

Economics of Important Horticultural Crops

Papaya : Cost of production was Rs 3.38/kg while price realised was Rs 10.30/kg. The net return was Rs 5, 75, 830/ha while BC ratio was 2.55.

Gherkin: Total cost of cultivation was Rs 1,62,243/ha. and > 50 %of the cost was mainly constituted by the human labour input, followed by the fertilizer cost.

Banana: Yield was higher in tissue culture banana (TCB) (73.2 t/ha) than sucker cultivated banana SUB (65.8 t/ha). The gross return realized in TCB was Rs 730352/ha as against Rs 643460/ha in SUB. Net return in TCB was Rs 5.61 lakh /ha compared to Rs 5.02 lakh/ha in SUB. The average benefit cost ratio for banana cultivation was 4.4.

Ridge gourd : Economics of pest management in ridge gourd indicated that total cost of cultivation was Rs 1,31,397/ha and cost of production (COP) was Rs 3.93/kg. Net return was Rs Rs 2,37,456/ha while BCR was 1.81. IPM farms were most efficient in production with COP of Rs 2.29/kg compared to about Rs 2.55/ kg. The other economic parameters i.e, net returns over the different costs and BC ratio are also found higher in IPM farms.

Pomegranate: Factor analysis revealed that N (kg/ha), P (kg/ha), K (kg/ha), growth regulators (Rs/ha) and pesticide (Rs/ha), accounting for nearly 32 % of variance suggesting that these factors are extremely important in production in getting higher returns. Labour input, and irrigation emerged as second most important set of variables influence the production of pomegranate cultivation (18% variation).

Tomato: Summer cultivation requires about RS 3.72 lakhs/ha of expenditure with cost of production of Rs Rs 8.20/kg. Farmers realized net return of Rs 6.85 lakhs/ha with the BC ratio of 2.86. Farmers who had planted tomato during May first fortnight realized highest net return (Rs 8.18 lakhs/ha) due to the higher market price. TE reveals that there is still scope to reduce cost by an extent of 24 % and still attains same level of output. PAM analysis indicated that tomato has competitive edge for production and exports in the international market.

Hybrid tomato seed production: Average yield (seed) realised by farmers was 9.5 kg/0.25 ac and cost of cultivation amounted to Rs 44256/0.25 ac. Actual cost incurred by farmers was only Rs 21,011 suggesting that paid-cost was , 50 %. Net return realised over total cost was Rs 24, 128/0.25 ac and same over actual paid-cost was Rs 47,362/0.25 ac.