

A STUDY ON SOME ASPECT OF CARDAMOM IN TAMILNADU

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Abstract

Cardamom of commerce is the dry fruit often referred as the “Queen of Spices” because of its very pleasant aroma and taste. Cardamom is a perpetual plant. Based on the nature of panicle, three varieties are recognized viz. Malabar with prostrate panicle, Mysore with erect panicle, and Vazhukka with semi erect panicle. Plants are of medium size (2 to 3 mtr height) with youthful leaves (on the dorsal side) and fruits globes in the case of Malabar, whereas plant robust (3 to 4 mtr height) with leaves glabrous on both sides with ovoid capsules in the case of Mysore. Vazhukka variety is a mix of both the above in physical characteristics. Indian cardamom is offered to the international markets in different grades: 'Alleppey Green Extra Bold' (AGEB), 'Alleppey Green Bold' (AGB) and 'Alleppey Green Superior' (AGS) are names that register instant appeal worldwide. Cardamom oil is a precious ingredient in food preparations, perfumery, health foods medicines and beverages. India, a traditional exporter of cardamom to the Middle East countries where it goes mostly into the preparation of 'Gahwa' - a strong cardamom - coffee concoction without which no day is complete or no hospitality hearty for an Arab. Indian cardamom enjoys a premium preference in the Middle East, Japanese and Russians who relish it for its distinct enriching properties. Cultivation of cardamom is mostly concentrated in the ever green forests of Western Ghats in South India. Besides India, cardamom is grown as a commercial crop in Guatemala and on small scale in Tanzania, Sri Lanka, El Salvador, Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, Honduras, and Papua & New Guinea. The optimum altitudinal range on growing cardamom is 600 to 1500 mtr above MsL. The cardamom growing regions of South India lies within 8 - 30 degree N latitudes and 75-78 degree longitudes. Large Cardamom is a perennial herb with subterranean rhizomes and 50-140 aerial leafy shoots. Each shoot has height of 1.7 to 2.6 mtr and possess 9 to 13 leaves in each tiller. Leaves are glabrous on both sides with a prominent mid-rib. Inflorescence is a condensed spike with yellowish perianth. Each spike has 10-15 fruits. Fruit is round or oval shape, capsule with reddish brown colour. Each capsule is trilobular with many seeds.

Keywords: Aspect of cardamom Production and marketing.

Introduction

India is motherland for spices, the cardamom is queen of all spices in the world and India is largest planters of cardamom in the world. Cardamom is most planted largely in Western Ghats in karala, Tamilnadu and karanataka.

The cardamom plant had its origin in south India and the generic name of cardamom is 'ELETTARA'. 'ELETTARA' is a malayalam word literally means cardamom seeds. Generally, there are two type of cardamom is planted in India one is small cardamom which is botanically called as 'Elettaria Cardamomum Maton' and the another one is Large cardamom which is botanically called as 'Amomum Cardamomum Roxburg'

Statement of Problem

The globalisation of economy open new vistas for many agricultural products. Such as cardamom, pepper, tea and coffee.

When market for this products widely spread throughout the world, the production of which are confined to vary places.

There is no fixed mechanism for the controlling the prices of these products. Various factors influencing the price of these internationally consumed products and that is why the price fluctuates many a time to the disadvantage of the cultivators.

The cost of cultivation of such product in general at of cardamom in particular also varies from place to place depending on the methods of cultivation, variety of plant, availability of skilled labour force and so on. There is any thing to be earned through cardamom cultivation that would be possible only reduction in the cost of cultivation.

Agricultural marketing systems have an important role to play in predominantly agrarian economics.

In adequate market infrastructure and unproductive price are considered to hamper accelerated agricultural development.

The producers and consumers of Tamilnadu are often complaining of wide price fluctuations. The cardamom prices are reported often to be manipulated in the whole centre and retain points, against the interest of the producers, farmer and consumer. Therefore the production and marketing of cardamom in Tamilnadu deserves attention not only to understand the problems in marketing but also to identify specific strategies to improve the performance of the cardamom market.

Scope of the Study

This study confined to production and marketing of cardamom in Tamilnadu. The scope of the inestimable study by extends to the following related aspects viz. Socio-economic characters of the sample farmers, the problem faced by the farmers in cultivation and marketing of cardamom, find out the price spread at different marketing channels and identify the factors influencing the cultivators in choosing a marketing agency for disposal of their produce.

Present study may help the government and policy makers for taking necessary steps for the betterment of small cardamom growers.

Objectives of Study

The main objective of the study is marketing of cardamom in India. The other relevant objectives are:

- To study the socio-economic profile of the cardamom growers and marketers.
- To estimate the resource productivity and examine the resources-use efficiency in cardamom cultivation in the study area.
- To analysis the return on investment of cardamom plantations.
- To examine the existing channels of distribution of cardamom and to evaluate the marketing cost,, marketing channels in the study area.
- To identify the problems in marketing of cardamom and offer suitable suggestions and to suggest suitable solutions to solve them.

