

Training Needs, Constraints Faced and Suggestions of Mango Growers of Karnataka

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ABSTRACT: The study was conducted to know the training needs on various aspects of mango cultivation and entrepreneurial activities in mango, Constraints faced by mango growers and their suggestions in mango cultivation in Kolar and Ramanagar districts of Karnataka state during the year 2014-15. The findings of the study revealed that 37.50 per cent of the mango growers were most needed training on marketing of mango and mango products, 33.33 per cent were expressed most needed training on irrigation management in mango, 30.00 per cent were most needed training on "entrepreneurial activities". With respect to Constraints faced, majority (92.50%) of the respondents expressed technical constraints as "lack of knowledge on processing", 87.50% opened that "lack of information about entrepreneurship activities" and 81.33% said "non availability of experts to guide". As their constraint. With respect to their suggestions, majority (81.66%) of the respondents were suggested Government should establish cold storage units, followed by 73.33 per cent were suggested provide training on orchard management during drought period, and 70.33 per cent were suggested that provide information about market prices in different markets.

Key words: Entrepreneurship, Mango, Processing, Training,

INTRODUCTION

Dynamic entrepreneurs are considered to be the agent of change in a society. Entrepreneurs play a very important role in generating new employment and setting up new business. The problem of poverty, inequality and regional imbalances can be tackled with the development of entrepreneurship. However, in all economic development activities more and more focus is being centered on entrepreneurship of the people across the globe.

Entrepreneur has been now recognized as a concept, not only for starting industries but also in the development of mango enterprise. India produces 2,516 thousand MT of mango from an area of 18,431.30 thousand hectare has the share of 34.09 per cent area and 20.07 per cent production of major fruits. Among the top ten mango producing countries, India ranks first with the highest share of 44.01 per cent of world mango production. The leading mango producing states of India are Uttar Pradesh (43,00980 MT), Andra Pradesh (27,37,010 MT), Karnataka (17,55,560 MT) followed by Telangana (17,17,000 MT) (Anon., 2015a). In Karnataka the crop is grown in an area 180530 hectares with the production of 1755560 MT

(Anon., 2015a). Among the various districts of Karnataka, Kolar and Ramanagar are the largest mango growing districts with an area of 46,722 and 19,853 hectares, produces 3,74,140 and 2,23,570 tonnes respectively (Anon., 2015b). The success of mango industry in different mango growing regions of Karnataka is attributed to the geographical situation with amazing diversity in micro as well as macro climate.

Training is very essential for improvement in the efficiency of Indian farming community. It is the function of helping others to acquire and apply knowledge, skills, abilities and attitude which they do not possess but are needed. It brings continuous improvement in the quality of work, performed by individuals (Nikhade and Patki., 2005). Therefore, training is viewed as an investment of human resources. (Ingole *et al.*, 1993). Therefore, the present study was undertaken to know the training needs of mango growers. The mango growers were facing number of constraints, which might cause difficulty in production and taking entrepreneurship activities. These constraints need to be examined and minimized. Keeping this in view, the study was

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undertaken with the specific objective to determine the suggestion given by mango growers to overcome their problems in production and taking entrepreneurship activities in mango enterprise.

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in Kolar and Ramanagar districts of Karnataka state during the year 2014-15. These two districts were selected purposively as these districts stood first and second in area and production of mango. Further, Srinivaspura and Mulabaglu taluk from Kolar district and Ramanagar and Magadi taluk from Ramanagar districts were selected in proportion to the highest area under mango cultivation. Thereafter, three villages having the highest area under mango cultivation were selected from each tehsil. 10 respondents were selected randomly from each village. 120 respondents were selected from the selected 12 villages by adopting simple random sampling. Ex-post facto design was employed for conducting the study. Data was collected by using a structured interview schedule employing personal interview method.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Training Needs of Mango Growers

The information in Table 1 indicates that majority (37.50%) of the mango growers expressed that they most need training with respect to “marketing of mango and mango products that they need training on marketing of mango. 33.33 per cent were expressed most needed training on irrigation management in mango. Water is very scarce resource which is very essential to restore for agriculture purpose. The farmers might have very much concerned about water management. So they preferred training on irrigation management. Whereas, majority (62.50%) of the respondents were expressed needed training on the aspects like “financial assistance”, followed by 60.00 per cent were needed training on “use of rakshak trap for fruit fly control”, “preparation of project proposal” (56.66%), “packaging aspects” (50.83%), and “storage of mango” (50.00%). While, majority (83.33%) of the respondents less needed training on the aspects such as “field preparation and layout of orchard”, followed by 73.33 per cent were less needed training on

Table 1
Training Needs of Mango Growers

(N=120)

