

## Constraints Faced by Cotton Growers in Management of Cotton Cultivation

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### ABSTRACT

*The study was carried out in the year 2009-10 in Vadodara District of Gujarat state to identify the various constraints faced by cotton growers in management of cotton cultivation. A random sample of 120 cotton growers was selected from Vadodara District and the constraints faced by cotton growers in management of cotton cultivation were studied. The result of the study depicted that high cost of inputs, fluctuations in market rate, Unavailability of seed at proper time, non availability of labours, high cost of transportation, lack of timely technical advice, high rate of labours and non availability of timely credits, the process of getting cotton crop insurance is complex, lack of market facilities, difficult to take valid advantage of crop insurance were perceived as the most serious constraints faced by cotton growers.*

**Keywords:** Constraints, management of cotton cultivation, cotton growers.

### INTRODUCTION

Cotton is one of the most important commercial fiber crops of India. The seed of cotton is a potential source of edible oil, cake and hull meal. It is also known as “King of Apparel Fiber” and “white gold”. Cotton is cultivated in about 60 countries of the world. India is having the largest area under cotton; its average productivity is only 520 kg per hectare as against the world average productivity of 650 kg per hectare. In India, cotton contributes about 85.00 per cent of the total fiber consumed in the textile industries. Gujarat is one of the major cotton producing states in the country. Gujarat state has second largest area under cotton after Maharashtra in India. Cotton is widely grown, particularly in all districts of Gujarat state. Gujarat has been the key contributor in cotton research in the country.

Considering the major challenges in agriculture including the need for enhanced productivity, equity and uneven development, issues of sustainability and enhanced profitability there is need for greater thrust for technology dissemination without any transmission loss. This inspired the investigator to study various constraints faced by cotton growers. Thus, the present study was undertaken in the year 2009-10 with following objectives.

### OBJECTIVES

- 1 To study the constraints faced by the cotton growers in management of cotton cultivation.
- 2 To seek the suggestions from the cotton growers to overcome the constraints faced by them.

### METHODOLOGY

Vadodara district of Gujarat state was chosen for the study. Vadodara, Dabhoi, Karjan and Sankheda talukas of Vadodara district of Gujarat state were purposively selected, because these talukas have more cotton growing area as compared to other talukas. Twelve cotton growing villages were randomly selected from those four talukas. For this study, 120 cotton growers who had minimum 3 years of experience in cotton cultivation were selected randomly. For measuring constraints in management of cotton cultivation, a simple frequency system was applied. The respondents were asked to give the information about the constraints countered by them in management of cotton cultivation and then frequency was ascertained from highest to lowest. The suggestions offered were ranked on the basis of number and percentage of respondents who reported respective

suggestions.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Constraints in management of new technology have never end. However, they can be minimized. The respondents

were requested to express the constraints faced by them in management of cotton cultivation. Frequency and percentage for each constraints were calculated and on that basis of that, the constraints were assigned ranked and are presented in Table 1.

**Table 1: Constraints faced by cotton growers in management of cotton cultivation**

n = 120

Sr. No.	Constraints	Number	Per cent
1	Unavailability of seed at proper time	102	85.00
2	High cost of inputs	112	93.33
3	High cost of transportation	93	77.50
4	Non-availability of labours	98	81.66
5	High cost of labours	86	71.66
6	Non-availability of credit in time	73	60.83
7	Lack of timely technical advice	90	75.00
8	Irregular supply of irrigation	47	39.16
9	Irregular supply of electricity	43	35.83
10	Lack of market facility	67	55.83
11	Fluctuations in market rate	108	90.00
12	Lack of knowledge about plant protection of cotton	99	82.50
13	Difficult to take valid advantage of crop insurance	58	48.33
14	The process of getting cotton crop insurance is complex	71	59.16

As seen from the Table 1. high cost of inputs (93.33 per cent), fluctuations in market rates (90.00 per cent), unavailability of seed at proper time (85.00 per cent), lack of knowledge about plant protection of cotton (82.50 per cent), non-availability of labours (81.66 per cent), high cost of transportation (77.50 per cent), lack of technical advice (75.00 per cent), high rates of labours (71.66 per cent), non-availability of timely credits (60.83 per cent), the process of

getting cotton crop insurance is complex (59.16 per cent), lack of market facilities (55.83 per cent), difficult to take valid advantage of crop insurance (48.33 per cent), irregular supply of irrigation (39.16 per cent), and irregular supply of electricity (35.83 per cent) are the major constraints faced by cotton growers in management of cotton cultivation in ascending order, respectively

**Table 2: Suggestions given by cotton growers to overcome constraints faced by them**

n = 120

Sr. No.	Suggestions	Number	Per cent
1	Price of seed should be minimized.	112	93.33
2	Good and healthy seed should be provided at proper time.	97	80.83
3	Regular and timely visit of the farm should be necessary by agricultural officer.	27	22.50
4	Rate of produce should be regulated.	83	69.17
5	Proper marketing facility should be established.	76	63.33
6	Training on new technologies should be imparted to the farmers.	54	45.00
7	Timely technical advice should be provided to the farmers.	104	86.67
8	Guidance should be provided to adopt proper cultivation practices.	58	48.33
9	Sufficient electric power should be available for long time.	36	30.00
10	Sufficient knowledge should be provided regarding recommended dose of fertilizer, insecticide / pesticides etc.	64	53.33
11	Crop insurance scheme should be modified in favor of loss occurred to an individual farmer or mass of farmers	87	72.50
12	Farmers should not be forced by bank to take insurance while taking loan because it increases financial burden on the farmers	93	77.50

It can be concluded from the Table 2 that the prices of inputs should be minimized (93.33 per cent), provide timely technical advice (86.67 per cent), good and healthy seed should be provided at proper time (80.83 per cent), farmers should not be forced by bank to take insurance while taking loan because it increases financial burden on the farmers (77.50 per cent), crop insurance scheme should be modified in favor of loss occurred to an individual farmer or mass of farmers (72.50 per cent), are the prime important suggestions given by the respondents to overcome constraints. Further, they also suggested about rate of agricultural produce should be regulated (69.17 per cent), proper marketing facility should be established (63.33 per cent), knowledge regarding recommended dose of fertilizer, insecticide / pesticide should be provided (53.33 per cent), guidance should be provided to adopt proper cultivation practices (48.33 per cent), training on new technology should be imparted (45.00 per cent), sufficient electric power should be available for long time (30.00 per cent), and regular visit of agriculture officer should be necessary (22.50 per cent) to overcome the constraints faced by them, respectively.

## **CONCLUSION**

Major constraints faced by cotton growers were high cost of inputs, fluctuations in market rate, unavailability of seed at proper time, non availability of labours, high cost of transportation, lack of timely technical advice, high rate of labours and non availability of timely credits, the process of getting cotton crop insurance is complex and valuable suggestions offered by cotton growers to overcome them. Prices of inputs should be minimized, provide timely technical advice, good and healthy seed should be provided at proper time, farmers should not be forced by bank to take insurance while taking loan because it increases financial burden on the farmers, crop insurance scheme should be modified in favor of loss occurred to an individual farmer or mass of farmers.

## **REFERENCE**

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