



GRAPE CULTIVATION IN SANGLI DISTRICT

K. M. Mane

P. D. V. P. Mahavidyalaya, Tasgaon, Dist.: Sangli (Maharashtra)

Abstract:

India is most populous country and the agriculture is the main source of the income of the people. Sangli district in Western Maharashtra is well known for Grape Cultivation. This area is between 16°45' and 17°22' N latitude and 73°41' and 75°41' E longitude. In this article tahsil wise comparison of Grape cultivation is provided with reference to the year 2011-12. So as to study the economic performance of the farmers as well as workers in the district.

Keywords: Agriculture, Grape Cultivation, Tahsil production, Economy.

Introduction:

Agriculture is main source of Indian economy and about 70 % of people engaged in this activity. The grapes are cultivated since a long time. According to Agronomist the origin of grape is Asia Minor between Black Sea and Caspian Sea.

In Maharashtra initially grape cultivation started around Daulatabad, Aurangabad and Ahamadnagar. The foundation of "Adarsha Godraj Mala" was established in Nashik in 1930. Today this situation is changed and Nashik is replaced by Sangli District. In this District 'Thomson Seedless' is highly developed variety of grapes, which is more profitable and more demanded along with other varieties such as Chimasabebi, Bangalore purple, sonaka, Tash-a-Ganesh, Sharad seedless etc. The climate conditions as well as soil type is also favorable for grape cultivation in Sangli District.

Study Region:

Sangli district is one of the southern district of Maharashtra lying between 16° 45' and 17° 22' North latitude and 73° 41' and 75° 41' East longitude and has area of 8572 sq. km. and population of 28,22,143 according to 2011 census. It ranks 21th in terms of area amongst the 35 district in the state. The East –West length is 205 km. and North –South length is 96 km. The altitude is 553 M. from mean sea level. (Socio-economic review of Sangli district, 2006). The district is surrounded by Satara, Sholapur to the North, Kolhapur and Belgaum, Vijapur district (Karnataka State) to the South, Vijapur district to the East and Ratnagiri district to the West.

OBJECTIVES:

Present study aims to attempt following specific objectives.

1. To study the role of physical and non-physical factors in the grape cultivation.

2. To study the spatial distribution of grape cultivation.

Methodology:

The Present research work is based on secondary sources of data and information provided by visiting Draksha Sangh in the district, Mamledar's office and statistical office Z. P. Sangli.

EXPLANATION:

According to agronomist origin of grape is Asia minor. But in India grapes are cultivated in Maharashtra. In India out of total area under grapes about 30% is shared alone in Maharashtra. The concentration of grape cultivation is found on Deccan Plateau. The Export quality grapes are cultivated in Sangli District. About 40% of grapes are exports in various countries. In Sangli District Thomson seedless is highly developed variety of grapes. The other varieties are also developed in the districts. Grape farming is started in Sangli District during 1970. Grape farming gives more profit to the farmers. More number of workers depends upon grape farming. Grape farming provides employment for skilled and unskilled workers in this region.

Sangli District: Grape Cultivation Area 2011-12 (in Hectors)

Figure 2 shows area under grape cultivation in sangli district in 2011-12. Except Shirala tahsi, other nine tahsils produce grapes. Tasgaon tahsil is highest in grape cultivation in Sangli District. In total area approximately 21% grapes are cultivated in Tasgaon tahsil. The climate and soil is favorable for grape cultivation in Tasgaon tahsil. In the farmers view it is a cash crop which give economical benefits as compare to other crops. Also there are some economical activities based on grapes production like raisin. Quality grapes are cultivated in Tasgaon Tahsil, about 30 % grapes are export in various countries. Availability of

skilled labour and development of advanced technology in Tasgaon and eastern part of Miraj Tahsil. These are one of the main reason behind in these area for highest Grape cultivation.

Shirala tahsil is marked as a hilly area and heavy rainfall so the area under grape cultivaton is zero; because of scarcity of water the grape cultivation is very less in Atpadi tahsil. Many irrigation schemes are developed in Miraj, Palus, K. Mahakal and Khanapur tahsils which is useful to increase in grape cultivation in the district.

