

CHAPTER 9

HORTICULTURE

India has made a fairly good progress on the Horticulture Map of the world. During 2008-09, area under horticultural crops was 20.7 million hectares and production was 214.7 million tonnes. India has been bestowed with wide range of climate and physio-geographical conditions and as such is most suitable for growing various kinds of horticultural crops such as fruits, vegetables, flowers, nuts, spices and plantation crops (coconut, cashewnut and cocoa).

With the focused attention given to horticulture, there has been spectacular change in terms of adoption of new technologies, production and availability of horticulture product. India today is the second largest producer of fruits and vegetables in the world, contributing 11.84% and 13.36% of the total world production of fruits and vegetables respectively. The availability of flowers has increased significantly in all major cities in the country. India has a good opportunity of growing medicinal and aromatic plants. It is the largest producer, consumer and exporter of spices. India is also the largest producer of coconut, arecanut and cashewnut in the world.

The value of output of agricultural products was ₹406247 crore in 2000-01, which has increased to ₹653819 crore in 2007-08. The percentage share of the value of output of horticultural crops in total value of output from agriculture is showing an upward trend with minor variation during the years and increased from 27.24% in 2000-01 to 29.84% in 2007-08, which underscores the growing importance of horticulture. Horticulture data is essential for estimating the growth, for carrying out analysis to assess the demand and supply trend, to identify problems and constraints, to evolve adaptive policies and explore growth prospects. Such data can act as security against misdirection or misplacement of policy objectives and priorities. In other words, the establishment of comprehensive horticulture database is a crucial requirement that would go a long way in ensuring effective monitoring of the development policies to justify huge investment being made to promote horticulture production besides undertaking perspectives planning to facilitate systematic development of horticulture sector in country.

Directorate of Economic & Statistics (DES), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India operates a Centrally Sponsored Scheme “Crop Estimation Survey on Fruits and Vegetables (CES-F&V)” for estimating area and production of horticulture crops. However, CES (F&V) covers only 7 fruits crops 5 vegetables crops and 2 spice crops from 11 states only. The National Horticulture Board (NHB) compiles and publishes annual data base for horticulture sector in respect of all the states and the crops. NHB has been validating data compiled by CES (F&V) and also using secondary sources of data received from the State Directorates of Agriculture/ Horticulture, Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES) of Ministry of Agriculture, Commodity Boards, APEDA, FAO etc.

Directorates of Horticulture /Agriculture (respective State Governments) are sources of data for fruits, vegetables, flowers, aromatics & medicinal plants & nuts. Besides, Directorate of Spices and Arecanut, Directorate of Cashew & Cocoa, Coconut Development Board and Maharashtra State Agriculture Marketing board are also sources of horticultural data.

Highlights :

- The area under horticultural crops increased from 16.6 million hectares in 2001-02 to 20.7 million hectares in 2008-09, whereas, the horticultural production increased from 145.8 million tonnes in 2001-02 to 214.7 million tonnes in 2008-09. The horticultural area registered the annual growth of 3.77 % in 2008-09 over 2007-08, whereas, the horticultural production registered the annual growth of 1.63% in 2008-09 over 2007-08.
- The area under fruits increased from 4.01 million hectares in 2001-02 to 6.10 million hectares in 2008-09, whereas, its production increased from 43.00 million tonnes in 2001-02 to 68.47 million tonnes in 2008-09. The area and production under the fruits registered the annual growths of 4.16% and 4.39% respectively during 2008-09 over 2007-08.
- While mango alone accounts for 37.8% of the total area under various fruit crops, its production is 18.6% of the total fruit production in 2008-09. Production-wise banana accounted for more than 38% of the production of fruits.

- The area under vegetables increased from 6.16 million hectares in 2001-02 to 7.98 million hectares in 2008-09, whereas, its production increased from 88.62 million tonnes in 2001-02 to 129.07 million tonnes in 2008-09. The area and production under the vegetables registered the annual growths of 1.69% and 0.49% respectively during 2008-09 over 2007-08.
- The areas under onion and potato were 0.83 million hectares and 1.83 million hectares respectively, whereas, their production was 13.57 million tonnes and 34.39 million tonnes respectively during 2008-09.
- The area under flowers increased from 0.11 million hectares for 2001-02 to 0.17 million hectares in 2008-09, whereas, the production of loose flowers increased from 0.54 million tonnes in 2001-02 to 0.99 million tonnes in 2008-09.
- The area under nuts increased from 0.12 million hectares in 2001-02 to 0.14 million hectares in 2008-09 and the production of nuts increased from 0.11 million tonnes to 0.17 in same period.
- The area under aromatic and medicinal plants increased from 0.13 million hectares in 2004-05 to 0.43 million hectares in 2004-05 and its production increased from 0.16 million tonnes in 2001-02 to 0.43 million tonnes in 2008-09.
- The area under plantation crops increased from 2.98 million hectares in 2001-02 to 3.22 million hectares in 2008-09 and the area of spices crops decreased from 3.22 million hectares to 2.63 million hectare during the same period. The productions of plantation crops and spices increased from 9.70 million tonnes and 3.77 million tonnes in 2001-02 to 11.34 million tonnes and 4.15 million tonnes respectively in 2008-09 implies substantial increase in production.
- The areas under cashewnut and coconut during 2008-09 were 0.89 million hectares and 1.90 million hectares respectively, whereas, their respective productions were 0.70 million tonnes and 10.15 million tonnes during this period.
- The value of export of horticultural products during 2008-09 was ₹67691.5 million. The export value of floriculture & seeds was to the tune of ₹4888.1 million, and for 'fresh fruits & vegetables' and 'processed fruits & vegetables' to the tune of ₹36591.6 million and ₹26211.9 million respectively during 2008-09.

This chapter contains the following tables:

- Table 9.1:** presents estimates of area and production of horticulture since 2006-07 with percentage growth of horticultural crops in 2008-09 over 2007-08.
- Table 9.2:** presents area and production of various horticultural crops since 2001-02 and State-wise area and production of various horticultural crops during 2008-09.
- Table 9.3:** presents State-wise area and production of flowers since 2006-07.
- Table 9.4:** presents product-wise area, production and productivity of spices in 2007-08 and 2008-09.
- Table 9.5:** presents year-wise area, production of various fruits since 2006-07 and their State-wise break-up during 2008-09.
- Table 9.6:** presents year-wise area, production of various vegetables since 2006-07 and their State-wise break-up during 2008-09.
- Table 9.7:** presents year-wise area, production of various plantations since 2007-08 and their State-wise break-up during 2008-09.
- Table 9.8:** presents export of Horticulture produce in India of 'Floriculture & Seeds', 'Fresh Fruits & Vegetables' and 'Processed Fruits & Vegetables' products since 2006-07.
- Table 9.9:** presents area and production of fruits and vegetables for major producing countries during 2008-09.