



**RESEARCH ARTICLE :**

## An economic analysis of post harvest losses in tomato of Akola district in Vidharbha region

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**ARTICLE CHRONICLE :**

**Received :**

17.04.2020;

**Revised:**

01.06.2020;

**Accepted :**

02.07.2020

**KEY WORDS:**

Economic analysis,  
Post harvest losses,  
Tomato

**SUMMARY :** Outputs of all agricultural commodities produced in the field have to undergo a series of operations such as threshing, transportation, processing and storage and exchange before they reach the consumer and there are appreciable losses of outputs during these stages of their handling. This is most uncertain to get expected returns. Moreover, vegetables are more perishable than food grains. Hence, post-harvest losses are quite often, at different marketing levels than food grains. The present study was undertaken to find out the post-harvest losses of selected vegetable in Akola district for the year 2017-18. The data of 90 tomato growers were purposely collected from randomly located villages of the district. Simple tabular analysis was carried out to accomplish the objectives. This study revealed that per hectare cost of cultivation of tomato was Rs.101804.29 whereas per hectare the net return was Rs.73253.37 The input output ratio at Cost  $C_2$  in production of tomato is 1.72. The per hectare post-harvest losses at the farm level was estimated to be 16.49 quintal in tomato. The corresponding economic loss was 16645.20 Rs./ha. It is suggested that to prevent from the losses the farmers should be aware through training on standardization and grading, handling, proper packing and providing storage facilities and quick transportation to prevent the economic losses.

**How to cite this article :** Khobarkar, V.K., Dangore, U.T. and Vaidkar, R.D. (2020). An economic analysis of post harvest losses in tomato of Akola district in Vidharbha region. *Agric. Update*, 15(3): 141-151; DOI : 10.15740/HAS/AU/15.3/141-151. Copyright@ 2020: Hind Agri-Horticultural Society.

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