capsicum annuum* L.) is most widely used and universal spice of India. The study was conducted in Achalpur tahsil of Amravati district. Total four villages and twenty farmers from each village *i.e.* total 80 farmers were selected randomly as sample size. Data used were pertaining to the period 2009-2010. Economic analysis of data indicated that Cost 'C' was found to Rs. 40541.72, Rs. 42811.07 and Rs. 53421.29 per acre for small, medium and large farmers, respectively. Net returns over cost 'C' was Rs. 19329.52, Rs. 24114.79 and Rs. 21400.51 per acre and input-output ratio at cost 'C' was 1:1.48, 1:1.56 and 1:1.40 for small, medium and large farmers, respectively.

KEY WORDS : Spice, Chilli, Cost of cultivation, Economics of production

HOW TO CITE THIS PAPER : Jagtap, P.P., Shingane, U.S., Kulkarni, K.P. and Bodhe, S.V. (2012). Economics of production of chilli in Amravati district, *Internat. Res. J. agric. Eco. & Stat.*, 3 (2) : 240-243.

INTRODUCTION

Chilli (*Capsicum annuum* L.) is most widely used and universal spice of India which belongs to the "Solanaceae" family. The nutritive value of chilli is excellent. Chillies are rich in vitamins, especially in vitamin A and C (Raju, 1991). Every 100 g of dried pods yield about 160 calories of energy through 36 g carbohydrates, 18 g proteins, 16 g fat, 480 mg calcium, 3.1 mg. phosphorous, 31 mg iron, 2.5 mg niacin, 640 I.U. vitamin 'A' and 40 mg vitamin 'C' (Narayanan *et al.*, 1999). India has immense potential to grow and export different types of chillies required to various markets around the world. India has produced around 1014.60 million tonnes of chilli with area of 654 million ha. and productivity 1551 kg/ha during 2005-2006 (Source: Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development). The most important chilli growing states in India are Andhra Pradesh (49%), Karnataka (15%) Maharashtra (6%) and Tamilnadu (3%) which constitute nearly 75 per cent of the total area under chilli. India's chilli exports are currently in bull stage and chillies exports from India are mostly to Srilanka, USA, Nepal, Mexico and Bangladesh. Among these countries USA, Srilanka and Mexico are the major importers of India's chillies. China has emerged as the major exporter in the world market and as a serious competitor in the international market for India. In Maharashtra state area, production and productivity of chilli

was around 90 million ha, 44 million tonnes and 489 kg/ha, respectively during 2003-04 (Source : Directorate of Arecanut and Spices Development). The present study was undertaken to analyse the cost and returns of chilli production in Amravati district. Achalpur Tahsil in Amravati district has emerged as the most popular for chilli production because of best suited climate, soil, irrigation facilities, skill and intensive cultivation practices adopted by the farmers of this area.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

For present study Achalpur Tahsil from Amravati district was purposively selected. Total four villages and twenty farmers from each village *i.e.* 80 farmers were selected randomly as sample size. Data collected for study were pertaining to the period 2009-2010. Data were collected by interviewing the selected farmers by survey method with special designed schedule. Collected were data then tabulated according to need and purpose of study. Simple tabular analysis was made. To workout the economics of chilli production, different cost concept such as cost 'A', cost 'B' and cost 'C' were used.

RESULTS AND DATA ANALYSIS

The results obtained from the investigation are presented