Sl. No.	Areas	Training needed		
		Most needed	Needed	Less needed
1.	Field preparation and layout of orchard	00 (00.00%)	20 (16.66%)	100 (83.33%)
2.	Propagation methods of mango	00 (00.00)	32 (26.66)	88 (73.33)
3.	Recommended Spacing	00 (00.00)	51 (34.16)	59 (49.16)
4.	Irrigation management in mango	40 (33.33)	72 (60.00)	08 (06.66)
5.	Intercropping in mango (rabi, kharif)	26 (21.66)	54 (45.00)	40 (33.33)
6.	Pest and disease management of trees	28 (23.33)	79 (65.55)	10 (08.33)
7.	Use of Rakshak trap for fruit fly	22 (18.33)	72 (60.00)	26 (21.66)
8.	Use of Amar loranthus cutter	00 (00.00)	42 (35.00)	78 (65.00)
9.	Harvesting practices	06 (05.00)	42 (35.00)	72 (60.00)
10.	Use of Nutan harvester	00 (00.00)	59 (49.16)	61 (50.83)
11.	Improved post harvest technologies	32 (26.66)	74 (61.66)	14 (11.66)
12.	Ripening of fruits	12 (10.00)	46 (35.33)	58 (48.33)
13.	Storage methods of mango	18 (15.00)	60 (50.00)	42 (35.00)
14.	Methods of grading and graders	00 (00.00)	25 (20.83)	95 (79.16)
15.	Preparation of value added products in mango	30 (25.00)	70 (60.33)	20 (16.66)
16.	Entrepreneurial activities	36 (30.00)	71 (59.16)	13 (10.83)
17.	Preparation of project proposal	22 (18.33)	68 (56.66)	34 (28.33)
18.	Preparation of documents to establish a plant	16 (13.33)	65 (54.16)	39 (32.50)
19.	Financial assistance	12 (10.00)	75 (62.50)	33 (27.50)
20.	Procurement of raw materials	00 (00.00)	41 (34.16)	59 (49.16)
21.	Packaging aspects	20 (16.66)	61 (50.83)	39 (32.50)
22.	Marketing of mango and mango products	45 (37.50)	66 (55.00)	09 (07.50)
23.	Financial management	00 (00.00)	41 (34.16)	59 (49.16)

“propagation of mango”, “use of Amar loranthus cutter” (65.00%), “harvesting practices” (60.00%), “use of nutan harvester” (50.83%), and (48.33%) expressed less needed training on “different methods of ripening of fruits”

Constraints of Mango Growers

Constraints imply the problems or difficulties faced by mango growers while adopting day-to-day mango cultivation practices and taking entrepreneurship activities in their mango enterprise. Here, constraints are studied under four categories i.e. technical constraints, post harvest and production constraints, marketing constraints and economic constraints.

Technical Constraints

Table 2 depicts information about constraints faced by the mango growers that, majority (92.50%) of the

respondents expressed technical constraints as “lack of knowledge on processing”, followed by 87.50 per cent were expressed “lack of information about entrepreneurship activities”, and 81.33 per cent were expressed “non availability of experts to guide”. The entrepreneurial activity is new to the farmers. Though farmers attended training programmes on mango cultivation practices, the processing aspects may not be covered. Based on the findings of the study, many farmers were interested to know about processing aspects, but there are very limited opportunities to learn mango processing aspects because of lack of experts and organizations to conduct training programmes on mango processing including entrepreneurial activities the respondents may expressed lack of knowledge on processing.

Table 2
Constraints Faced by the Mango Growers

		(N=120)	
Sl. No.	Constraints	No.	%
I. Technical Problems			
1.	Lack of information about entrepreneurship activities	105	87.50
2.	Lack of knowledge on processing	111	92.50
3.	Space constraint to establish processing unit	20	16.66
4.	Non availability of experts to guide	98	81.33
5.	Non availability of resources	44	36.66
6.	Power shortage	26	21.66
7.	High incidence of pest and diseases of plants and fruits	92	76.00
8.	High risk involvement	31	25.83
9.	Non availability of skilled labour	38	31.66
10.	Lack of coordination among famers	55	45.33
II. Post Harvest and Production Constraints			
1.	Lack of storage facility for fruits and processed products	120	100.0
2.	Lack of packing and grading material	32	26.66
3.	Lack of transportation facility	34	28.33
4.	Lack of information about processing machineries	91	75.83
5.	Spoilage during transportation and handling	31	25.83
III. Marketing Constraints			
1.	Lack of marketing facility for processing products	105	87.50
2.	Price fluctuation in the raw material (Mangoes)	120	100.00
3.	Lack of forward linkage	95	79.16
4.	Lack of co-operative marketing system	92	76.66
5.	Lack of market information	88	73.33
6.	Intervention of commission charges	98	81.66
IV. Economic Constraints			
1.	Perishability of fruits results in economic losses	29	24.16
2.	High labour charges for skilled laborers	48	40.00
3.	High cost of establishment at initial stage	30	25.00
4.	High of cost of production	22	18.33
5.	Costly in maintenance of processing units	93	77.50

Post harvest and Production Constraints

Referring to the post harvest and production constraints cent per cent of the respondents expressed as “lack of storage facility for fruits and processed products” followed by 75.83 per cent were expressed “lack of information about processing machineries” and “lack of transportation facility” (28.33%). The limited scope was given by the concerned agencies with respect to storage facilities. The main reason for this was due to the non availability of technicians for maintenance of cold storage/warehouse and also very difficult to manage with limited staff. Probably this may be the reason for expressed these are the major problems.

