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COST OF CULTIVATION OF GROUNDNUT

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ABSTRACT

A research study was conducted on 90 farmers of Palanpur and Deesa talukas of Banaskantha district of Gujarat State for estimating the cost of groundnut production. Multistage stratified random sampling technique was adopted to select the farmers. The requisite data was collected through personal interviews with the farmers with the help of pre-tested comprehensive schedules related to Kharif groundnut crop for the year 2005-06. It was calculated that the average cost of cultivation and net income per hectare of groundnut crop was Rs.22526/- and Rs.3581/-, respectively for the year 2005-2006. The total cost and gross return over Cost-A, Cost-B, Cost-C₁ and Cost-C₂ of small farmers was highest and decreased with increase in the size of holding.

Introduction

Oilseed crops have been the backbone of agricultural economy of India from time to time immemorial. Oilseeds account for one-ninth of the total agricultural production in India and rank next to food grains. Important oilseed crops in India are: Groundnut, Rapeseed and Mustard, Sesamum, Linseed, Safflower, Castor, Sunflower and Niger. Groundnut is the most important crop among the oilseed crops grown in the country. It is important not only from the point of view of its contribution to the national agricultural production, but also because of its industrial use. It is an important oilseed crop of the country. Because of its utility as food for the common man and as raw material for some industries to manufacture soaps, hair oils, lubricants, textile, auxiliaries, etc. The commercial importance of the groundnut crop is increasing with the establishment of solvent extraction plants. Thus, increasing the production and marketable surplus of groundnut is of vital importance to the national economy. Thus, the present study was conducted with the objective of estimating the cost of groundnut production in Banaskantha district of Gujarat state.

Methodology In order to evaluate the objective of the study, a multistage stratified random sampling technique was adopted. The area of the study was Banaskantha district of North Gujarat region of the Gujarat State. The Banaskantha district was selected purposively because the groundnut crop is most

popularized oilseed crop among the farming community in Banaskantha district. Palanpur and Deesa two talukas of Banaskantha district were purposively selected for in depth study. At the next stage, three villages from Palanpur viz., Veerpura, Malan and Merwada and three villages from Deesa taluka viz., Kant, Malgadh and Vadaval were selected randomly. At the last stage, a stratified random sampling technique was used for the selection of farmers. Farmers were classified into different categories i.e., small, medium and large on the basis of their land holding capacity. From each category five farmers from each village were randomly selected. Thus, the final sample consisted of 90 farmers from six villages.

Results and Discussion:

The cost of cultivation per hectare of groundnut with different sizes of farm in the year 2005-2006 is presented in Table 1. The average cost of cultivation of groundnut was estimated Rs.22526 ha⁻¹.

The details of cost of production as shown in table indicated that small farmers have the highest cost of production (Rs.23030 ha⁻¹) followed by large farmers (Rs.22578 ha⁻¹) and medium farmers (Rs.22457 ha⁻¹). It was observed that small farmers have accounted major share of bullock labour (17.82%), rental value of own land (17.32%) and family labour (10.19%) which was higher as compared to medium and large farmers. While the share of hired human labour (9.65%) was higher for large farmers. The percentage share

of the cost of family labour decreased and cost of hired human labour and total human labour increased with the increase in the size of holding. This trend was due to fact that small farmers mostly depend on their family labours for farm operations, while large farmers have to depend on hired labours for completing their farm operations in time. The share of the interest of fixed capital, depreciation decreased with the increase in the size of holdings.

It was further revealed that the percentage share of farm yard manure was highest in case of small farmers as compared to medium and large farmers because small farmers were in the position to supply more quantity of farm yard manure to their fields while, the cost of chemical fertilizer was more in medium size of holdings. It was also observed that small, medium and large farmers earned Rs.3427, Rs.3583 and Rs.3603 per hectare respectively over Cost-C₂. Thus, it was

Table 1: Details of cost of cultivation of groundnut crop per hectare in Bansa district of Gujarat State for the year 2005-2006

Particulars	Small farmers			Medium farmers			Large farmers			Average farmers		
	Physical unit	Value (Rs.)	Percent to total cost	Physical unit	Value (Rs.)	Percent to total cost	Physical unit	Value (Rs.)	Percent to total cost	Physical unit	Value (Rs.)	Percent to total cost
Hired labour	22.30	1564	6.79	29.11	2041	9.09	31.10	2180	9.65	30.11	2111	9.37
Bullock labour	14.11	4104	17.82	13.30	3868	17.22	13.80	4014	17.78	13.40	3898	17.30
Seed (kg)	121.66	3614	15.69	119.17	3539	15.76	120.15	3568	15.80	120.05	3565	15.83
Manure (Carts)	11.11	1220	5.30	9.10	999	4.45	10.01	1099	4.87	10.01	1099	4.88
Fertilizer (kg)	N	7.35	545	20.77	883	3.93	11.10	666	2.95	12.50	69	3.10
	P	24.78		32.17			28.85			29.40		
	K	-		-			-			-		
Irrigation	-	300	1.30	-	311	1.38	-	280	1.24	-	299	1.33
Insecticides	-	261	1.13	-	271	1.21	-	269	1.19	-	275	1.22
Miscellaneous cost	-	1810	7.86	-	1750	7.79	-	1780	7.88	-	1760	7.81
Depreciation	-	300	1.30	-	280	1.25	-	255	1.13	-	263	1.17
Interest on working capital	-	611	2.65	-	647	2.88	-	660	2.92	-	640	2.84
Cost : A	-	14329	62.22	-	14589	64.96	-	14771	65.42	-	14609	64.85
Rental value of own land	-	390	1.73	-	380	1.70	-	380	1.68	-	382	1.69
Interest on fixed capital (Excluding land revenue)	-	270	1.17	-	250	1.11	-	230	1.02	-	235	1.04
Cost : B	-	18589	80.72	-	18659	83.09	-	18801	83.27	-	18666	82.86
Family labour	75.80	2166	9.21	76.60	2166	9.21	74.40	2166	9.21	73.40	2166	9.21
Cost : C	-	2026	9.09	-	2045	9.09	-	2025	9.09	-	2048	9.09
10% of cost C ₁	-	204	9.09	-	204	9.09	-	203	9.09	-	204	9.09
Cost : C ₂	-	2380	100	-	2247	100	-	2258	100	-	2256	100
Production												
Main product (q)	13.55	2385	-	13.40	2270	-	13.50	2290	-	13.45	2285	-
By product (q)	19.01	342	-	18.11	320	-	17.95	321	-	18.01	324	-
Gross Income (Rs.)	-	2647	-	-	2640	-	-	2618	-	-	2610	-
Net Income (Rs.)	-	347	-	-	383	-	-	363	-	-	381	-

