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DISTRIBUTION OF AGRICULTURAL SEEDS AGENCIES IN SATARA DISTRICT :A GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS

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Abstract:- In the course of time many useful assorting where made and there was gradual but steady progress towards crop improvement. Later through the use of well-known techniques of selection hybridization, and polyploidesation many new and better varieties were developed by the scientists. (singh G.N and other 1987) With the application of new agricultural strategy (Green Revolution) agricultural productivity has shown market improvements. This is a common phenomenon in irrigated areas of Western Maharashtra. The period during Seventies has Witnessed considerable increase in the quality and quantity of crop production. Favorable Government policies have lead to the availabilities of High Yielding Varieties through Government agencies, co-operatives and private sector. All these efforts were resulted into overall increase in agricultural productivity. However, in satara district there is regional disparity of the distribution Seeds Agencies and varieties. In the present paper an attempt has been made to bring out the Spatial Distribution in the Seeds Agencies and varieties of different crop in satara district. The study is based on Primary and secondary data.

Keywords: High Yielding Varieties, Seeds Agencies, satara district,

INTRODUCTION

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THE REGIONS:

Satara district is the western part of Maharashtra State. It is location lies between $17^{\circ} 5'$ east longitudes occupying an area of 10,492 sq. kms.

Administratively, it consists of eleven tahsils (fig. 1) and the region presents diversified physiography with hilly region dominated by leeward slopes of Western Ghats in west and alternate valleys and ridges culminating gradually into plateau in the east. The soils vary from literate patches in the west through deep medium block alluvial of the river in the center and poor gray soils in the east. The monsoon climate dominates the region with variation in heat and cold. The region receives rainfall from south west monsoon averaging between 200 mm to 5000 mm. The eastern part, which fairly falls in the rain shadow belt experiences frequent drought conditions.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the present paper are. To Study the Spatial Distribution in the Seeds Agencies and varieties of different crop in satara district

DATA BASE AND METHODOLOGY:

The present Study is based on Primary and secondary data. Primary data has been collected through the questionnaire and interviews of the selected Farmers. The Secondary data obtained from the records of Zilla Parishad and various records of Agricultural Department of Maharashtra State. The values classified with the help of standard deviation Method.

MARKETING OF SEED

Seed Marketing is one of the Most important Components of Seed technology. The size and Scope of the Seed industry depends on Seed marketing .It includes activities as production, processing, Storage, quality control and marketing of seeds. The Several channels through Which seed can be marketed vary greatly according to the needs of the seed company. There are Five types of seed distribution systems in satara district.

- I)Farmer to Farmer Distribution
- II)Distribution by Registered Growers
- III)Distribution through Co-Operatives
- IV)Distribution by the Department of Agriculture
- V)Distribution by Non –Government or Quasi-Government

CHANNELS OF DISTRIBUTION OF SEEDS:

In order to make quality seed available to the Farmers the distribution network has also been expanded. Although the role of Government and institutional agencies in the distribution of seeds has increased recently the private traders play a pivotal role.

Distribution Of Agricultural Seeds Agencies In Satara District : A Geographical Analysis

**Table No 1
The Distribution Network of Seeds in Satara District**

Sr.No	Particulars	No Of Agencies
1	Private Traders (Wholesalers and Retailers)	357
2	Co- Operatives (Primary Agricultural coop.Sosieties)	69
3	Seed Centres Of Agricultural Department of Maharashtra	08

Source: Recored Of Agricultural Department of Zilla Parishad ,Satara District.(2011)

Spatial Pattern of Seeds Agencies :

**Table No 2
Tahsilwise Distribution of Seed Agencies in Satara District (2010-2011)**

Sr. No.	Tahsil	Co-operative Agencies (No.)	Private Agencies (No.)	Total (Nos.)
1	Satara	6	34	40
2	Wai	3	26	29
3	Khandala	6	30	36
4	Koregaon	10	37	47
5	Phaltan	1	55	56
6	Man	2	31	33
7	Khatav	3	76	9
8	Karad	18	41	59
9	Patan	16	7	23
10	Jawali	3	15	18
11	MAhabaleshwer	1	3	4
	Total	69	357	426

Source : Records of Agricultural Department, Zilla Parishad Satara,

Table No 2 . presents the distributional pattern of private and co-operatives seed Agencies .The high concentration of seed agencies exists in Phaltan, Karad, Koregaon and Khatav tahsils due to irrigation facilities developed. The tahsils viz Patan, Jawali, Mahabaleshwer, Wai, Man and Satara have low concentration of seed agencies use to low irrigation facilities and unfavorable physical environment.

