



Production Constraints in Groundnut Crop in Kadapa District of Andhra Pradesh

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ABSTRACT

The study was to find out the root causes of drastically declining the area under groundnut crop in Kadapa District of Andhra Pradesh. Results revealed that most of the groundnut farmers were marginal and small who expressed their options ranked in the following manner. The rank I was less remunerative prices for the produce (93%) followed by high cost of cultivation (91.67%) ranked II, uncertainty weather conditions (rainfall)(90%) ranked III, labour scarcity at crucial operations (sowing, weeding & harvesting) (85%) ranked IV facing difficulty in controlling the damage caused by the wild boars in their field (83.33%) ranked V, high wages of labour (80%) ranked VI, damage caused by monkeys (75%) ranked VII, root rot disease (73.33%) ranked VIII, low yields & high seed cost (70%) ranked IX, virus diseases (50%) ranked X, untimely availability of seed (38.33%) ranked XI, red hairy caterpillar damage (33.33%) ranked XII, insufficient groundnut water (25%) ranked XIII, and high weed problem (16.67%) ranked XIV. For the above reasons most the farmers were not able to grow groundnut crop in the district.

Key Words: Groundnut, Area, Production, Productivity, Constraints and Suggestions

INTRODUCTION

Groundnut (*Arachis hypogaea* L.) is one of the most important food and oilseed crops cultivated and consumed in most parts of the world. It is widely accepted as an excellent source of nutrition to both human and animals due to its high protein content. Groundnut is grown on nearly 23.95 Mha worldwide with the total production of 36.45 Mt with an average yield of 1520 kg/ha). Groundnut is grown mostly in five states namely, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Maharashtra, and together they account for about 90 per cent of the crop's total area. In Andhra Pradesh, it is mainly cultivated in Rayalaseema districts viz., Anantapur, Kadapa, Kurnool and Chittoor districts followed by Telangana and coastal districts. The study was undertaken in Kadapa district purposively because the area under groundnut crop was drastically reduced. In order to find out the reasons for decreasing area under groundnut crop this study was undertaken with the objective to study socio

economic characteristics of the farmers and find out the reasons for not cultivating groundnut crop.

MATERIALS AND METHOD

Ex-post facto research design was used for the study. The study was done in Kadapa district of Andhra Pradesh purposively. Six mandals of YSR district were selected purposively namely C K Dinne, Kadapa, Vempalle, Ramapuram, Chinnamandem and Chennur. From each mandal one village was selected namely Apparajupalli, Ramrajualli, Alireddypalli, Sarasswathipalli, Devagudipalli and Nazirbepalli. From each village 10 farmers were selected constituting a sample size of 60 farmers. Secondary data were collected from the online sources. The primary data were selected by using a well-structured interview schedule. The collected data were tabulated in excel and used statistics tools such as frequency, percentage for analysis and interpreted the results.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

It was found (Fig 1) that the area under groundnut crop was drastically decreased for the past 5 years in Kadapa district of Andhra Pradesh. Hence, the study was undertaken in Kadapa district in order to find out the reasons for not cultivating the groundnut crop by the farmers. We can infer that as the area was decreased automatically production as well as productivity was also decreased.

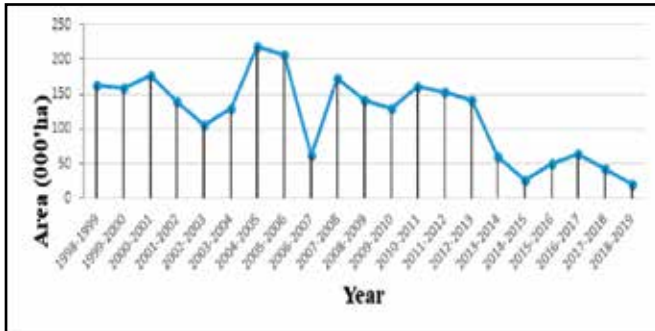


Fig:1 Area of groundnut crop in Kadapa district of Andhra Pradesh



Fig:2 Production of Groundnut crop in Kadapa district of the Andhra Pradesh

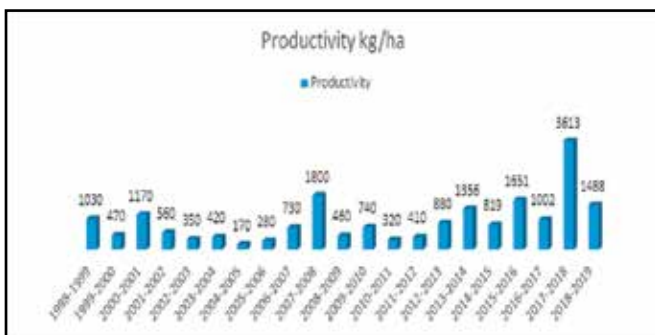


Fig 3. Productivity of Groundnut crop in Kadapa district of Andhra Pradesh

Source: Agricultural statistics at a glance for the year 2018-19

Source: Directorate of economics

The data (Table 1) showed that the majority of groundnut cultivators (61.67%) came from the middle age category after which came the young (20%) and the old (18.33%). Further, the majority (50%) of the respondents were illiterate followed by primary, middle, high school of education with same percentage (11.67%), functionally literate (8.33%), and middle school (6.67%). The majority (75%) of the groundnut farmers were under Open category followed by backward caste (20%), schedule caste (3.33%) and schedule tribes (1.67%). It was also revealed that that 38.33 per cent of the groundnut farmers having low level of farming experience followed by 36.67 per cent with high level farming experience and 25 per cent of groundnut farmers having medium level of farming experience.

