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Constraints and suggestions of garlic growers in Akola district

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Abstract

The present study was conducted in Akola district of Maharashtra State with the objective to identify the constraints in garlic cultivation, production and marketing as perceived by the garlic growers and suggestions obtained from Garlic growers, exploratory research design of social research was used for this study. For this study respondents were selected by using random sampling method. Irrespective of the tahasils, from the selected area 120 Garlic Growers were selected as respondents for the study and data were collected by personal interview method. The findings of the study revealed that fluctuation of rates in garlic (89.16%), lack of information about garlic cultivation (87.50%) and power cut off (80.00%) is the majority of the respondent's problem. Scarcity of water (58.33%) is the nearly half of the respondents problem. potential market away from garlic cultivation area (31.66%) is the some of the respondent's problem.

Keywords: constraints, suggestions, garlic growers

Introduction

Garlic (*Allium sativum* Linn) belongs to the family Amaryllidaceae is the second most important bulb crop after onion. Though it is grown throughout the plains of India and consumed by most of the people since time immemorial. The economic yield is obtained from underground develop part known as bulbs. The garlic bulb is a multiple or compound bulb consisting of small bulb or bulblets popularly called as cloves. The cloves are used in flavoring foods, preparing chutneys, pickles, curry powder, tomato ketchup. Garlic is an important spice crop which is not only used as culinary item, it is also to prevent or cure various diseases /disorders in respect of human health. Garlic is one of the most popular spices in the whole world. It is extensively grown in Central Asia and Eastern Region. India is the largest producer of garlic in the world usually grown in moderate to cold seasons. This crop is grown for culinary and medicinal purpose. Clove has a characteristic pungent, spicy flavour that mellows and sweetens considerably with cooking. In medicinal use it boost immune system, reduces blood pressure, lowers cholesterol level, improve brain functioning and etc. It is included in Indian system of medicines (Ayurvedic, Unani, and Siddha) as carminative and gastric stimulant to help in digestion and absorption of food. It is also an important source to earn foreign exchange, apart from meeting the domestic requirement of the country.

Garlic (*Allium sativum*) is the second important bulb crops grown after onion and contributes to about 14.00% of world area and 5.0% of production (S. Gowa, 2013-14). India, although ranks second by area and production, is the lowest as far as productivity is concerned (5.29 t/ha). China is leading producer of garlic followed by India. It is grown in large quantities in the states of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Orissa, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Bihar. Indian garlic is now exported even to Pakistan, Thailand, USA, Nepal and Malaysia as well as the traditional market of Bangladesh. In 2015 the world production of garlic was estimated at 25 million with China constituting of 80% of the total production. China, Korea, India, Spain, Egypt and USA are the major garlic growing countries. China ranks first in area and production. India ranks second in area (28 thousand ha) and production (1617 thousand MT) (2015-16) with average yield 5.29 ton. per hectare. In productivity, Egypt tops the list followed by the USA. The productivity in India is 4.41 t/ha. Among different states of India, Madhya Pradesh is the leading state. The area and production of garlic in Maharashtra is 3.50 thousand hectare and 40 thousand metric ton. with productivity 11.43 tone/ha (National Horticulture Board, 2014-15).

The garlic growers were found being confronted with various types of constraints regarding fluctuation of rates in garlic, lack of information about garlic cultivation and power cut off is the problem of majority of the respondent's. However Scarcity of water is the nearly half of the respondents problem. Potential market away from garlic cultivation area is the some of the respondent's problem.

Methodology

Exploratory design of social research was used for present study aims at assessing the entrepreneurial behaviour of garlic growers. The study was conducted in Akola district (Akola, Patur and Murtijapur tahsils) of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra state, based on garlic growers purposively selected for study. Thus selection of respondents was done by using random sampling method. Total 120 respondents were selected for the study. The basic instruments used for the study was interview schedule.

Result and Discussion

The results obtained from the analysis of the data in accordance of the study objectives along with the logical discussion have been given to interpret the observed phenomena.

Table 1 Distribution of the respondents according to constraints faced by garlic growers

Sr. No.	Particulars	Frequency	Percent
1.	Fluctuation of rates in garlic	107	89.16
2.	Lack of information about garlic cultivation	105	87.50
3.	Power cut off	96	80.00
4.	Scarcity of water	70	58.33
5.	Potential market away from garlic cultivation area	38	31.65

It can be observed from Table 1 that, the Garlic growers faced fluctuation of rates in garlic (89.16%). also garlic growers found lack of information about garlic cultivation (87.50%). power cut off is one of the major constraint faced by the garlic growers (80.00%). Scarcity of water (58.33%) is the nearly half of the respondents problem. potential market away from garlic cultivation area (31.66%) is the some of the respondent's problem.

Table 2: Suggestions given by the garlic growers

Sr. No.	Particulars	Frequency	Percent
1.	Need of scientific information about garlic cultivation	118	98.33
2.	Stability in rates for garlic	110	91.66
3.	Availability of continuous power supply	105	87.50
4.	Availability of local market facility	97	80.33

The suggestion to overcome the constraints as suggested by the garlic growers are need of scientific information about garlic cultivation (98.33%), stability in rates for garlic (91.66%) because of up and down of market rate farmers are not sure about Garlic cultivation, also availability of continuous power supply needed to Garlic cultivation (87.50%), availability of local market facility (80.33%).

Conclusion

It can be observed from Table 29 that, fluctuation of rates in garlic (89.16%), lack of information about garlic cultivation (87.50%) and power cut off (80.00%) is the majority of the respondent's problem. Scarcity of water (58.33%) is the nearly half of the respondents problem. potential market away from garlic cultivation area (31.16%) is the some of the respondent's problem. Also The suggestion to overcome the constraints as suggested by the garlic growers are need of scientific information about garlic cultivation (98.33%), stability in rates for garlic (91.66%), availability of continuous power supply (87.50%), availability of local market facility (80.33%).

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