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Constraints and suggestions of banana growers in drip and flood irrigated systems

V.V. LANDGE, B.R.PAWAR, P.P.YEWARE AND D.S.DESHMUKH

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :
P.P. YEWARE
Department of Agricultural Economics and Statistics, College of Agriculture, PARBHANI (M.S.) INDIA

ABSTRACT

Investigation was carried out during the year 2007-08. From six villages of Ardhapur tehsil of Nanded district, forty eight drip irrigated and fourty eight flood irrigated banana growers were randomly selected for the study. Cross sectional data were collected from the banana growers with the help of pretested schedule by personal interview method. The frequency and percentage method was used to analyse the data. The results revealed that banana growers faced many problems like regular load shading of electricity for too long interval in day time that was expressed by 93.78 per cent and 89.58 per cent of drip and flood irrigated banana growers, respectively. Non-availability of labours for harvesting in time was next major problem which was expressed by 79.17 per cent and 72.92 per cent of drip and flood irrigated banana growers, respectively. To overcome these constraints it was observed that supply of electricity that was suggested by 87.50 per cent and 83.33 per cent of drip and flood irrigated banana growers, respectively.

Key words : Banana, Constraints, Frequency, Suggestions, Rank

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INTRODUCTION

Banana (*Musa paradisica* L.) is one of the most important fruit crops in the world. South-East Asian countries especially eastern Malaysia is believed to be the centre of origin of banana. India is the largest producer of banana in the world.

In India, banana is popularly known as *Kalptaru* (a plant with virtue). It is tree that all parts can be used in consumption owing to its rich and easily digestible carbohydrates. Its leaves are universally used for serving meals in south, chopped banana stems are used as cattle feed, some species of the banana yield fibre.

There are individual state problems for low production but on an overall assessment, some are the major areas under the crop planted with low yielding varieties such type of constraints faced by banana growers can be occurred due to non-availability of fertilizers in time, regular load shading of electricity for too long an interval in long time and so on. There is necessity to overcome these constraints therefore, it has to take the suggestions to overcome the constraints by the farmers. Keeping in view the above aspects, the present study has been undertaken.

METHODOLOGY

Nanded district was purposively selected for present study because of favourable climate to grow banana. From the district Ardhapur tehsil was selected on the basis of the highest area under banana crop. From Ardhapur tehsil eight villages were selected on the basis of highest area under banana crop. From each village, separate list of drip and flood irrigated banana growers were obtained. From the lists, 6 drip irrigated banana growers and 6 flood irrigated banana growers were randomly selected from each of the villages. Thus, from eight villages, 48 drip irrigated and 48 flood irrigated banana growers were selected for the present study. Cross sectional data were collected from the sample farmers by personal interview method with the help of pretested schedule. Data were related to the problems and suggestions of banana growers for the year 2007-08. Frequency and percentage method were used to analyse the data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings of the present study as well as relevant discussion have been presented in Table 1 and 2.

Constraints faced by drip and flood irrigated banana growers:

Constraints faced by drip irrigated and flood irrigated banana growers were calculated in frequency and percentage form and are presented in Table 1. The results revealed that regular load shading of electricity for too long