“A Study on the Problem of Production and Marketing of Ginger in Mysore District in the Course of Covid -19 – with special reference to Periyapatna Taluk”

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Abstract
Agriculture plays a significant role in the entire life of a given economy. Agriculture is the backbone of the economic system of a given country. In addition to providing food and raw material, agriculture also provides employment opportunities to very large percentage of the population. India is the second largest populated country of the world. Agriculture is the backbone of the Indian economy. Father of our nation, Mahatma Gandhi said “India lives in villages and agriculture is the soul of Indian economy”. Agricultural land accounts for about 60% of the total landscape of India (The World Bank). Agriculture and allied activities accounts for about 15% of India’s GDP offering employment to two-thirds of India’s population (OECD, 2011). covid 19 had given a set blow to all sectors especially to the agriculture sector. This paper tries to study the source of seeds, production problem and marketing problem.

Key Words: Employment Opportunities, Agriculture, Source of Seeds, Production Problem and Marketing Problem.
I. INTRODUCTION

Indian agriculture is facing a huge crisis since many years. Despite continuous reports suggesting that the agrarian economy of India is getting affected, as people are shifting away from the agricultural sector and are moving towards industrial sector development, the food and agriculture organization of United Nations (UN) has stated that India ranks second in the agricultural production of the World. In the past 11 years, the country’s agricultural production has increased from $87 billion in the financial year 2004-05 to $322 billion in the fiscal year 2015-16.

Ginger is one of the most important and earliest known oriental spices and is being cultivated in India for both as fresh vegetable and as a dried spice, since time immemorial. Ginger is obtained from the rhizomes of Zingiber officinale. The ginger family is a tropical group, especially abundant in Indo-Malaysian region, consisting of more than 1200 plant species in 53 genera. India. It belongs to the family Zingiberaceae. It is a tropical and subtropical perennial herb with underground branching stem called rhizomes. It is native of South East Asia. India is largest producer in the world. Ginger plays an important role in earning foreign exchange for the country. An annual production of 6.55L tones in an area of about 1.33L hectares in India, contributing approximately 65 % of the world production. Ginger production share among the spices in India is 11.89 % (NHB Database 2014-15). Ginger is grown as an intercrop in coconut and areca nut plantations in the states of Kerala, Meghalaya, Orissa, and West Bengal and to some extent in Karnataka as well as pure crop in states of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu. Its cultivation is fast increasing as a pure crop particularly in these states because of better profitability and high productivity can be expected by providing the favorable conditions and better management. Very limited scientific information is available on varietal evaluation of ginger under shade net condition under local agro-climatic condition though the farmers are using their own varieties based on the availability during the season irrespective of suitability for the area under normal open cultivation of the crop.

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Merlin Mathew and others (2018) “Economics of Production of Ginger in Wayanad District of Kerala, India” This study was aimed to find out the input use levels and economics of ginger cultivation in Wayanad district of Kerala, during the crop year 2015-16. Total four villages which are leading in the area of ginger cultivation were selected and twenty farmers from each village i.e. total 80 farmers were chosen randomly as sample size. The study indicated that cost of cultivation and gross returns were positively related with size of the holding. The overall cost of cultivation was ` 4, 54,991.62 and ` 4, 94,501.03 per hectare on small and large farms. The expenditure on seed was found to be maximum constituting about 35.01 per cent of total cost followed by human labour, and machine power. All the farm income measures exhibited a positive relationship with the farm size. Returns per rupee of expenditure were found to be ` 0.60 and 0.67 per hectare on small and large farms respectively.

Sudip Mahat, and others (2019) “Factors Affecting Ginger Production in Surkhet District, Nepal” This study was to analyze different factors influencing ginger
production. The study was conducted in Surkhet district of Nepal in 2018. A total of 100 farmers (60 and 40 from Barahtal and Chingad rural municipalities respectively) were selected using simple random sampling technique. Primary data were collected using interview schedule, focus group discussion and key informant interview. Data were analyzed using Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) and Microsoft Excel. The descriptive statistics, chi-square test and correlation were used to derive conclusion.

III. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To study the sources of seeds in the study area
- To analyze the problem of production and marketing in study area
- To find solution to improve the conditions of ginger cultivators in study area

Hypothesis of the Study

The following hypothesis have been framed in the present study
- Higher the problem of marketing lower will be the productivity.

| Sl No | Null Hypothesis | Alternative Hypothesis |
|-------|-----------------|------------------------|
| 1.    | There is no association between problem of marketing and productivity | There is strong association between problem of marketing and productivity |

IV. METHODOLOGY

The present study is on empirical investigation based on sample interview of ginger cultivators in mysore district. Mysore is a midsized south Indian city with a population of about 7.8 lakh and spanning an area of 128 sq kms. This is second largest city in Karnataka after Bangalore, the capital city of karnataka. This city is 140 kms away from sate capital bangalore. The present study is based on both primary and secondary data and a systematic random sampling method has been adopted for survey. The primary data has collected from periyapatna taluk of mysore district. Where large numbers of cultivators are the cultivators of ginger crop. Firstly majority of the people of this area are economically well off and are affordable to manage maid servants secondly in the study region. The survey has been conducted by taking 50 ginger cultivators in the study area and respondents are randomly selected. A survey of seven villages such as Komalapura, Hithehebbagilu, Nandinathapura, Bhuvanahally, Bare,Makodu, Billahally has been conducted 50 Ginger grower have been interviewed through questionnaire. Simple tables, percentage method are used to analyse the result and have been depicted by simple bar graph and pie chart.
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TABLE 1
DISTRIBUTION OF GENDER OF RESPONDENTS

| Gender       | Frequency | Percentage | Rank |
|--------------|-----------|------------|------|
| Male         | 38        | 76%        | 1    |
| Female       | 12        | 24%        | 2    |
| Total        | 50        | 100%       |      |

Source: field work

Chart 1: Distribution of Gender of respondents

Chart 1 shows that out of the total 50 respondents 76% are male and 24% are female.

