

Original Research Article

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Constraints in the Production and Marketing of Maize in Karimnagar District of Telangana, India

M. Krishna*, K.V. Deshmukh, R.V. Chavan and Ritesh Arvind Chand

Department of Agricultural Economics, VNMKV, Parbhani, Maharashtra, India

*Corresponding author

ABSTRACT

Keywords

Maize (*Zea mays* L.), Production and Marketing, Grain

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The present study was undertaken to examine constraints in the production and marketing of maize in Karimnagar district of Telangana, India. A representative sample of 120 maize growers were drawn from the study area by using multi-stage random sampling technique on the basis of concentration of area under maize. The findings of the study revealed that the sample farmers were suffered from crop damages by wild animals and birds, non-availability of labour, high wages of labour. High cost of inputs was also serious constraint which was faced by 58.33 per cent maize growers. More specifically non-availability of credit, poor marketing facilities, lack of storage facilities, non-availability of seed suitable to the local needs, late sowing of crop, high weed infestation etc. In the next order Abnormal weather condition was one of the major problems which were expressed by 50 per cent maize growers. Another constraint was low price for grain was expressed by 35 per cent maize growers.

Introduction

Maize (*Zea mays* L.) is widely cultivated throughout the world, and a greater weight of maize is produced each year than any other grain. Globally, maize is cultivated on 160 Mha in more than 150 countries. The total production of maize in the world is 875 Mt, with a yield of 5.6 tonnes/ha in 2012. In India it is next only to rice and wheat with an area of 8.71Mha and production of 22.23 Mt. Improving maize production is considered to be one of the most important strategies for food security in India. Maize is also used as fodder for the cattle. The attributes that are considered for study determine the constraints faced by maize growers in production and

marketing of maize. The objective of this study to identify constraints in production and marketing of maize in Karimnagar district of Telangana, India.

Materials and Methods

Multistage sampling was adopted for selection of Districts, Mandals and Villages. In first stage Karimnagar district was selected purposively because of large area under maize crop. In second stage Bheemadevarapally and Elkhathurthi mandals were selected. In third stage 10 villages were selected randomly. Five villages from each mandal were selected. Thus ten villages from two mandals were selected randomly. In fourth stage twelve farmers from

each village were selected. Thus for present study the sample size were 120 maize cultivators. Respondents were interviewed through personal interview. Prior to interview, respondents were taken in to confidence by revealing the actual purpose of study and full care was taken in to consideration to develop good rapport with them. For data collection well designed and pre-tested interview scheduled were used. Collected data were analyzed by the help of various statistical tools i.e. frequency, percentage, mean and standard deviation.

Results and Discussion

Multiple responses taken to ascertain the constraints faced by the maize growers in production and marketing of maize. Various

constraints are presented in Table 1 Maximum number of respondents were reported that damaging crop by wild animals and birds 84.22 per cent, In the next order non availability of labour 76.66 per cent, high wages of labour 70.83 per cent. High cost of inputs was also serious constraint which was faced by 58.33 per cent maize growers. In the next order Abnormal weather condition was one of the major problems which was expressed by 50 per cent maize growers. Another constraint was low price for grain was expressed by 35 per cent maize growers they need minimum support price for output. Another constraint was high weed infestation which was expressed by 29.16 per cent of maize and 22.5 per cent maize growers were facing constraint of timely unavailability of inputs.

Table.1 Constraints faced by maize growers (n=120)

Sr. No	Particular	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
1	Non availability of labour	92	76.66	II
2	Damaging crop by wild animals	98	84.22	I
3	Timely unavailability of inputs	27	22.5	VIII
4	High cost of inputs	70	58.33	IV
5	Low price for maize	42	35.00	VI
6	High weed infestation	35	29.16	VII
7	Abnormal weather conditions	60	50.00	V
8	High rates of labour	85	70.83	III

Table.2 Suggestion made by maize growers in production and marketing of maize (n=120)

Sr. No	Particular	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
1	Remunerative prices to crop	94	78.33	I
2	Subsidy on solar fencing	82	68.33	II
3	Timely supply of inputs	45	38.12	V
4	Timely availability of loan	60	50.00	IV
5	Mechanization in maize	30	25.00	VII
6	Develop high yielding varieties	38	31.66	VI
7	Reasonable input costs	77	64.16	III

Suggestions opined by maize growers to overcome the problems were calculated and presented in Table 2 Better remunerative to

crop in maize production was suggested by 78.33 per cent maize growers and 68.33 per cent maize growers suggested subsidy on

solar fencing to construct solar fence around the crop boundaries. To minimize the expenditure in maize production 64.16 maize growers suggested availability of inputs with reasonable prices. 50 Percent maize growers suggested timely availability of loan. 38.12 per cent of maize growers suggested that timely supply of inputs. Develop high yield varieties suggested the 31.66 per cent of maize growers. 25 per cent of maize growers suggested the mechanization in maize.

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