

DEMAND, SUPPLY & TRADE PROSPECTS OF MAJOR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES IN BIHAR

MEERA KUMARI¹ & RAVI GOPAL SINGH²

¹Junior Scientist-Cum-Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics, BAU, Sabour, Bihar, India

²Bihar Agricultural University (BAU), Sabour, Bhagalpur, Bihar, India

ABSTRACT

The paper is attempted to analyse the trend in area, production and productivity and change in consumption pattern of fruits and vegetables across different socio-economic groups. Further, the future needs of vegetables and fruits as well as constraints faced by the farmer in production and marketing in the selected districts of state were also assessed. Trend analysis of area and, production of major fruits in Bihar indicated that area under major fruits shown an increasing trend. Whereas Production and productivity of litchi and banana also showed an increasing trend. Except mango whose production and productivity over period i.e. 2005-2012 had been declined. Whereas growth in area under major vegetable had been stagnated except for potato whose area had been declined over 2005-2012. Data of five major round i.e. 38th, 43rd, 50th, 95th and 66th pertaining to the periods of 1983-84, 1988, 1993-94, 1999-2000, 2005-06 and 2009-10 respectively, shown a positive growth in annual per capita expenditure on fruits and vegetables and found to be more in urban areas than in rural areas.. Results of the study revealed that vegetables have emerged as an essential commodity recording income elasticity of demand lower than most of non-cereal commodities, while fruits continued to be more elastic. The demand of vegetable would be increase from 12.12 million tonnes in the year 2011 to 17.46 million tonnes in the year 2031, whereas the demand for fruits will be increased from 4.55 million tonnes (2011) to 6.55 million tonnes in the year 2031. This demand could be met by increasing the productivity of vegetables and fruits alone given the limitation of area expansion. The projected supply of major vegetables indicated that Bihar shall be surplus state in vegetable production and remained to be a surplus state in 2031. Study also revealed that 90 percent of farmers were facing the problems of inadequate knowledge of market information system, and dis-satisfaction from price of fruits and & major constraints identified for vegetable were unavailability of cold storage facility; lack of processing plant in the state etc. Where as senile orchard, lack of adequate knowledge of maintenance, unavailability of fund and input were highly significant constraints for production of these crops in the state.

KEYWORDS: Demand and Supply, Exponential Function, Fruits and Vegetables, , Kendall's Test

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