

Management efficiency and economic performance of marginal, small and medium banana growers

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ABSTRACT

The present study was undertaken in four talukas of Anand district of Gujarat state during the year 2005. From each taluka, five villages were selected having highest area under banana crop. From each village twelve banana growers (4- marginal, 4- small and 4- medium banana growers) from 20 selected villages constituted a total sample size of 240 respondents at random. The ex-post-facto research design was followed. A scale was developed to measure the management efficiency of banana growers. More than two-third (72.50 and 70.00 per cent) of marginal and medium banana growers while, slightly more than three-fifth (61.25 per cent) of small banana growers had medium management efficiency. About two-third (68.75, 63.75 and 70.00 per cent) of marginal, small and medium banana growers had medium level of economic performance, respectively. In general, it was about 67.50 per cent of the banana growers had medium level of economic performance.

Keywords: Management efficiency, banana grower, and economic performance

INTRODUCTION

The recent advances in banana production technology have demonstrated that scientific management has great potential for increasing the banana production. Therefore, raising management efficiency is of paramount importance for banana producer. This will open up new vistas and make possible for banana growers to achieve substantial gains in income. There are number of factors affecting the banana production. Management is one of the most important factors which help the banana grower to exploit natural resources and accumulate capital. The efficient use of resources depends to a greater extent on how banana growers acquire and adopt new innovations in the banana cultivation in effective manner to reach higher levels of economic performance through their management efficiency. Therefore, study on management efficiency and economic performance of banana growers was undertaken.

METHODOLOGY

The present study was undertaken in four talukas of Anand district of Gujarat state during the year 2005. From each taluka, five villages were selected having highest area

under banana crop. From each village twelve banana growers (4- marginal, 4- small and 4- medium banana growers) from 20 selected villages constituted a total sample size of 240 respondents at random. The ex-post-facto research design was followed. A scale was developed to measure the management efficiency of banana growers. An interview schedule was developed in accordance with the objectives of the study and it was pre-tested and translated in to Gujarati. The data of this study were collected through personal interview. The statistical measures such as percentage, mean, standard deviation, and factorial concept, were used.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Management efficiency of Banana Growers

In order to measure management efficiency of banana growers, ten factors which were identified earlier are responsible to make an individual efficient in managing the banana crop. Also economic performance was measured through economic performance index. The facts and findings derived after analyzing the information have been presented under the following heads and discussed in succeeding pages.

Table - 1 Distribution of respondents according to their management efficiency

n=240

Sr. No.	Category	Category of banana growers							
		Marginal (n =80)		Small (n =80)		Medium (n =80)		Pooled (n=240)	
		No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent
1	Low (upto 62.45 score)	20	25.00	18	22.50	10	12.50	48	20.00
2.	Medium (62.46 to 82.77)	58	72.50	49	61.25	56	70.00	163	67.92
3	High (above 82.77)	02	2.50	13	16.25	14	17.50	29	12.08
Total		80	100.00	80	100.00	80	100	240	100.00
Mean		70.39		72.33		75.13		72.62	
S.D.		9.20		11.22		9.48		10.16	
F- value		4.53*							

* Significant at 0.05 level of probability

At a glance, Table 1 clearly reveals that more than two-third (72.50 and 70.00 per cent) of marginal and medium banana growers while, slightly more than three-fifth (61.25 per cent) of small banana growers had medium management efficiency. whereas, one fourth (25.00 per cent) of marginal, slightly more than one-fifth (22.50 per cent) of small and slightly more than one-tenth (12.50 per cent) of medium banana growers had low management efficiency while, 2.50, 16.25 and 17.50 per cent marginal, small and medium banana growers had high management efficiency respectively.

The calculated F-value was 4.53 which indicate significant difference among three

categories of banana growers with respect to management efficiency. The probable reason for this might be difference among different categories in respect of knowledge about improved banana cultivation, attitude, ability to coordinate activities, ability to mobilize resources, timely adoption etc.

Economic Performance of Banana Growers

Economic performance is the ratio of value of total output to total expenses expresses in percentage. The data regarding economic performance of the respondents were categorized in to three groups as shown in Table 2.

Table - 2 : Distribution of respondents according to their economic performance

n=240

Sr. No.	Category	Category of banana growers							
		Marginal (n =80)		Small (n =80)		Medium (n =80)		Pooled	
		No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent
1	Low (upto 177 score)	24	30.00	16	20.00	13	16.25	53	22.08
2	Medium (178 to 244)	55	68.75	51	63.75	56	70.00	162	67.50
3	High (above 244)	01	1.25	13	16.25	11	13.75	25	10.42
Total		80	100.00	80	100.00	80	100	240	100.00
Mean		202.05		213.41		217.21		210.69	
S.D.		28.16		37.71		31.83		33.18	
F- value		6.27*							

* Significant at 0.05 level of probability

A cursory look at the Table 2 revealed that approximately two third (68.75, 63.75 and 70.00 per cent) of marginal, small and medium banana growers had medium economic performance, respectively. While, nearly one-third (30.00 per cent) of marginal, one fifth (20.00 per cent) of small and 16.25 per cent of medium banana growers had low

economic performance. Negligible percent (1.25 per cent) of marginal, 16.25 per cent of small and 13.75 per cent of medium banana growers had high economic performance in banana cultivation. The calculated F-value was 6.27 which indicated significant difference among three categories of banana growers. This difference might be due to difference in education, cosmopolitaness, risk orientation, experience in banana cultivation, timely adoption, available resources and participation in training programme would have jointly influenced in variation among different categories.

CONCLUSION

More than two-third (72.50 and 70.00 per cent) of marginal and medium banana growers while, slightly more than three-fifth (61.25 per cent) of small banana growers had medium management efficiency. In general, It was found that nearly two-third (67.92 per cent) of the respondents had medium management efficiency. The calculated F-value was 4.53 which indicate significant difference among three categories of banana growers with respect to management efficiency. About two-third (68.75, 63.75 and 70.00 per cent) of marginal, small and medium banana growers had medium level of economic performance, respectively. In general, it

was about 67.50 per cent of the banana growers had medium level of economic performance. The calculated F-value was 6.27 which indicate significant difference among three categories of banana growers.

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