TABLE 2
PRIMARY OCCUPATION FREQUENCY OF RESPONDENTS

| Occupation                        | Frequency | Rank |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|------|
| Agriculture                       | 20        | 1    |
| Agriculture and Business          | 14        | 2    |
| Agriculture and Service           | 11        | 3    |
| Agriculture and agricultural laborer | 5         | 4    |
| Total                             | 50        |      |

Source: field work
Table 2: Primary Occupation Frequency of respondents

| Occupation                        | Frequency |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Agriculture                      | 40%       |
| Agriculture and Business         | 28%       |
| Agriculture and Service          | 22%       |
| Agriculture and agricultural laborer | 10%      |

Table 2 represents that 40% of respondents are dependent on only agriculture, 28% are doing Agriculture and Business, 22% are doing Agriculture and Service. This shows that recent years, people are interested in growing Ginger who are in the service sector as Ginger farming is more profitable.

TABLE 3
DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS BASED ON SOURCES OF SEED

| Source of seed                          | Frequency | Rank |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------|------|
| Reserve from own production             | 20        | 1    |
| Fellow farmer/Neighbours                | 15        | 2    |
| Cooperatives/Farmer group               | 5         | 4    |
| Market                                  | 10        | 3    |
| **Total**                               | **36**    |      |

Source: field work
Table 3 explains that 20 respondents reserve seeds from own production, 15 of them borrow from neighbours, 5 of them take from cooperatives and followed by 10 respondents who purchase from market.

**TABLE 4**

MAJOR PRODUCTION PROBLEM INDEX VALUE RANK

| Major Production Problem                        | Frequency | Rank |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------|------|
| Lack of Sufficient and quality seed            | 35        | 3    |
| Lack of financial support (agri credit)        | 25        | 5    |
| Lack of Technical and scientific Information support | 36        | 2    |
| Insufficient labour                            | 23        | 6    |
| Incident of disease and pest                   | 45        | 1    |
| Unavailability of mulching materials           | 28        | 4    |

Source: field work
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Table 4: Major Production Problem Index Value Rank

| Major Production Problem                              | Frequency | Rank |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------|
| Lack of sufficient and quality seed                    | 35        | 1    |
| Insufficient labour                                    | 25        | 2    |
| Lack of technical and scientific support               | 36        | 3    |
| Incidence of disease and pest                          | 45        | 4    |
| Unavailability of mulching materials                   | 28        | 5    |

Table 4 explains that 35 respondents suffer from sufficient and quality seeds, 25 face financial problem, 36 lack technical and scientific support, 23 have labour problem, 45 suffers from pest and crop disease, 28 have expressed their unavailability of mulching materials insufficiency.

TABLE 5
MAJOR MARKETING PROBLEM INDEX VALUE RANK

| Major Marketing Problem                              | Frequency | Rank |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------|
| Insufficient price to cover                           | 30        | 3    |
| Lack of road access                                   | 15        | 5    |
| Trader dominance in price determination               | 48        | 1    |
| No formal agreement with traders                      | 28        | 4    |
| Lack of storage                                       | 42        | 2    |

Source: field work
Table 5 explains that 30 respondents suffer from insufficient price, 15 have lack of road access, 48 respondents have trader dominance in price determination, 28 of them suffer from lack of formal agreement and 42 do not have storage facilities.

V. FINDINGS

➢ Majority of the respondents belong to the age group of 31-50 years, because it is the core age for ginger cultivation and contributing to the income of the family.
➢ Most of the respondents reserve seeds from own production
➢ Out of 50 respondents, 35 respondents suffer without sufficient and quality seeds
➢ Majority of respondents suffer from insufficient price.

Result

| Chi Square | Value   | Level of Significance |
|------------|---------|-----------------------|
|            | 17.0756 | 0.05                  |

The Chi Square or P value is **17.0756**. It is significant at 5 percent level. 95 percent shows that there is association between problem of marketing and productivity. Therefore reject null hypotheses and accept alternative hypotheses.
VI. SUGGESTIONS

1. Provisions has to me made for the availability of enough and quality seeds
2. Advance scientific and technical experience has to be set up
3. Knowledge on value addition and grading has to be given
4. Sufficient market has to be established
5. Processing centre has to be set up.

VII. CONCLUSION

When the country is facing even greater challenges like farmer suicides, protests, and monsoon failure, figures like these tend to bring smiles on our faces, even if it is for a short time. The aggregate development can never alleviate the plight of farmers. The percentage growth may satisfy the government and us both, but does it really satisfy the farmers? A wiser approach like good law and order towards the handling of problems and crisis should be taken, and then only can there be a better future in the agriculture

VIII. REFERENCES

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