

**A STUDY ON THE FACTORS DETERMINING THE SUCCESS
OF CINNAMON CULTIVATION IN GALLE DISTRICT**

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ABSTRACT

When we heard the word "Cinnamon", naturally the word come to our mind is Ceylon. Ceylon cinnamon was doubtlessly the finest in the world and Sri Lanka had been the largest supplier of cinnamon to the world. Cinnamon is one among the important few products indigenous to the island.

Cinnamon in Sri Lanka has decreased in its total production and average yield without many changes in the extent of cultivation during the last decades. Although cinnamon is one of the major spices important in export economy with more than 90% of the total production, being exported. Cinnamon at present the most important spices to predominant export agriculture crop in Sri Lanka in terms of foreign exchange earning. It contribute to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is very high. At the moment over 85,000 families and 150,000 labors are actively involved in this industry. So development of this industry will bring more and more foreign exchange and employment opportunities for rural farmers in coastal belt Sri Lanka. Hence my endeavor is to determine the success factors of cinnamon cultivation in Galle district. Cinnamon growers are not satisfied with continuing this crop, because profit is low but there are have enough market and demand. These have presently created an uncertainty regarding future of the cinnamon cultivation in the Galle district.

This study investigated into factors determining the success of cinnamon quills production in Galle district. A field survey was conducted covering 100 cinnamon farmers in three divisional secretariats in Galle district. Objective of this study was to factors determine the success of cinnamon cultivation.

Study reveals that there were several problems of cinnamon farmers such as shortage of skilled labour (83%), low labour productivity, very high cost of harvesting and processing (50% of income), use of inappropriate technology (all the farmers use drying under shade), traditional management of processing and grading (54% do not practice any grading before selling), lack of market information to the growers, lack of knowledge about quality requirements (80 % of respondents have poor sanitary condition of their processing shelter and final product) and inadequate government subsidies (16%).

In the study area the average income of the cinnamon farmer was Rs 21,000 per month and the farmer's had to pay $\frac{1}{2}$ of them to the Labors for processing and grading. Development of appropriate machinery, education and training of peelers, make producer aware of the proper sanitary standards, provide necessary institutional support, eliminating the middleman involvement and supply of subsidized credit facilities identified as recommendations to improve the cinnamon productivity and quality.

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