ADOPTION OF HIGH YIELDING VARIETIES :

The use of traditional seeds still dominates the scene of agriculture in certain parts of the district. As it has been mentioned earlier, most of the farmers in the district also store their own seeds instead of purchasing from the market, but the distribution of these are uneven.

**Table No 3
Tahsilwise Adoption Rate of HYV Seeds by the Sample Farmers on
Their Own Farms (Percentage of total)**

Sr. No.	Tahsil	Seed purchased from Government Agency	Seeds purchased from private traders	Own seeds users
1	Satara	22	74	4
2	Wai	18	72	10
3	Khandala	19	69	12
4	Koregaon	21	76	3
5	Phaltan	20	78	2
6	Man	25S	57	18
7	Khatav	37	44	19
8	Karad	18	82	Nill
9	Patan	20	58	22
10	Jawali	18	62	20
11	MAhabaleshwer	14	1	15
	Region Average	21.09	67.54	11.36

Distribution Of Agricultural Seeds Agencies In Satara District : A Geographical Analysis

Source : Compiled by the researcher based on field work, 2011

Table.No.4. shows that 11.36 percent farmers used their own seeds, but there are variations from tahsil to tahsil. High percentage users of own seeds (above 15 percent) is observed in Man, Khatav, Patan, and Jawali tahsils which is mainly due to the fact that they are from the villages far away from the agriculturally innovative places. Moderate use of own seeds (between 5 to 10 and below 15) is confined in Wai, Khandala and Mahabaleshwar tahsils, where as low use of own seeds (below 5 percent) was recorded in Satara, Koregaon and Phaltan. In Karad tahsil no one used own seeds. Due to irrigation facilities there is innovative agriculture.

CROPPING PATTERN :

**Table No 4
Cropping Pattern in Satara District (2010-2011)**

Sr.No.	Tahsil	Area in Hectares	Percentages to Net Sown Area
1	Rice	39,000	5.52
2	Wheat	31,600	4.47
3	Jawar	2,16,100	30.58
4	Bajara	96,600	13.67
5	Sugarcane	53,000	7.50
6	Groundnut	56,900	8.05
7	Others	2,13,293	30.19
	Total	7,06,493	99.98

Source : Socio Economic and Statistical Abstract.

The principal crops grown in the study area includes jawar, bajara, sugarcane, groundnuts, wheat, rice and others. Jawar ranks at first position i.e. 30.58 percent of the net sown area. Bajara ranks second i.e. 13.67 percent of net sown area followed by groundnut 8.05 percent.

Among the irrigated crops sugarcane, wheat and rice are noable. Of these sugarcane dominates the irrigated cropping pattern (Table) and covering about 7.50 percent, followed by the rice 5.52 percent and wheat 4.47 percent.

CONCLUSIONS:

Based on the spatial analysis for the years 2011 the region present three different levels of lift irrigation. Accordingly three regions can be identified i.e. low, moderate and high. of the lift irrigated area. It enjoys relatively more favorable environmental conditions. Pedagogically too, the tract is endowed with a fertile alluvial soil cover. Besides, these tahsils enjoy favorable position in irrigation facilities, application of technical implements, agricultural credit facilities, and power input.

The discussion on seed marketing and channel of distribution reveals that there are about 434 agencies to distribute the HYV seeds to the farmers and out of that 357 are private followed by 69 agencies which are co-operative and 8 run by the seeds centers of the Department of Agriculture, Government of Maharashtra. Spatial pattern of seed agencies shows high concentration in the Tahsils viz. Phaitan, Karad, Koregaon and Khatav ahsil viz. PAtan, Jawali, Mahabaleshwer, Wai, Man and Satara, have low concentration of seed agencies due to low irrigation facilities and unfavourable physical environment.

The spatial pattern of different varieties of selected crops viz. Jawar Bajara, Groundnut, Sugarcane and Wheat present regional imbalances. Except sugarcane and Wheat the rest of the crops are unirrigated. The farmers of the region in general, have knowledge of high Yielding Varieties of the crops. The farmers prefer varieties of respective crops which are suitable to local environment.

The study pertaining to the input of HYV seeds reveals the fact that High Yielding Varieties

Distribution Of Agricultural Seeds Agencies In Satara District : A Geographical Analysis

of different crops have led to increase in the yields per unit of area. Both unirrigated and irrigated crops have shown increase in agricultural productivity in Satara district.

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