

STUDY ON THE PROBLEM FACED BY THE VEGETABLE FARMERS

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ABSTRACT

Vegetable industry plays an important economic role in all over the world. It is more complex and burning issue in the development countries. As vegetable is most significant food to those people. They take more concentration on vegetable production like other countries in the world. Sri Lanka also has a great potential for vegetable production. There are two main groups of vegetables grown in Sri Lanka based on the agro-ecological adoptability. The upcountry (hilly areas) vegetables constitute crops. The other group constitutes the low-country (plains) vegetables constitute.

Even though most of the rural areas in Sri Lanka get high output from their vegetable production. But the vegetable farmers are unable to get more profit due to lack of investment, marketing facilities, institutional support, Entrepreneurial characteristics and higher cost of production for the vegetable production. The Badulla District is one of them which facing many problems concerning above factors of vegetable production.

The research study's conceptualization framework has developed by the variables such as financial status, cost of input, marketing facilities, Institutional support and entrepreneurial characteristics. Primary and secondary data were used in this study. Primary data were collected from questionnaire and interviews with vegetable farmers. The secondary data collected from the Divisional secretariat Reports of this division.

Statistical data from related publications, Articles, Magazine and Newspaper. 100 vegetable farmers were selected as sample and questionnaire were issued to them to

collect the data. Collected data was analyzed by univariate analysis, after that they were presented in frequency table. For this using the computer packages SPSS and Excel.

The study was found vegetable farmers are very much enthusiastic in vegetable production. They are also very much interested in participating in training courses in relation to vegetable production; however, inadequate technical knowledge is the main feature among them. Presently their investments needs were met local credits at a higher interest rate; in the mean time they are following the traditional methods.

Furthermore for the efficient vegetable production activity sufficient technical knowledge is required however, there are lacks of training centers locally. Marketing trend for the vegetable products were moderate and cost of input of vegetable production also moderate for them. These are the main factors found in the research. Eventually this research report recommends some solution that help to the vegetable development in Badulla district.

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