



Research Paper

Study of growth analysis and trend of area, production and yield of selected crops grown in Western Maharashtra

■ SWATI CHOUDHARI, J.S. KUMBHAR, A.J. AMALE AND H.R. SHINDE

See end of the paper for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

A.J. AMALE

Department of
Agricultural Economics,
Mahatma Phule Krishi
Vidyapeeth, Rahuri,
AHMEDNAGAR (M.S.) INDIA

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ABSTRACT : Agriculture is an important primary sector and any developing economy dependent primarily on agriculture has to undergo the process of agricultural development for accelerating the economic growth. Productivity growth has focused the agricultural development programmes which has assumed significance as growth due to expansion has reached a plateau. Therefore, the objective is to estimate the trends in area, production and productivity and to analyze growth in area, production and productivity of selected crops in the study area. Based on finding the area, production and productivity of important crops fluctuated widely during the period under consideration for all divisions in Western Maharashtra. The results had shown that there were no systematic trends in changes in area and productivity of crops under consideration in Nasik and Pune divisions. Productivity was lower in these division during 1994 mainly because major areas were covered by scarcity zone. While the results of changes in Kolhapur division had shown moderate trends for all the crops.

KEY WORDS : Growth analysis, Production, Economic growth

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INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is an important primary sector and any developing economy dependent primarily on agriculture has to undergo the process of agricultural development for accelerating the economic growth. The process of economic development of a country mainly depends upon as to how the agricultural sector is advancing. The performance of agricultural sector is therefore crucial in the process of economic development of a country. Productivity growth which focused the agricultural development programmes which has assumed significance as growth due to expansion has reached a plateau. Creation and sustenance of infrastructure are essential for augmenting farm productivity. Supportive sectors like markets, roads, mechanization and other infrastructure are necessary for realizing higher incomes than merely adopting new technology. In the first phase of green revolution, there was development of primary technology in the form of new varieties, methods and practices which resulted into boosting the productivity growth per unit of land through intensification of inputs used including labour per hectare. The second phase of

green revolution was in strengthening the supportive and complementary sectors. Technology alone cannot augment productivity. Infrastructure is crucial, as well as regional, agro-climatic and socio-economic factors have to be addressed to augment farm productivity of primary factors of production and there is need to measure the effect of these technological changes. Therefore, to estimate the trends in area, production and productivity and to analyze growth in area, production and productivity of selected crops in the study area.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sample and data :

Data on area, production and productivity of jowar, bajra, wheat, onion and sugarcane for Western Maharashtra were identified. The study used the data on following variables for the period of 30 years *i.e.* for 1975 to 2004 and divided into three sub-periods as Period I (1975-84), Period II (1985-1994) and Period III (1995-2004) and overall period (1975-2004) for various divisions and Western Maharashtra region as a whole.