Contraints in tomato production in western Maharashtra

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ABSTRACT

Tomato (Lycopersicon esculentum) is an important vegetable crop in India and is grown on an area of 4.58 million hectares with the production of 74.62 million tonnes. Maharashtra is major tomato growing state with an area of 0.36 million hectares and production of 1.18 million tonnes with the productivity of 33.20 t/ha. Multistage sampling design has been used for selection of district, tehsil, villages and tomato growers. Sample size 30 each of 3 seasons i.e. kharif, rabi and summer i.e. 90 respondents were selected for present investigation. The results revealed that, problems faced by farmers in production of tomatoes were non-availability of labour in time which was reported by (70.00 per cent) farmer which was severe in summer followed by kharif and rabi season. Non-availability of seedlings in time (53.33 per cent), non-availability of loan facilitate in time (45.55 per cent) etc. In case of marketing of tomatoes the problem faced by farmers were low and fluctuating prices (78.88 per cent), cost of packaging material (72.22 per cent), high transport cost (70.00 per cent), high commission charges (62.11 per cent) etc.

Key words : Seasonal, Constraints, Perishable, Production, Marketing