Table 1

Sr. No.	Tahsils	Grape cultivation area in Hect.
1	Jat	1311
2	Atpadi	132
3	K. Mahakal	1779
4	Miraj	5289
5	Tasgaon	11032
6	Khanapur	2137
7	Kadegaon	981
8	Palus	2201
9	Walva	461
10	Shirala	0
Total		25323

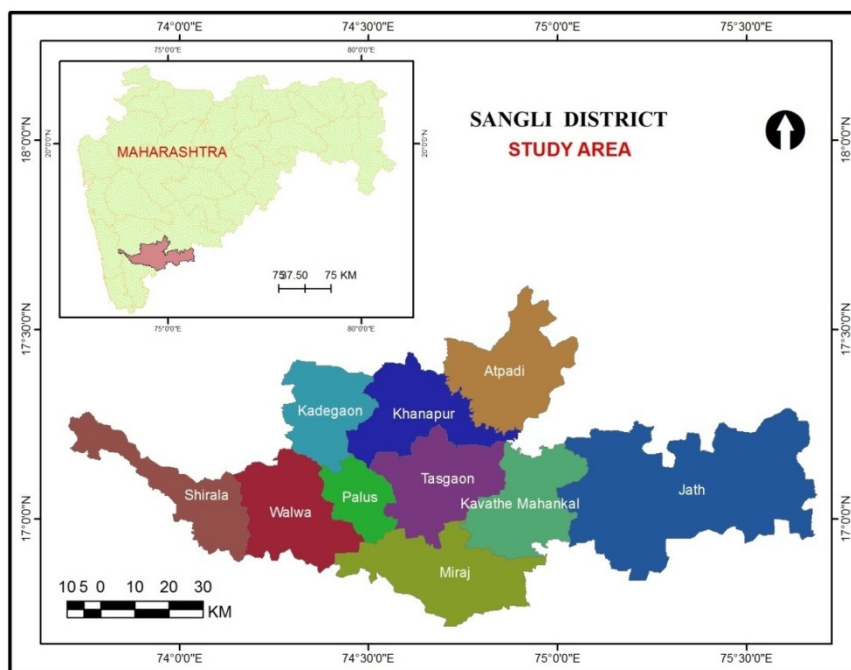


Figure 1 Study area

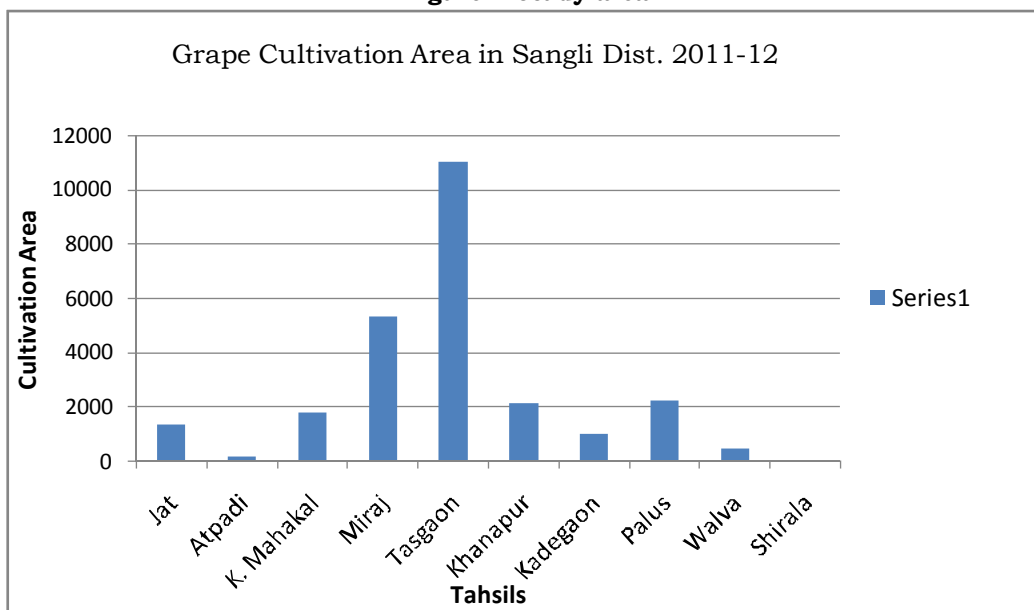


Figure 2

Suggestions

1. Atpadi, Jat, K. Mahakal and Khanapur Tahsils are also increasing the area under grape cultivation.
2. Development of canals irrigation in study region, the area under grape cultivation is also increased.
3. The Govt. and Dept. of Agriculture should improve their policy relating the grape farming and marketing in Maharashtra and provide assurance for grape farmers.

References:

1. Bujbal B. G. (1976) Drakshabag
2. Maharashtra state Gazetteer of India(Sangli District) 2011
3. District Agricultural Development officer 2012.
4. <http://mahaagri.nic.in>
5. <http://agricrop.nic.in>
6. District Abstract- Sangli District
7. Government Agriculture Office Tasgaon.