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STUDY ON INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT IN KRISHNAGIRI TALUK AMONG RURAL HOUSEHOLDS

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ABSTRACT

In order to assess and analyse the income particulars and employment details of the agricultural labourers, small and marginal farmers in Krishnagiri taluk, a study was undertaken in 1986, which indicated that the average annual income of the family as Rs. 9728, of which 53.77 per cent from crop activities, 19.67 per cent from non-farm activities, 14.56 per cent from off-farm activities and 12 per cent from livestock activities. The average annual employment per family was observed to be 457.30 mandays, of which 38.97 per cent is from off-farm activities, 35.71 per cent from own farm activities and 25.32 per cent from non-farm activities.

Nearly eighty per cent of the population in India lives in rural areas, and majority of them, particularly landless agricultural labourers, small and marginal cultivators and artisans are struggling to meet both their ends because of limited income and employment opportunities. Agricultural labourers and cultivators account for 21 and 44 per cent in Krishnagiri taluk and they not only engage themselves in their own fields but also in others fields for wages in order to supplement their subsistence income. In this context, this study was conducted in Krishnagiri taluk.

Sampling Procedure

Dharmapuri district is one of the backward districts in Tamil Nadu and it has eight taluks, of which Krishnagiri taluk has the highest population of agricultural labourers and cultivators. Hence Krishnagiri taluk was purposively selected for this study. All the four blocks in Krishnagiri taluk were selected and in each block one village was selected except Veppanapalli block where two villages were selected being the most backward among the four blocks.

In each village ten sample respondents were selected consisting of all the three size groups. Totally twenty marginal farmers, fifteen small farmers and fifteen agricultural labourers were interviewed for this study. The selected villages are Nedusalai and Boodimatlu in Veppanapalli block, Chinthagampalli in Bargur block, Chettimarampatti in Kaveripattinam block and Kanakamutlu in Krishnagiri block.

Review of Past Studies

Dandekar and Rath (1971) viewed employment from the perspectives of income in that an adequate level of employment must be defined in terms

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of its capacity to provide a minimum living to the population. Sen (1975) viewed employment from income and output aspects. According to him employment is one which gives income to the employed, yields output and gives a person the recognition of being engaged in something worthwhile.

Smith (1976) defined employment as a state in which a person combines his (or her) physical and or mental efforts with other resources including other human efforts in a production process.

Dantwala (1975) has defined unemployment as those without work and searching or available for work. Raj (1976) viewed unemployment as a state of being without fruitful work and the perception of the fruitfulness of the work was to a large extent a result of social conditioning. Raj et.al. (1972) used the concept of income of agricultural labour household which included the agricultural income, loan taken and non-agricultural income received during the period under study. Malya (1961) stated that income as the total agricultural household income of the family consisting of receipt from occupation, dairy enterprises, rent received, interest on loans and remittances received, if any.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The general characteristics of the sample farms revealed that the average family size was 5.46 members, with 1.64 males, 1.74 females and 2.08 children. The occupational pattern indicated that 2.22 members of the family as agriculture. The average annual family employment in the study area is presented below in Table - 1.

As could be seen from the table, the average annual employment per family was found to be 457.30 mandays, of which 163.30 mandays was accounted

Table - 1 : Employment details in the study area (mandays)

Sl.No.	Village	Own-farm	Off-farm	Non-farm	Total
1.	Nedusalai	191	212	73	476
2.	Boodimutlu	160	140	109.5	409.5
3.	Chinthagampalli	140	120	176	436
4.	Chettimarampatti	160	119	75.5	354.5
5.	Kanakamutlu	165.5	300	145	610.5
	Total	816.5	891	579	2286.5
	Average	163.30	178.20	115.80	457.30
		(35.71)	(38.97)	(25.32)	(100.00)

by own farm employment, 178.20 mandays by off farm activities and 115.80 mandays by off farm activities like running petty shops, brick making, teaching, watch and ward, etc. Among the villages the average family employment was highest in Kankamutlu with 610.5 mandays perhaps due to its proximity to the krishnagiri town and the lowest in Chettimarampatti with 354.5 mandays. The own farm employment was highest in Nedusalai village with 191 mandays and lowest in Chinthagampalli with 140 mandays. The off-farm employment was highest in Kanakamutlu with 300 mandays and lowest in Chettimarampatti with 119 mandays. The average annual family employment with respect to non-farm activities ranges from 176 mandays in Chinthagampalli to 73 mandays in Nedusalai.

The size groupwise average annual employment per family in the study area is presented below in Table - 2.

Table - 2 : Size groupwise employment details in mandays.

Size group	Own-farm	Off-farm	Non-farm	Total
Small farmers	213.67 (69.15)	26.66 (8.63)	68.67 (22.22)	309.00 (100.00)
Marginal farmers	248.00 (47.95)	92.25 (17.83)	177.00 (34.22)	517.25 (100.00)
Agricultural labourers	-	444.33 (84.53)	81.33 (15.47)	525.66 (100.00)
Average	163.30 (35.71)	178.20 (38.97)	115.80 (25.32)	457.30 (100.00)

The average annual employment per family in the study area was 457.30 mandays. The employment details of small farmers indicated that the own farm employment was 213.67 mandays, off farm employment 26.66 mandays, non-farm employment 68.67 mandays, the annual employment was 309 mandays only. For marginal farmers the annual employment was 517.25 mandays, which includes 248 mandays of own farm employment, 92.25 mandays of off-farm employment and 177 mandays of non-farm employment. Similarly for agricultural labourers, the annual employment was 525.66 mandays, comprising 444.33 mandays of off farm employment and 81.33 mandays of non-farm employment. Since the agricultural labourers are landless, they had no own farm employment. As the farm size increased the own farm employment as well as the off-farm employment decreased. Similarly the non-farm employment also decreased as the farm size increased.

