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RESEARCH ARTICLE

BANANA CULTIVATION IN TAMIL NADU-TREND ANALYSIS.

Dr. T. Rajendran.

Assistant Professor [Agrl. Economics] Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Department of Social Sciences
 Agricultural College and Research Institute Killikulam, Vallanad - 628 252 Tuticorin Dist.

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Abstract

India is the largest producer of banana in the world. In India Banana ranks second next to Mango in area and production, occupying an area of about 83 lakh hectares with an annual production of 46.26 lakh tons. The important banana growing states are Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, West Bengal, Bihar and Gujarat. However, the present production of banana in the country is highly inadequate. It is estimated that, the present annual per capita consumption of banana in India is 50 kg per head which is very low compared with other progressive banana growing countries such as Jamaica, Congo, Equator, Kenya and Uganda. Thus there is an immense scope of increasing banana production in the country.

By quality control, improvement in yield and reduction in postharvest losses, it is possible for India to account for 10 % of world export. The immediate need for capturing this market for banana is to be cost competitive. The fruits are more protective and qualitative food in the human diet. They are rich in carbohydrates, sugar, vitamins, organic acids and minerals and these ingredients have an important place in the human dietary system. Consumers are becoming increasingly aware of the health and nutritive benefits of eating more fresh fruit like banana. The potential for banana consumption increases based on health reasons. Bananas are the main fruit in international trade and the most popular one in the world. Bananas are very delicate commodity on economic, social, environmental and political grounds. The share of banana trade in world banana production increased slightly in the last decades [from around 18% in the sixties and seventies to over 22% in the 1990s and 2000s].

The banana industry is a very important source of income, employment and export earnings for major banana exporting countries, mainly in developing countries. To cope up with the increasing demands the area of banana cultivation is also expanding. In this situation it is necessary to assess the banana area, production and productivity of Tamil Nadu. The results show that the growth rate analysis for past 17 year's growth rate for both area and production is declining trend.

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Corresponding Author:- T. Rajendran.

Address:- Assistant Professor [Agrl. Economics] Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Department of Social Sciences Agricultural College and Research Institute Killikulam, Vallanad - 628 252 Tuticorin Dist.

Introduction:-

India is the largest producer of banana in the world. In India Banana ranks second next to Mango in area and production, occupying an area of about 83 lakh hectares with an annual production of 46.26 lakh tons. The important banana growing states are Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, West Bengal, Bihar and Gujarat. However, the present production of banana in the country is highly inadequate. It is estimated that, the present annual per capita consumption of banana in India is 50 kg per head which is very low compared with other progressive banana growing countries such as Jamaica, Congo, Equator, Kenya and Uganda. Thus there is an immense scope of increasing banana production in the country.

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Objectives:-

The major objective of the study is to assess the compound annual growth rate of Banana in area, production and productivity in Tamil Nadu.

Methodology:-

Based on the purpose of the study the secondary data will be collected from 1998 to 2014 and it will be utilized to analyze the trend in area and production.

Results and Discussion:-**Varieties Cultivated:-**

Commercially, bananas are classified as dessert types and culinary types. The culinary types have starchy fruits and are used in the mature unripe form as vegetables. Important cultivars include Dwarf Cavendish, Robusta, Monthan, Poovan, Nendran, and Red banana, Nyali, Safed Velchi, Basrai, Ardhapuri, Rasthali, Karpurvalli, Karthali and Grand Naine etc.

Grand Naine, an imported variety from Israel is gaining popularity and may soon become the most preferred variety due to its tolerance to abiotic stresses and good quality bunches. Fruit develops attractive uniform yellow colour with better shelf life & quality than other cultivars.

Banana Production in Tamil Nadu:-**Table 1:-**Area and Production of Banana for Major Producing Districts 2013-14

S. No	District	Area in ha	Production in Tonne
1	Trichy	8.87	457.20
2	Erode	12.10	443.92
3	Theni	6.01	435.44
4	Thoothukudi	9.76	496.11
5	Coimbatore	8.35	285.12
6	Cuddalore	3.98	198.11
7	Tirunelveli	8.63	196.25

Perusal from the table 1, the highest production of banana [496.11 tonnes] and second in area of 9.76 ha of banana in Thoothukudi district of Tamil Nadu.

Banana Cultivation in Tuticorin District:-

Growth Rate Analysis for Area and Production of Banana in Tuticorin District:-

Table 2:-Trend in Area and Production

Year	Area/ha	Production/tonnes
1998	9046	653338
1999	17010	685918
2000	14911	601277
2001	13588	570626
2002	8037	477145
2003	8272	386862
2004	8995	501460
2005	9790	696235
2006	10252	685773
2007	10260	610430
2008	9849	482959
2009	9760	565224
2010	9895	59753
2011	9586	621672
2012	9634	610755
2013	9142	403882
2014	8953	575578

It could be seen from the table 2, area and production of banana in Thoothukudi district of Tamil Nadu shows that almost increasing trend. That will indicates there is a lot of scope to improve the innovative production technologies and create more marketing facilities might give more profitability of the banana farmers.

Table 3:-Growth Rate Analysis for Area and Production

In Area	Year Trend	In Production	Year Trend
9.110078	1	13.38985	1
9.741557	2	13.43851	2
9.609854	3	13.30681	3
9.516942	4	13.25449	4
8.991811	5	13.07558	5
9.020632	6	12.86582	6
9.104424	7	13.12528	7
9.189117	8	13.45344	8
9.235228	9	13.4383	9
9.236008	10	13.32192	10
9.195125	11	13.08769	11
9.186048	12	13.24498	12
9.199785	13	10.99797	13
9.168059	14	13.34017	14
9.173054	15	13.32245	15
9.120634	16	12.90888	16
9.099744	17	13.26313	17

It is noted from the table 3, the growth rate analysis for past 17 years growth rate for both area and production is declining trend. Growth Rate for Area is -1.75836 and Growth Rate for Production is -2.79801

Conclusions:-

The area and production of banana in Tuticorin district of Tamil Nadu declining over the years. Hence, there is need to stabilize the production of banana by arresting the decline in area. For that purpose, there is urgent need for to

enhance innovative banana production technologies with high yielding varieties and facilitate better marketing facilities. And also create farmers producers institutions might boost up the productivity of the banana growers.

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