

AERC REPORT 145

State of Rajasthan Agriculture 2011-12

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Foreword

Rajasthan, the largest state of India, is endowed with diverse soil and weather conditions comprising of several agro-climatic situations that helps the state to adopt a diversified cropping pattern. The state is India's largest producer of mustard, pearl millet (bajra), and three spices (coriander, cumin, and fenugreek), cluster beans, isabgol and it is the second largest producer of maize. The state has a substantial area under vegetable crops. It is also having the second largest herd of livestock amongst Indian states contributing about 10 percent of the country's milk and 30 percent of mutton production. The diversified cropping pattern and the presence of livestock as a major livelihood source has helped the state in managing the wide range of risks associated with dryland agriculture. However, the state faces many challenges that are to be addressed systematically so as to facilitate a sustainable development of the sector. In order to understand the prevailing impediments and challenges to agricultural growth in various states, the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India proposed to carry out state specific report focusing on agriculture scenario which were assigned to various AERCs/ units located at different states in India. The Agro-Economic Research Centre, Vallabh Vidyanagar was entrusted to prepare report on agriculture scenario in the states of Rajasthan and Gujarat. The framework of the report was given by the Ministry.

This report presents the state of agriculture in Rajasthan by using secondary data collected from various published sources. The present study evaluates the performance of agriculture in the State of Rajasthan in the recent years and also presents what could be the future options, given our objectives of accelerated growth, inclusiveness and reduction of poverty. I am thankful to Dr Mrutyunjay Swain and his research team for putting in a lot of efforts to complete this excellent piece of work.

I also thank the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India for the unstinted cooperation and support. It is hoped that this study will be useful to agricultural scientists, economists, non-governmental organizations, policy makers and planners in understanding the present state of agriculture sector in Rajasthan.

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Contents

<i>Foreword</i>		<i>iii</i>
<i>Acknowledgements</i>		<i>vi</i>
<i>List of Tables</i>		<i>vi</i>
<i>List of Figures and Maps</i>		<i>vii</i>
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>		<i>viii</i>
Section I	Introduction	01
Section II	Rajasthan Agriculture: Performance and Challenges	04
Section III	Natural Resource Management	16
Section IV	Farm Inputs and Management	22
Section V	Agricultural Research, Education and Extension	28
Section VI	Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries	29
Section VII	Post Harvest Management and Value Addition	30
Section VIII	Conclusions	31
	References	33

List of Tables

Table No.	Title	Page
1	Composition of Population in Rajasthan (2001)	3
2	Sectoral Composition of Net State Domestic Product(NSDP) at constant (2004-05)price	4
3	Compound Growth Rate (%) in Crop Area, Production and Yield in Rajasthan	7
4	Growth in Area, Yield and Production in Rajasthan, 1991-2010	8
5	Food grains Production in Rajasthan and India	8
6	Compound Annual Growth Rate of Area, Production and Yield of major crops in Rajasthan	12
7	Change in Yearly Average Prices of Agricultural Commodities	14
8	Warehousing Capacity and No. of Godowns	15
9	Salient Features of Agro-Climate Zones of Rajasthan	16
10	Land Utilisation Pattern in Rajasthan	17
11	Land Holding Pattern in Rajasthan	18
12	Ceiling Limits on Land Holdings	19
13	Rainfall Pattern in Rajasthan	20
14	Consumption of Fertilizers in Rajasthan	24
15	Irrigated Area in Rajasthan during 2007-08 to 2009-10	25
16	Source wise Agricultural Credit Disbursement in 2011-12	27
17	Performance of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme	28
18	Performance of Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme	28
19	Performance of Dairy Development Sector in Rajasthan	30

List of Figures and Maps

Sr. No.	Title	Page
1	Sectoral Composition of NSDP in Rajasthan (2007-08 and 2011-12)	6
2	Growth of Agricultural Area, Yield and Production (1991-2010)	7
3	Change in Cropping Pattern in Rajasthan (1990-91 & 2010-11)	10
4	Requirement and Distribution of Certified /Quality Seeds	23
5	Seed Replacement Rate (%)	23
6	Change in Gross Irrigated Area by Sources (1990-91 & 2009-10)	26
Map 1	Crop Distribution in Rajasthan	9

List of Abbreviations

APMC	- Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee
ATC	- Advance Technology Centre
BCM	- Billion Cubic Metres
CAGR	- Compound Annual Growth rate
CAZRI	- Central Arid Zone Research Institute
DES	- Directorate of Economics and Statistics
DMIC	- Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC)
FYP	- Five Year Plan
GCA	- Gross Cropped Area
GCF	- Gross Fixed Capital Formation
GDP	- Gross Domestic Product
GSDP	- Gross State Domestic Product
GOI	- Government of India
GoR	- Government of Rajasthan
Ha/ha	- Hectare
KVK	- Krishi Vigyan Kendra
MSP	- Minimum Support Price
MGNREGA	- Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
NABARD	- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
NAIS	- National Agricultural Insurance Scheme
NCA	- Net Cropped Area
NFSM	- National Food Security Mission
NHM	- National Horticulture Mission
NSDP	- Net State Domestic Product
NSSO	- National Sample Survey Organization
RSWC	- Rajasthan State Warehousing Corporation
SAU	- State Agriculture Universities
SPS	- Sanitation and Phyto-Sanitation