An over view of the table 1 indicated that 61.67 per cent of the groundnut farmers had low level of annual income followed by medium and high 25 and 13.33 per cent, respectively. Majority (43.33%) of groundnut farmers belonged to marginal land holdings followed by small (36.67%), medium (10%), semi-medium (8.33%), and large farmers (1.67%). Likewise, the majority of groundnut farmers (35%) were getting information from neighbors, followed by relatives (31.67%), scientist (15%), AEO (8.33%), AO (6.67%) and ADA (3.33%). It could be comprehended that a majority of the groundnut farmers were having small family size (58.33%) and large family size (41.67). Data furnished in table 2 indicated that majority of the groundnut farmers were having nuclear type of family followed by joint family (33.33%). The results revealed that 88.33 per cent of the groundnut farmers were not having membership and 11.67 per cent of the groundnut farmers were having membership.

It was evident (Table 2) that the most of the groundnut farmers expressed less remunerative prices for their produce (93%) ranked I followed by high cost of cultivation (91.67%) ranked II, uncertainty weather conditions (rainfall) (90%) ranked III, labour scarcity at crucial operations

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Table 1. Socio Economic Characteristics of the Groundnut Farmers.

The respondents were distributed different categories based on their selected profile characteristics and were presented in the following tables and interpreted through frequencies, mean and percentage.

Sr. No.	Variable	Category	Respondent	
			F	P
1	Age	Young (<41 yr)	12	20
		Middle (42- 62 yr)	37	61.67
		Old (>63 yr)	11	18.33
2	Education	No schooling/illiterate	30	50.00
		Functionally literate	5	8.33
		Primary school	7	11.67
		Middle school	4	6.67
		High school	7	11.67
		College education	7	11.67
3	Caste	Schedule caste	2	3.33
		Schedule tribe	1	1.67
		Backward caste	12	20.00
		Open category	45	75.00
4	Farming Experience	Low (<18 yr)	23	38.33
		Medium (19-40 yr)	15	25.00
		High (>41 yr)	22	36.67
5	Annual Income (Rs)	Low (<50000)	37	61.67
		Medium (50001-200000)	15	25.00
		High (>200000)	8	13.33
6	Land Holdings (ha)	Marginal – less than 1	26	43.33
		Small – 1-2 ha	22	36.67
		Semi-medium – 2-4 ha	5	8.33
		Medium – 4-10 ha	6	10.00
		Large – 10 ha and above	1	1.67
7	Source of information	AEO	5	8.33
		AO	4	6.67
		ADA	2	3.33
		Scientist	9	15.00
		Input dealers	21	35.00
		Relatives	19	31.67
8	Family size	Small (up to 5)	35	58.33
		Large (>5)	25	41.67
9	Family type	Nuclear	40	66.67
		Joint	20	33.33

10	Social participation	No membership	53	88.33
		Membership	7	11.67
11	Extension contact	Low	28	46.67
		Medium	18	30.00
		High	14	23.33

(sowing, weeding & harvesting) (85%) ranked IV facing difficulty in controlling the damage caused by the wild boars in their field (83.33%) ranked V, high wages of labour (80%) ranked VI, damage caused by monkeys (75%) ranked VII, root rot disease (73.33%) ranked VIII, low yields & high seed cost (70%) ranked IX, virus diseases (50%) ranked X, untimely availability of seed (38.33%) ranked XI, red hairy caterpillar damage is more (33.33%) ranked XII, insufficient groundnut water (25%) ranked XIII, and high weed problem (16.67%) ranked XIV. Because of the above reasons most the farmers are not able to grow groundnut crop in the district. These findings were in agreement to those reported by Raviya *et al* (2016) and Shinde *et al* (2009).

CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that the most important problems as expressed by most of the respondents were less remunerative prices for the produce, high cost of cultivation, uncertainty in weather condition especially rainfall and high labour scarcity at crucial operations like sowing, weeding and harvesting. The most important suggestions offered by the groundnut growers to overcome the constraints for cultivating the crop were remunerative price should be given to groundnut growers, market facilities should be strengthened), drought tolerant varieties should be developed, sufficient labour should be made available.

Table 2. Reasons of the respondents for not cultivating groundnut crop in Kadapa district

Sr. No.	Reason	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
1	Less remunerative prices for their produce	56	93.33	I
2	High cost of cultivation	55	91.67	II
3	Uncertainty weather conditions (rainfall)	54	90	III
4	Labour scarcity at crucial operations (sowing, weeding & harvesting)	51	85	IV
5	Damage caused by the wild boars	50	83.33	V
6	High wages of labour	48	80	VI
7	Damage caused by monkeys	45	75	VII
8	Root rot disease	44	73.33	VIII
9	Low yields & high seed cost	42	70	IX
10	Virus diseases	30	50	X
11	Untimely availability of seed	31	38.33	XI
12	Red hairy caterpillar damage	20	33.33	XII
13	Insufficient groundnut water	15	25	XIII
14	High weed problem	10	16.67	XIV

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