



Research Paper

Economics of *Rabi* tomato production in Latur district of Maharashtra

■ K.T. SONAR, R.B. CHANGULE, B.B. MANE AND G.P. GAIKWAD

See end of the paper for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

K.T. SONAR
Department of
Agricultural Economics,
College of Agriculture,
LATUR (M.S.) INDIA

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ABSTRACT : Investigation was carried out during the year 2011-2012. Ten *Rabi* tomato cultivators were selected from Chakur, Gharni, Wadwal, Mohnal and Kadmoli villages of Latur district for present study. The techniques like mean, percentage, ratio and cost concept of Cost-A, Cost-B and Cost-C were used to analyze the data. The results revealed that per hectare gross returns from *Rabi* tomato was found to be Rs.80457.22. Net profit was Rs.44829.09. The output-input ratio was 1.56. The per quintal cost of production in *Rabi* tomato was Rs.289.20.

KEY WORDS : Tomato, Net profit, Cost-C, Gross returns

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INTRODUCTION

Tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum*), and also called 'love apple' is an herbaceous plant belonging to the genus *Lycopersicon* under *Solanaceae* or Nightshade family. Tomato is the second most important vegetable crop next to potato but it tops the list of canned vegetables. Tomato is native to South America. Tomato is one of the most important "protective foods" because of its special nutritive value. India is the second largest producer of vegetable in the world after China. The major tomato producing states are Bihar, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal. In Maharashtra leading tomato producing districts are Nasik, Ahmednagar, Pune and Nagpur and export quality tomato is produced in Nasik and Pune. The commonly grown varieties of tomato are Arka Abha, Arka Saurabh, Pusa Gaurav, Angurlata, Pant Bahar, Ratna and Rupali. It is one of the most versatile vegetable with wide usage in Indian culinary tradition. Tomatoes are used in the preparation of soup, salad, pickles, ketchup, puree, sauces and also consumed as a vegetable in many other ways. Tomato is rich source of vitamins A, C, potassium, minerals and fibres and adds variety of colours and preserves. The crop is mostly grown

in Marathwada region.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Investigation was carried out during the year 2011-2012. Ten *Rabi* tomato cultivators were selected from Chakur, Gharni, Wadwal, Mohnal and Kadmoli villages of Latur district for present study. The cross sectional data were collected from ten *Rabi* tomato growers by personal interview method with the help of schedule. The cost concepts *viz.*, Cost-A, Cost-B and Cost-C were used to analyze the data in present investigation. Cost-A includes items of cost like hired human labour, bullock labour, fertilizer, manures, insecticide, irrigation, land revenue and taxes, interest on working capital. Then Cost-B consists with Cost-A + rental value of land, depreciation on implements and machinery, interest on fixed capital. Cost-C includes Cost-B + imputed value of family human labour. Evaluation of cost items was as follows. Human labour was measured in man days. One man day consists with 8 hours. Labour cost was evaluated at the rate of Rs.150 per day for male and Rs.75 per day for female. The female labour was converted in to man days by multiplying to number of female with 0.50. Bullock labour was charged at the rate of Rs. 250 per day for one pair of bullocks.