



THE WORKING GROUP ON HORTICULTURE DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract:

The unit on gardening development may be a Centrally Sponsored theme for the holistic growth of the gardening sector covering fruits, vegetables, root & tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cashew, cocoa and bamboo. whereas Government of Bharat (GOI) contributes eighty fifth of total outlay for biological process programmes all told the states except the states in North East and Himalayas, V-J Day share is contributed by State Governments. within the case of North jap States and chain States, GOI contribution is 100%. Similarly, for development of bamboo and programmes of National gardening Board (NHB), Coconut Development Board (CDB), Central Institute for gardening (CIH), Nagaland and therefore the National Level Agencies (NLA), GOI contribution are 100%. pointers concerning implementation of the theme square measure delineated hereafter.

KEY WORDS:

horticulture development, fruits, vegetables, root, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut,

INTRODUCTION:

Origins of Horticulture are intimately associated with the history of mankind. The term horticulture which is probable of relatively recent origin, first appeared in written language in the seventeenth century.

The first known use of the word horticulture is in Peter Lauremberg's treatise of that name written in 1633. Horticulture is first mentioned in England by E. Philips in the world of English words, London, 1678.

The word is derived from the Latin words "hortus" (garden) and "colere" (to cultivate). The concept of the culture of gardens as distinct from the culture of fields that is agriculture is a medieval concept, indicative of the practices of that period. Agriculture now refers broadly to the technology of raising plants and animals.

Horticulture is that part of plant agriculture concerned with the so-called "garden Crops" as contrasted with agronomy (fields, crops, mainly grains and forages) and forestry (forest, trees and products).

Horticulture deals with an enormous number of plants. Garden crops, traditionally includes fruits, vegetables and ail the plants grown for ornamental purposes as well as spices and medicinal. Many horticultural products are utilized in the living state and are thus highly perishable constituent. In contrast, the products of agronomy and forestry are often utilized in the nonliving state and are usually high in any

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matter.

Horticulture can be defined as "that branch of agriculture concerned with intensively cultured plants directly used by people for food, for medicine purposes or for an aesthetic gratification". The industry is usually sub-divided according to the kinds of products and the uses which they are put to. The production of edibles is represented by pomology (fruit crops) and olericulture (vegetable crops). The production of ornaments is represented by floriculture and landscape horticulture.

IMPORTANCE OF HORTICULTURE

The aesthetic use of plants is a unique feature of horticulture, distinguishing it from other agricultural activities.

Horticulture is an art and many of its practices have been empirically derived. However, Horticulture as agriculture has become intimately associated with science.

Fruits and vegetables are rich and comparatively cheaper source of vitamins and minerals.

There are two primary requirements for good human nutrition. First there must be a provision of an adequate total amount of food in terms of calories to provide the energy necessary to carry out the normal activities of a human being and to prevent actual hunger. In the second place the food intake must be balanced so that there is sufficient intake of proteins which is necessary for the building and replacement of tissues. The other necessary factors are vitamins and minerals without which the body cannot be maintained in a state of health. Fruits help to meet both of these requirements. But the requirement of individual members obviously depends on their specific composition and on the quantities in which they are eaten.

In the year 1990-91 dry area in Maharashtra was 85%. It was difficult for small and marginal farmers to face the agricultural problems. They had to suffer loss due to natural calamities. Taking into consideration this fact the Government of Maharashtra in the eighth five-year plan decided to launch the most ambitious horticulture development programme. Peculiarity of this programme is that the programme is linked with the famous employment guarantee scheme. Limit of 100 crores was fixed for this programme. It was also decided to increase the amount considering the response and success to it. It was announced that if necessary the amount could be increased.

In the year 1990-91 following was the picture of cultivation of land in Maharashtra.

NATURE OF LAND	HECTARES IN LACS
Land under Cultivation	182.00
Area of Total wasteland	29.00
Area under Fruit Cultivation	2.42
Area under vegetable cultivation	1.55
Area under flowers and Masala Crops	1.88
Total area under horticulture	5.85

Source : Panchayat Samiti Baramati Agriculture Department

In the year 1990-91, 182 Lac hectares of Land was under cultivation. Out of that only 5.85 Lac hectares of land was used for horticulture purposes. Out of that only 2.42 Lac hectares of land was used for cultivation of fruits; 1.88 Lac hectares of land was used for cultivation of flowers and Masala crops. According to the table, 29 Lac hectares of land was not used for cultivation. It is known as wasteland. There was sufficient scope to use such land for Fruit Cultivation.

VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH HORTICULTURE DEVELOPMENT

In the year 1990-91, it was thought necessary to develop villages in Maharashtra. Under the leadership of Shri Sharad Pawar, Chief Minister of Maharashtra necessary changes were made in the "Rojgar Hami Yojana". Productivity and rural employment problem were considered, while modifying the Rojgar Hami Yojana. Annual Expenditure on RHY was Rs. 250 crores. Objectives behind this expenditure were to improve the financial condition of farmers and agricultural labour, to develop small villages; to develop agriculture and irrigation and to develop the financial position of small farmers. All the above

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mentioned expectations were quite appropriate.

AGRICULTURE IN MAHARASHTRA AND SCOPE FOR THE PROGRAMME

Like Industrial production, agricultural production is also an important part of national income. Agriculture is the base of Indian Economy. More than 70% population depends on agriculture. The rural economy is significant part of national economy.

In Maharashtra, industrial development was started in 1950. Many attempts were made for it. Maharashtra is leading industrial state. But Industry has been centralized in urban areas away from rural area. People in rural areas depend on agriculture and agriculture depends on irregular rainfall. There is too much disparity in production. Only 12% to 13% of land is irrigated. To increase the irrigation attempts are being made, small dams have been built and moderate systems of irrigation are started. But it requires huge financial investment. We do not have sufficient funds for that. There are some limitations on the use of such water resources.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF INSTITUTIONAL BENEFICIARIES

Institutional beneficiaries will have to fulfill the following conditions:

1. Grampanchayat or other institution can participate in the programme after passing the necessary resolution for that purpose in its board meeting.
2. Chairman of Co-operative institution, Secretary of any institution, Sarpanch of Grampanchayat, Village development officer or Gramsevak shall give in writing the agreement for participation.
3. Institutional beneficiaries shall collect the necessary documents and prepare project report. After inspection of their work amount of subsidy will be released to them twice in the year.
4. If institutional beneficiary fails to fulfill conditions or fails to provide necessary co-operation, its name can be cancelled from the list of institutional beneficiaries. The institutional beneficiary will have to refund the amount of subsidy received with interest.

FRUITS CULTIVATION AND ROJGAR HAMI YOJANA

Horticulture Development Programme is linked to Rojgar Hami Yojana. For the smooth implementation the provisions of Rojgar Hami Yojana are relaxed upto certain extent:

1. There will be no muster for attendance for the beneficiaries who work on their own farms. But they will have to declare the names of their family members. And it will be presumed that they all will work under Rojgar Hami Yojana.
2. This programme will not include the building of shelters and keeping medicines under Rojgar Hami Yojana.
3. Under this programme coupons would not be issued to beneficiaries for foodgrains.
4. Every month there will be inspection of the work done by each beneficiary and only after that the amount of subsidy would be credited to the bank account of the beneficiary. Amount would be credited by Cheque. At the end of the year according to the expenditure first year labour charges would be credited to bank account of beneficiary.

PROCEDURE OF PLANTATION FOR EACH CROP

The Programme details the procedure of plantation for each crop and the beneficiaries have to follow the procedure. Officers will supervise the activities of beneficiaries.

PROCEDURE OF PLANTATION OF EACH CROP

CROP	DISTANCE FOR PLANTATION	NO. OF PLANTS PER HECTARE
Mango	10 x 10 Meters	100
Cashews	7x7 Meters	200
Ber	5x5 Meters	400
Custard Apple	5x5 Meters	400
Am la	7x7 Meters	200
Tamarind	7x7 Meters	200
Jack-Fruit	7x7 Meters	200
Rose Apple	10 x 10 Meters	100
Wood Apple	10 x 10 Meters	100
Bullock-heart	6x6 Meters	277
Coconut	8x8 Meters	150
Orange	6x6 Meters	277
Sweet Lime citron	6x6 Meters	277
Sapota	10 x 10 Meters	100
Pomegranates	5x5 Meters	400
Guava	6x6 Meters	277
Lichi	7x7 Meters	200
Fig	5x5 Meters	400
Lemon	6x6 Meters	277
Kokum	7x7 Meters	200
Charoli	7x7 Meters	200

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