Sampling

Stratified random sampling technique is to be adopted to select the sample farmers and marketers.

Methodology

The present study is based on both secondary and primary data. The secondary data will be collected from the following some through the relevant publication

- Spices Board Cochin
- Ministry of commerce, Government of India, New Delhi.
- Indian counsel of agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi.
- Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, Government of India, New Delhi.
- Marketing Research Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi

Production of Cardamom During 2007-08 To 2012 -13

(Area in Hectare, production in Tons)

2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12		2012-13	
Area	Prod- uction	Area	Prod- uction	Area	Prod- uction	Area	Prod- uction	Area	Prod- uction	Area	Prod- uction
4561	835	4561	750	4561	725	4561	735	4560	1145	4560	956

Source: State Agri/Hort. Departments Cardamom: Estimate by Spices Board 2011-12 & 2012-13 :DASD, Calicut

Descriptive Statistics

	Mean	Std Deviation
Cultivation Area	4.5608	0.40825
Production	8.5761	165.51938
Total	3.1369	165.92763

Monthly Average Domestic Prices in Cardamom during The Year 2008-09 To 2013-14 Price Rs/Kg)

	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	AVG.
2008-09	154.59	149.75	149.84	146.00	148.28	146.88	144.00	147.75	142.34	149.35	144.82	144.60	147.35
2009-10	155.25	175.00	178.82	186.25	195.42	199.90	246.90	302.06	314.75	418.50	391.88	446.00	267.56
2010-11	483.00	546.50	766.54	757.50	667.50	668.75	694.00	836.00	1006.50	1091.25	1010.62	966.25	791.20
2011-12	1007.25	971.88	901.88	1024.00	994.06	942.19	889.00	855.94	705.50	748.75	775.94	748.50	880.41
2012-13	720.31	709.06	709.75	776.88	778.75	804.00	703.44	730.00	726.67	728.44	821.88	750.50	746.64
2013-14	862.19	925.00	983.25	940.93	945.50	805.63	845.63	946.50	1040.00				921.63

Cardamom market centre

Cochin, Thodupuzha-(Kerala); Saklashpur, Mercara, Medikeri, Mangalore-(Karnataka); Bombay-(Maharashtra); Virudhunagar, Cumbum, Bodinayakanur, Thevaram, Pattiveerampatti-(Tamil Nadu)

Cardamom Export

Country-wise Export of Cardamom from India during 2007-08 to 2011-12

Sl. No	Country	2007-08		2008-09		2009-10		2010-11		2011-12	
		Qty (M)	Value (Rs.Lak)	Qty (M)	Value (Rs.Lak)	Qty (M)	Value (Rs.Lak)	Qty (M)	Value (Rs.Lak)	Qty (M)	Value (Rs.Lak)
1	SAUDI ARABIA	330.95	1794.26	519.32	3331.01	1117.69	9409.51	723.50	8155.96	3097.51	23828.52
2	U.A.E	3.40	16.31	17.90	104.75	296.03	2519.69	61.61	641.73	555.49	4349.71
3	U.K	17.17	67.79	7.21	50.69	55.00	462.81	18.30	238.14	142.96	1008.34
4	PAKISTAN	0.40	3.46	0.35	1.39	29.64	268.98	32.82	288.34	136.65	962.42
5	KUWAIT	18.05	94.64	4.25	28.11	92.18	818.59	101.96	1109.60	116.62	910.67
6	MALAYSIA	29.33	102.35	27.58	134.84	45.55	304.09	20.79	229.06	78.16	664.21
7	OMAN	9.74	44.93	6.51	44.90	23.43	185.96	3.08	46.14	84.75	659.72
8	JAPAN	16.19	90.45	25.02	223.20	34.44	319.27	26.26	376.52	46.24	525.00
9	U.S.A	6.04	31.44	7.16	51.22	50.00	7 473.90	40.40	627.47	39.14	455.11
10	AUSTRALIA	0.17	0.97	11.31	63.65	32.25	222.67	15.85	185.24	35.95	383.69
11	QATAR	1.20	6.78	6.30	42.98	11.23	87.69	3.02	34.88	39.53	287.60
12	CANADA	1.06	4.49	2.51	17.94	13.16	103.69	10.96	141.83	16.55	222.85
13	SOUTHAFRICA	6.42	25.99	9.91	53.81	10.13	70.80	9.08	105.47	25.34	205.77
14	GERMANY	0.40	2.46	13.84	88.31	2.34	17.93	0.40	6.70	28.66	174.46
15	FRANCE	3.55	18.02	1.82	11.86	3.22	25.70	3.56	37.65	11.08	165.74
16	MAURITIUS	0.20	1.12	11.30	64.42	6.05	42.18	3.00	39.82	21.80	160.72
	Total	444.27	2305.46	672.29	4313.08	1822.34	14859.56	1074.59	12264.55	4476.43	34964.53

Reference

<http://www.indianspices.com>