



Research Paper

## Measuring the extent of instability in foodgrains production in different districts of Karnataka

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**ABSTRACT :** The study the growth of food grains production in Karnataka was carried out at College of Agriculture, Dharwad during 2000. In this study 6 crops were taken namely, rice, jowar, ragi, bajra, maize and wheat from 19 districts of Karnataka for the period of 22 years from 1976-77 to 1997-98. The data have been collected from the crop reports compiled by the Bureau of Economics and Statistics, Bangalore. Growth rates of these crops were found out by using Semilog quadratic function, variability between two periods by Mann-Whitney test and variability between districts and crops by Friedman two way analysis. The productivity of jowar in period I showed acceleration trend in almost all districts of Karnataka. In period II Bidar, Bijapur, Chitradurga, Gulbarga, Mandya and Raichur districts showed significantly acceleration trend for yield of jowar crop.

**KEY WORDS :** Yield, Production, Food grains

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## INTRODUCTION

Karnataka is the eighth largest state in India with a geographical area of about 190.49 lakh hectares. Normal annual rainfall of the state is 1188.6 mm, most of it occurs between May and October months. Actual rainfall of the state during the 1997-1998 was 1188.6mm which was 23.76 per cent more than the normal rainfall. Rainfall was excess in Hassan and normal in the remaining districts. Net cropped area in state was 100.75 lakh hectares (52.9%) of geographical area during 1997-98. Among the districts, the proportion of gross cropped area was highest in Bijapur and lowest in Bangalore urban.

The cereal production in Karnataka has recorded an increase during certain years and have also shown declining tendencies during certain years, Further, the growth achieved was different in different times periods and regions. The agricultural output of Karnataka essentially comprises pulses, small and minor millets and commercial crops, major cereals comprise of rice, jowar, ragi, bajra, maize and wheat.

The total area under foodgrains in the state was 70.6 lakh hectares during 1997-98 as against 73.7 lakh hectares during 1996-97 (-3.1 lakh hectares). Foodgrains cover 60.0 per cent of

the total cropped area in the state. Among the districts, the area covered under the foodgrains was largest in Gulbarga (9.5 lakh hectares), followed by Bijapur (8.6 lakh hectares) and lowest area was in Kodagu (0.4 lakh hectares). Total foodgrains production was 80.3 lakh tonnes (1997-98) as against 92.1 lakh tonnes during 1996-97. Among the districts highest foodgrains production was in Raichur (60.8 lakh tonnes) followed by Shimoga (6.7 lakh tonnes) and it was lowest in Kodagu (0.9 lakh tonnes). The yield of foodgrains was highest in Kodagu district (2323 kg/ha) followed by shimoga district (2272 kg/ha) and lowest in Gulbarga (399 kga/ha) during 1997-98.

The total area covered under cereal crops decreased from 54.6 lakh hectares during 1996-97 to 53.0 lakh hectares during 1997-98. The area under minor millets declined from 0.8 in 1996-97 to 0.7 lakh hectares during 1997-98. Among cereals, jowar crop alone covered 35.6 per cent of the total cropped area under cereal followed by paddy crop with 25.4 per cent. Among the districts the area under cereals was largest in Bijapur (7.3 lakh hectares) followed by Dharwad (5.3 lakh hectares) and Raichur (4.9 lakh hectares). During 1997-98, total production of cereals was 75.0 lakh tonnes as against 84.5 lakh tonnes during 1996-97. The yield decreased from 1616 kg/ha in 1996-