The average annual income details per family in the study area is presented below in Table - 3.

Table - 3 : Income details of the sample farmers (Rs.)

Village	Crop	Livestock	Non-farm	Off-farm	Total
Nedusalai	3392	260	150	1733	5535
	(61.28)	(4.70)	(2.71)	(31.31)	(100.00)
Boodimutlu	4650	2532.5	2880	1032.5	11095
	(41.91)	(22.83)	(25.96)	(9.30)	(100.00)
Chinthagampalli	4834.5	1277.5	2640	825	9577
	(50.48)	(13.34)	(27.57)	(8.61)	(100.00)
Chettimarampatti	8455	1215	2028	1110	12808
	(66.01)	(9.49)	(15.83)	(8.67)	(100.00)
Kanakamutlu	4825	550	1870	2380	9625
	(50.13)	(5.71)	(19.43)	(24.73)	(100.00)
Average	5231.30	1167.00	1913.60	1416.10	9728.00
	(53.77)	(12.00)	(19.67)	(14.56)	(100.00)

It could be seen from the table, for the study area as a whole, the average annual income per family wa estimated to be Rs. 9728, of which 53.77 per cent is from crop activities, 19.67 per cent from non-farm activities, 14.56 per cent from off-farm activities and 12 per cent from livestock activities. The average annual income ranges from Rs. 5535 in Nedusalai to Rs. 12808 in Chettimarampatti probably due to higher crop income because of more irrigated area in this village. The share of crop income to the total income ranges from 66.01 per cent in Chettimarampatti to 41.91 per cent in Boodimutlu, because of concentration of dry area in this village. Non farm activities share was highest in Chinthagampalli with 27.57 per cent and Boodimutlu with 25.96 per cent because of higher number of persons employed in non-farm activities, whereas the lowest share of 2.71 per cent in Nedusalai due to negligible non-farm activities. The off-farm activities share indicated that the highest share was found in Nedusalai with 31.31 per cent, but in absolute terms the highest off farm income was noticed in the village of Kanakamutlu with Rs. 2380 as against Rs. 1733 in Nedusalai. Livestock activities was highest in Boodimutlu with 22.83 per cent of total income and the lowest income was observed in Nedusalai with just 4.70 per cent. In general income particulars of the sample villages revealed that crop activities contributing nearly 50 per cent of the income in all the villages, and concentration of livestock activities in Boodimutlu, non-farm activities in Chinthagampalli and

Table - 4 : Size groupwise income particulars (Rs.)

Size group	Crop	Livestock	Non-farm	Off-farm	Total
Small farmers	11970.67	2808.33	2120.00	186.67	17085.67
	(70.06)	(16.44)	(12.41)	(1.09)	(100.00)
Marginal farmers	4100.25	618.75	2400.00	1129.00	8248.00
	(49.71)	(7.50)	(29.10)	(13.69)	(100.00)
Agricultural labourers	-	256.67	1058.67	3028.33	4343.67
		(5.91)	(24.37)	(69.72)	(100.00)
Average	5231.30	1167.00	1913.69	1416.10	9728.00
	(53.77)	(12.00)	(19.67)	(14.56)	(100.00)

Boodimutlu, and off-farm activities in Kanakamutlu village.

The size groupwise income particulars of the sample households is presented here in Table - 4.

The average annual family income in the study area was Rs. 9728. The average annual income of the small farmers was found to be Rs. 17085.67, marginal farmers Rs. 8248 and for agricultural labourers Rs. 4343.67. Crop income contributed 70.06 per cent of total income to small farmers and 49.71 per cent to marginal farmers. Livestock activities share was 16.44 per cent to total income for small farmers,, 7.50 per cent to marginal farmers and 5.91 per cent to agricultural laborers. Non-farm activities contribution was 12.41 per cent of total income to small farmers, 29.10 per cent to marginal farmers and 24.37 per cent to agricultural labourers. The off-farm activities share was 1.09 per cent to total income for small farmers, 13.69 per cent to marginal farmers and 69.72 per cent to agricultural labourers.

To draw conclusions from this study, nearly 50 per cent of the total income was from crop activities and the annual income of the marginal and agricultural labourers were not sufficient to meet minimum basic needs of the family. This study also brought to light there is great scope to increase the livestock activity as well as non-farm activities in the study area as a whole.

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ASSESSMENT OF QUALITY OF CHILLI SEED (Capsicum annum L.) PRODUCED IN DIFFERENT SEASONS BY ACCELERATED AGEING TEST

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ABSTRACT

Seed produced in rabi season withstood the accelerated ageing test better than those from kharif. Deterioration was faster in small size (9"/64R) seeds than medium (8"/64R) or large (8"/64P) size seed when acceleratedly aged. Deterioration in seeds from earlier pickings was slower compared to those from later pickings in both the seasons.

INTRODUCTION

Accelerated ageing test is a reliable test to predict the physiological stamina (Delouche and Baskin, 1973) of the seeds produced in different seasons under storage. Initial germination can only indicate the capacity of the seeds to germinate under a given environment but could not able to expose the structural physiological condition of the seed. To study the influence of environment or season production on the physiological stamina of the seeds some stress test is essential among which accelerated ageing test has been employed to predict the quality.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Graded Seeds harvested from a bulk crop of chilli cv. K2 during Rabi 1978(s_1), Kharif 1979 (S_2) and Kharif 1980 (S_3) in six pickings (Pi. I to Pi. VI) were used. Three grades of seeds viz., 9/64"R (G_1), 8/64"R (G_2) and 8/64"P (G_3) were subjected to accelerated ageing test at 97 $\pm$ 1% RH and 40 $\pm$ 1°C temperature