

CONSTRAINTS FACED BY THE MANGO GROWERS IN ADOPTION OF GOOD AGRICULTURE PRACTICES OF MANGO CROP

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ABSTRACT

Current study was conducted in Navsari district of south Gujarat to know constraints faced by and suggestion in adoption of good agricultural practices in mango cultivation. Majority of mango growers faced constraint complicated, lengthy and costly certification process, as first ranked position, followed by Lack of marketing facilities, Increase in cost of production good agricultural practices, Lack of awareness of good agricultural practices programme, Lack of knowledge of good agricultural practices, Lack of market knowledge were ranked second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth position, respectively. Valuable suggestions given by mango growers Creation of awareness among the producers about the advantages and standardization of good agricultural practices as first rank followed by Simplification of and easily approachable certification process, Reducing the cost of certification, Providing subsidies and financial support, Providing support for export marketing facility were ranked second, third, fourth and fifth position, respectively.

Keywords: constraints, suggestions, good agricultural practices, mango growers

INTRODUCTION

The modern agriculture has been successful in meeting the increased food needs of growing population. But, the problem associated with modern agriculture like, the high cost of inorganic chemical fertilizers and plant protection chemicals, stagnated yield levels in the recent years and the mounting health and environmental hazards have forced many farmers and scientists to focus attention on ecologically sound, viable and sustainable farming.

Quality Council of India (QCI) launched Good Agricultural Practices for India – INDGAP. Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), economically, socially, and environmentally responsible methods and technologies for the raising and marketing of agricultural and horticultural products. Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), as defined by FAO, are a “Collection of principles to apply for on-farm production and post-production processes, resulting in safe and healthy food and non-food agricultural products, while taking into account economic, social and environmental sustainability. Good agriculture practices aim to deliver to the consumer healthy and safe high-quality food and nonfood products in manner that permits sustainable yields and ensures the livelihoods of producers and processors while protecting or enhancing the

environment. If farmers opt for hygiene and food safety in their production system through Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), they will enjoy access to guaranteed new markets, have reliable quality inputs, will increase farm value and increase farmer’s skill in farming operations in domestic as well as in the global markets.

OBJECTIVES

- (a) To identify the constraints perceived and to seek suggestions to develop extension strategies
- (b) To suggest strategies to popularize and enhance the adoption of Good Agriculture Practices by mango growers

METHODOLOGY

Ex-post-facto research design will be used in the present investigation at the first stage, out of six taluka of Navsari district four taluka having highest area under mango crop will be selected purposively. Then, taluka wise separate lists of mango growing villages along with number of commercial mango growers will be prepared. From each list, four villages having highest commercial mango growers will be chosen to draw the study sample. After selection of

villages, village wise list of commercial mango growers will be primed and then, sample of 100 commercial mango growers will be drawn using proportionate random sampling.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Constraints perceived by the mango growers in adoption of GAPs

It is observed from Table 1 that among the constraints faced by the respondents in adoption of good management practices in mango cultivation, complicated, lengthy and costly certification process occupied first rank followed by good agricultural practices second rank, increase in cost of

production good agricultural practices third rank, lack of awareness of good agricultural practices programme fourth rank, lack of knowledge of good agricultural practices fifth rank and lack of market knowledge sixth rank, respectively. Less important constraints faced by the farmers were: lack of local market demand occupied seventh rank, followed by decline in crop productivity, decline in income during conversion of conventional farming to good agricultural practices, increased labour and management requirements, decline in income during conversion of conventional farming to good agricultural practices and inadequate physical facilities in market occupied eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth rank, in that order.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents based on constraints perceived by them in adoption of good agricultural practices of mango crop n = 100

Sr. No.	Constraints	No.	Percent	Rank
1	Lack of awareness of good agricultural practices programme	69	69.00	IV
2	Increase in cost of production good agricultural practices	76	76.00	III
3	Lack of market knowledge	67	67.00	VI
4	Lack of knowledge of good agricultural practices	68	68.00	V
5	Lack of marketing facilities	78	78.00	II
6	Certification process too complicated, lengthy and costly	85	85.00	I
7	Increased labour and management requirements	48	48.00	X
8	Inadequate physical facilities in market	28	28.00	XII
9	Decline in income during conversion of conventional farming to good agricultural practices	49	49.00	IX
10	Lack of technical guidance	45	45.00	XI
11	Decline in crop productivity	58	58.00	VIII
12	Lack of local market demand	60	60.00	VII

Suggestions made by the mango growers to overcome constraints in adoption of good agriculture practices of mango crop

Table 2 : Distribution of the respondents according to their suggestions to overcome the constraints in adoption of good agricultural practices in mango cultivation n=100

Sr. No.	Suggestions	No.	Percent	Rank
1	Creation of awareness among the producers about the advantages and standardization of good agricultural practices	88	88.00	I
2	Price incentives for good agricultural practiced produce	52	52.00	X
3	Popularization of GAP produces in local consumers by government	57	57.00	VII
4	Simplification of and easily approachable certification process	84	84.00	II
5	Strengthening information support through transfer of technology from the concerned department	59	59.00	VI
6	Fixation of minimum support price for organic produce	43	43.00	XI
7	Supply of input permissible for good agricultural practices at subsidized rates	40	40.00	XII
8	Reducing the cost of certification	72	72.00	III

Sr. No.	Suggestions	No.	Percent	Rank
9	Providing subsidies and financial support	64	64.00	IV
10	Improving infrastructural facilities like cold storage and transportation	32	32.00	XIII
11	Establishment separate market facility for domestic marketing of good agricultural practiced produces	54	54.00	IX
12	Providing support for export marketing facility	62	62.00	V
13.	Providing training and consultancy on management good agricultural practices	56	56.00	VIII

The data presented in the Table 2 revealed that suggestions viz; Creation of awareness among the producers about the advantages and standardization of good agricultural practices occupied first rank, followed by Simplification and easily approachable certification process , Reducing the cost of certification , Providing subsidies and financial support, Providing support for export marketing facility, Strengthening information support through transfer of technology from the concerned department, Popularization of GAP produces among local consumers by government, Providing training and consultancy on management good agricultural practices, Establishment separate market facility for domestic marketing of good agricultural practiced produces and Price incentives for good agricultural practiced produce occupied second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth rank, in that order. Less important suggestions offered by the respondents were; Fixation of minimum support price for organic produce, Supply of input permissible for good agricultural practices at subsidized rates and Improving infrastructural facilities like cold storage and transportation occupied eleventh, twelfth and thirtieth rank, respectively.

CONCLUSION

It can be conclude that majority of farmer faced constraints complicated, lengthy and costly certification process, as first ranked position, followed by Lack of marketing facilities, Increase in cost of production good agricultural practices, Lack of awareness of good agricultural practices

programme, Lack of knowledge of good agricultural practices, Lack of market knowledge were ranked second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth position, respectively. Valuable suggestions given by mango growers Creation of awareness among the producers about the advantages and standardization of good agricultural practices as first rank followed by Simplification of and easily approachable certification process, Reducing the cost of certification, Providing subsidies and financial support, Providing support for export marketing facility were ranked second, third, fourth and fifth position, respectively

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Received : September 2017 : Accepted : November 2017