

Constraints perceived and suggestions offered by the farmers in adoption of improved production technologies of tomato

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ABSTRACT

A study was conducted during 2012 in selected villages of Chikmagalur district of Karnataka state, with a sample size of 120 farmers. The data was collected personally to know the socio economic profile, constraints perceived and suggestions offered in adoption of improved production technologies of tomato. The results of the study revealed that, majority of the respondents were middle aged (64.00 %) with education up to primary to middle school (50.87 %) having small family (69.10 %) with marginal land holdings (53.33 %). The major constraints expressed by the respondents were, high wages of labor and non availability of labor, inadequate and irregular power supply, high cost of plant protection chemicals, lack of knowledge about preparation of value added products, lack of motivation from extension institution and no minimum price policy, no processing unit and constant fluctuation in market price. Distribution of seeds at subsidized cost, establishment of processing unit, regular power supply and minimum price policy were the major suggestions offered by the tomato growers to overcome the perceived constraints.

Key Words : Constraints, Improved production technology, Socio-economic profile, Suggestions

INTRODUCTION

Tomato is the world's largest vegetable crop and known as protective food because of its special nutritive value and also it's wide spread production. Tomato is one of the most important vegetable crops cultivated for its fleshy fruits and also considered as important commercial and dietary vegetable crop. Botanical name of tomato is *Lycopersicon esculentum* and belongs to family Lycopersicaceae. Tomato is protective supplementary food. As it is short duration crop and gives high yield, it is important from economic point of view and hence area under its cultivation is increasing day by day. Tomato is used in preserved products like ketch-up, sauce, chutney, soup, paste, etc. Previously Tomatoes were grown only in season-wise, but the picture has been change, now days Tomatoes are grown round the year. Tomato is a rich source of minerals, vitamins and organic acid, essential amino acids and dietary fibers. Tomato is known as productive as well as protective food. It is a rich source of vitamin A and C. It also contains minerals like iron, phosphorus. Lycopene and Beta-carotene pigments.

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