Marketing Constraints

It can be seen from Table 1 that the major marketing constraint faced by mango growers was “price fluctuation in the mangoes” as expressed by cent per cent of respondents, followed by 87.50 per cent were expressed “lack of marketing facility for processing products” 81.66 per cent were expressed “intervention of commission charges” and “lack of co-operative marketing system” (76.66%). The price fluctuation in the agriculture and horticulture produces was the major constraints for the farmers. Even this problem was experienced by the mango grower farmers also. Due to glut in the market, the mango price will reduce similarly during demand prices will hike. This market fluctuation can't predicted by even marketing experts. Hence, respondents may expressed price fluctuation

was the major problem. The results are in accordance with the findings of Raghavendra (2007) and Ashok Kumar Bennur (2011).

Economic Constraints

As regards economic constraints, majority (77.50%) of the respondents expressed as “costly in maintenance of processing units”, followed by 40.00 per cent were expressed “high labour charges for skilled laborers”, 25.00 per cent were expressed “high cost of establishment at initial stage” and “high of cost of production” (18.33%). To establish an entrepreneurial activity requires high basic investment. It is risk task to the farmers to take up such risk with high investment. After establishment of an processing units, the maintenance of processing unit are also a challenging one. The continuous functioning of such units needs so much of money. This may be the reason by the farmers to express costly maintenance of the processing units.

Suggestions of Mango Growers

Suggestions were sought on the various aspects from the respondents. They were asked to offer suitable constructive suggestions to overcome the constraints encountered by them in adopting cultivation practices and entrepreneurship activities.

A critical look at Table 3 revealed that among the various suggestions made by the respondents “government should establish cold storage units”, was the most important suggestion made by 81.66 per

Table 3
Suggestions to overcome from the constraints faced by the mango growers

Sl. No.	Suggestions	No.	%
1.	Provide training on orchard management during drought period	88	73.33
2.	Detailed information regarding post harvest technology should be given	68	56.66
3.	Information regarding export should be provided	39	32.50
4.	Training programme should be arranged regularly	75	62.50
5.	Provide information about market prices of different markets	85	70.83
6.	Establish of co-operative market for farmers	72	60.00
7.	Government should establish cold storage units	98	81.66
8.	Government should establish processing units	83	69.16
9.	The Subsidies on drip irrigation system may be increased	66	55.00
10.	The practical knowledge regarding plant protection and fertilizers application at proper time should be given	38	31.66
11.	The Government should give financial support in the situation of drought period.	58	48.33
12.	Supply of planting material by the department of horticulture at subsidized rates	42	35.00
13.	Regular and timely supply of fertilizers and other inputs with subsidy	61	50.83
14.	Study tours to visit progressive mango farmers fields	26	21.66
15.	Imparting technical training and guidance on various entrepreneurial activities.	64	53.33

cent of the respondents. The mangos harvested only three months in the year i.e., May to July. Because of absence of the proper cold storage facilities nearly about 27 per cent of fruits are wasting, to get good price for harvested products it must properly stored. This might be the reason that respondents were suggested government should take initiation to establish cold storage for the benefit of mango growers.

The findings are in line with the studies of Ashok Kumar Bennur (2011). 73.33 per cent were suggested "provide training on orchard management during drought period". Water is major crisis in dry land areas, the farmers were facing acute water problem throughout the year to manage their crops in Kolar and Ramanagar districts, to protect their crops they might have suggested that they need training on management of mango orchards during drought period. 70.83 per cent were suggested "provide information about market prices of different markets". This suggestion expressed because market prices of mango were reported to be highly fluctuating and mango growers were invested more amount in mango production. So they suggested for information about market prices of different market should be made available to them. 69.16 per cent were suggested "government should establish processing units, 62.50 per cent were suggested "training programme should be arranged regularly". Mainly in the study area, most of the respondents not aware about the recommended cultivation practices and entrepreneurship activities in mango enterprise. Hence to get technical information and guidance they expressed training programme should arrange regularly.

CONCLUSION

Lack of storage facilities, lack of knowledge on post harvest technologies, lack of co-operative marketing society, lack of transportation facility, non-availability of skilled labourers, and lack of processing units were the important problems encountered by mango

growers in production and marketing of mango. In order to overcome these problems, Firstly, establishment of cold storage units, co-operative marketing society and processing units is the immediate need. This will not only overcome the risk in spoilage of fruits for want of storage facility but also guarantee for increased profits by processing the fruits. Secondly, In India it is believed that tremendous young entrepreneurial talent exists, if properly harnessed this talent it could help in solving many serious problems facing by the agriculture and allied sectors of the country. Harnessing latent entrepreneurial talent through entrepreneurship training to various target groups particularly to young farmers of the country may solve many problems of the country.

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