

A Study on Cotton Cultivation and Marketing Problems in Trichy District

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ABSTRACT

The commercial crops are the main source of income for maximum farmers of the country one of the important crop is Cotton, which is also known as 'white gold', dominates India's cash crops, and makes up 65 per cent of the raw material requirements of the Indian textile industry. China is the largest producer of cotton in the world, whereas India is only the third largest. Interestingly, China today with only half the area under cotton production as compared to India, produces one and-a-half times more cotton, has one-and-a-half times the world market share and three times the yield. Cotton accounts for 40% of the total global fibre production and is the most important fibre in the world. India is a major player with world cotton market in terms of area and production. India is now the second largest cotton producer, consumer and exporter in the world. Cotton covers around 7% of the total crop coverage and is second to rice in India. Cotton textile is one of the largest industries in India. It provides livelihood of 60 million people depend on cotton cultivation, processing trade and textiles. Textile industry contributes 4% of GDP, 14% of total industrial product, 20% of total work force, 17% of country's exports earning and employment to 30 million people. Therefore, this paper attempt to the cotton cultivation and Marketing problems in, Trichy District

1. INTRODUCTION

Cotton is one of the most important commercial cash crops in India and plays a dominant role in the industrial and agricultural economy of the country. India is one of the major producers of cotton in the world with the largest acreage, almost one-fourth of the world's area. The production share is, however, only 13.5% ranking third after China and USA. India is an agrarian economy with 70% of its population living in villages with agriculture as the main source of livelihood. Agriculture accounts for 22% of the GDP and provides direct investment employment to 58% of the country's population. Cotton crop is one of the principal crops in India and enjoys pride of place and unique position in our country. It is largely cultivated in rain fed conditions and 74% of the area in our country is dependent on rainfall, while the remaining areas have access to supplementary irrigation.

2. REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

Vishwanath (1986) has study that Marketing of cotton in Karnataka: some reflections on prices and policies pointed out that there were wide spread differences in the cotton of market arrivals of unsigned cotton and ginned cotton in Karnataka. It was found that the arrivals of unginned cotton were at its peak during March-April (140.97)Percent this was 145.95 percent higher than the normal in case of ginned cotton. It was 193.04 percent higher that the normal in April around Raichur market the pattern of market arrivals is more evenly spread out in the case of ginned cotton compared to unginned cotton.

Vastrad (1996) examine that Marketing of cotton in Tungabhadra ayacut area alleged that there has been a proper understanding and built in adjustment among the marketing agencies purchasers and the authority of the market committees regarding price tender and grading which affect the producer seller adversely. Thus it is felt that the regulatory measures legally enforced by the market committee alone cannot protect the interest of the farmers as the human element is involved in the implementation of these measures.

Kallur and Vastrad (2002) In their study on working of the regulated markets with particulars reference to cotton market township reveals that the agricultural produce market committee Raichur with all its efforts unable to reduce the fraudulent practices of the agencies operating in the market. Lack of storage and transportation facilities is another major problem of the farmers of the area.

3. OBJECTIVES

- To study the Socio- Economic Conditions of Sample Cultivators in the Study area.
- To analyze the Cotton Cultivation and Marketing Problems in the study area.

4. METHODOLOGY

This study is based on primary data which have been collected from farmer's households by using interview schedule method. About 120 Farmer's households are interviewed for the study.

Present study is list of village's cotton cultivation from the Taluk offices at Manachanallur, A total of 6 villages were selected the random sample methods. The collected data were, analyzed with help of table percentages, average and Rank correlation was used.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SAMPLE

SL. NO.	NAME OF THE VILLAGE	NUMBER OF FARMERS
1.	Sridev imangalam	20
2.	Perakambi	20
3.	Sanamangalam	20
4.	Siruganur	20
5.	Valaiyur	20
6.	Thiruppattur	20
Total		120

TABLE NO 1

SOCIO- ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF SAMPLE C ULTIVATORS

