Cost and Returns of Bengalgram in Prakasam District of Andhra Pradesh

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ABSTRACT

Bengalgram is the highest consumed pulse crop of India. It is widely appreciated as healthy food. It is a protein rich supplement to cereal based diets, especially to the poor in developing countries, where people are vegetarians or cannot afford animal protein. Three stage stratified random sampling procedure was adopted for the purpose of selection of primary sampling unit (i.e respondents). Simple tabular analysis was employed for estimating the costs, return, and cost concepts and the various farm income measures are used to assess the profitability of crop. The average total cost per hectare was Rs.50819.93 and increased with the farm size. Machine labour (Rs.8169.91) was the major cost component in Bengal gram production occupying on an average about 16.08 per cent of total cost. Both gross returns (Rs.60334.5) and net returns (Rs.4432.57) increased with the increase in farm size. The per hectare productivity ranged from 20.34 quintal on the Group I farm to 22.46 quintals on Group II farms with 21.17 quintals on pooled farms, the study revealed that productivity increased with the increase in farm size Cost of production per quintal decreased with increase in farm size. On an average cost of production per quintal was Rs.2400.56.

Key words : Bengalgram, Costs, Farm income, Farm size, Returns