SL. NO	CHARACTERISTICS	NO.RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Age of the respondents		
	I. <30 years	112	93.33
	II 30-40 years	4	3.33
	III. 40 and above	4	3.33
		120	100%
2	Community		
	I. Most Backward Community	58	48.3
	II. Backward Community	44	36.7
	III. Schedule Caste	18	15.0
		120	100%
3	Occupation		
	i. Agriculture main Occupation	95	79.2
	ii. Agriculture subsidiary Occupation	25	20.8
		120	100%
4	Land holding		
	I. Irrigated	20	16.6
	II. Dry land	100	83.3
		120	100%
5	Type of family		
	I. Nuclear family	80	66.6
	II. Joint family	40	33.4
		120	100%
6	Educational Status		
	I. Illiterate	22	18.3
	II. Primary	35	29.2
	III. Upper Primary	50	41.7
	IV. HSC	9	7.5
	V. Graduate	4	3.3
		120	100%
7	Income per month		
	I. Up to 1000	58	48.3
	II. 1000 to 2000	44	36.7
	III. 2000 to 3000	18	15.0
	Total	120	100%

Source: Primary data computed

TABLE NO 2

It is shows the table -1 that the Socio- Economic conditions of sample cultivators. Out of the 120 respondents are taken. 93.3 per cent of respondents are belonging to below 30 years age group of cultivator. 3.3 per cent of respondents are belonging to 30-40 years age group. 48.3 per cent of respondents are most backward community. Moreover, 15.0 per cent of respondents are Schedule Caste community. 79.23 per cent of respondents are Agriculture main occupation. 20.8 per cent of respondents are agriculture subsidiary Occupation. Therefore, 83.4 per cent of respondents are Nuclear family. 41.7 per cent of respondents are Upper Primary education. 29.2 per cent of respondents are Primary education. 18.2 per cent of respondents are illiterates. 7.5 per cent of respondents are higher secondary education. 3.3 per cent of respondents are

graduates. Therefore, 48.3 per cent of respondents are income group of up to 1000 and 36.7 per cent of respondents are income group in 1000-2000.

COTTON CULTIVATION AND MARKETING PROBLEMS OF RESPONDENTS

SL. NO	PROBLEMS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE	RANK
1.	Loss of weight	25	20.83	I
2.	Wastage during handling	17	14.16	III
3.	Transport arrangements	20	16.66	II
4.	Supply of packing Materials	14	11.66	IV
5.	Storage facility	9	7.05	VI
6.	Pledge loan facility	12	10.00	V
7.	Immediate payments	6	5.00	VIII
8.	Away Market information	4	3.33	IX
9.	Improper fumigation service	7	5.83	VII
10.	Damage by rats	2	1.66	X
11.	Wet due to rain	2	1.66	X
12.	Poor maintenance	2	1.66	X

Source: Primary data computed

TABLE NO 3

5. FINDINGS AND SUGGESTIONS

- The majority of the respondents are most backward community in the study area.
- 4. 93.3 per cent of respondents are belonging to below 30 years age group of cultivator.
- 79.23 per cent of respondents are Agriculture main occupation.
- 83.4 per cent of respondents are Nuclear family.
- 41.7 per cent of respondents are Upper Primary education.
- 48.3 per cent of respondents are income group of up to 1000.
- The most serious problem (Rank I) faced by 20.83 percent of the respondents was loss of weight.
- The second most (Rank II) impinging problem reported by 14.16 percent respondents was Transport arrangements.
- 9. The third ranked problem was Wastage during handling in expressed by 14.16.
- The marketing problems perceived at rank IX, VII, and X, markets are far away, Away Market information, improper fumigation service, Damage by rats, revealed by 5.00, 3.33, and 6.66 percent of the respondents respectively.
- There is need to introduce direct market system more effectively.
- It is noticed that the prices prevailing in the cotton markets are highly fluctuating which affects the margin of the farmers. In order to avoid this situation, a steady demand for the cotton has to be identified by expanding the global market for cotton which would boost the sales volume as well as the price in the local market.
- If the cotton is stored for more than three months in the godowns then the fumigation process is essentially needed. The fumigation process should take place within a time schedule and it has to maintain proper records about fumigation services.

- The government could come forward to extend the credit facilities to the farmers in accordance with their requirements even by accepting the pledging of their future cultivation and production of cotton.
- Creating awareness about BT cotton production and Production should be increased by using bio-fertilizers,
- Irrigations facilities should be increased and minimum support price for the produce.

6. CONCLUSION

Cotton production and marketing provides income to the farmers as well as income to the country, textile industries development largely depended on cotton production.

7. REFERENCES

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