Indian Journal of Extension Education
Vol. 49, No. 1 & 2, 2013 (121-122)

Analysis of Employment Generation due to Chrysanthemum Cultivation in Mandya District of Karnataka

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ABSTRACT

The study was conducted during the year 2009-2010 in Mandya district of Karnataka. Total employment generation in terms of mandays due to chrysanthemum cultivation was found to be up to 50 mandays which is considered as low and it constitutes around 43.33 per cent followed by 35.00 per cent (51 to 80 mandays) and 21.67 per cent (more than 80 hours) had medium and high category respectively of total employment generation in terms of mandays due to chrysanthemum cultivation. Further, low level of family men labour were used by 43.33 per cent, while low family women labour were used by 45.00 per cent. More than half (52.50%) of hired men labour were utilized and it was 55.00 per cent in case of hired women labour.

Key words : Flower, chrysanthemum, employment generation and labour requirement

INTRODUCTION

Flowers happen to be a very important part of our social system. Flower crops have been identified as most remunerative for replacing subsistence farming in rainfed, dry land, hills, arid and coastal eco-system. The arrival of new born in the family is rejoiced with flowers, the sick are wished speedy recovery by offering flowers, while the dead are bidden farewell with flowers along with tears of sorrows. Flowers are extensively used for decoration. Flowers are also largely grown for cut flowers, making essential oils, water gulkand, perfumes, medicines *etc*. The floriculture industry is growing at a rate of 17 per cent per annum (Singhal, 2003). The commercial value of chrysanthemum with respect to its area and production is gaining importance in the country at large and more so in Karnataka in the recent years. Therefore, it was considered worth while to know the employment generation and labour requirement of this flower crop in Karnataka, particularly in Mandya district. Keeping in view of these facts, the present study was planned with the specific objective of ascertaining the employment generation due to chrysanthemum cultivation.

METHODOLOGY

The present research study was carried out in Krishna RajPet and Nagamangala taluks of Mandya district of Karnataka, which were purposely selected for the study as chrysanthemum flower growers are more in these taluks. An ex-post-facto research design was employed for conducting the study. The data were collected from 120 randomly selected respondents by using a structured interview schedule employing personal interview method. Frequencies collected data, were scored, quantified, categorized and tabulated using statistical methods like percentage analysis, mean, standard deviation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The details pertaining to the employment generation from chrysanthemum cultivation were quantified and presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Total Employment Generation due to Chrysanthemum Cultivation (For one acre)
n=120

Category	Frequency	Per cent
Low (Up to 50 mandays)	52	43.33
Medium (51 to 80 mandays)	42	35.00
High (More than 80 mandays)	26	21.67

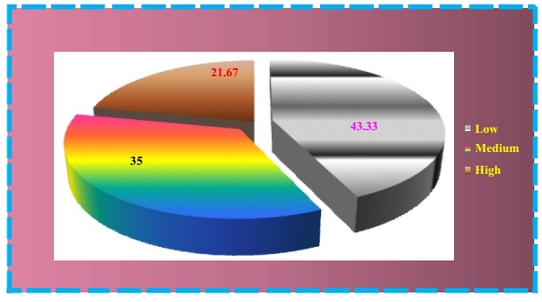

Fig. 1 : Employment Generation due to Chrysanthemum Cultivation

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The results shown in the Table I and Figure 1 emphasized that, total employment generation in terms of mandays due to chrysanthemum cultivation was up to 50 mandays which is considered as low as it constitute around 43.33 per cent followed by 35.00 per cent (51 to 80 mandays) and 21.67 per cent (more than 80 hours) which are considered to be medium and high category, respectively of total employment generation in terms of mandays due to chrysanthemum cultivation. Chrysanthemum cultivation is a labour intensive activity. In the critical practices like nipping, weeding, fertilizer application and harvesting it requires intensive labour hence, it creates opportunities for employment generation. The study result is in line with the findings of Singh (1992) and Vani (2005).

Table 2: Type of Labours Used for Chrysanthemum Cultivation (For one acre)

n=120

Category	Frequency	Per cent
Family Men Labour		
Low (Up to 24 members)	52	43.33
Medium (25 to 37 members)	41	34.17
High (More than 37members)	27	22.50
Family Women Labour		
Low (Up to 6 members)	54	45.00
Medium (7 to 14 members)	38	31.67
High (More than 14 members)	28	23.33
Hired Men Labour		
Low (Up to 10 members)	33	27.50
Medium (11 to 14 members)	63	52.50
High (More than 14 members)	24	20.00
Hired Women Labour		
Low (Up to 5 members)	33	27.50
Medium (6 to 17 members)	66	55.00
High (More than 17 members)	21	17.50

The data presented in the Table 2 shows that the family men labour used in chrysanthemum cultivation was to the extent of 43.33 per cent which is categorized as low (up to 24 members) followed by 34.17 per cent as medium category (25 to 37 members) and only 22.50 as were high category (More than 37members). As regards family women labour used, it was found that low category constituted 45.00 per cent (upto 6 members), medium category comprised around 31.67 per cent (7 to 14 members) and remaining 23.33 per cent fell in the high category (more than 14 members). Further, more than half (52.50 %) belonged to medium group (11 to 14 members) whereas, 27.50 per cent were in low category (upto 10 members) and 20.00 per cent were in the high category (more than 14 members). Apart from this in case of hired women labour, 55.00 per cent constituted medium category, that is, 6 to 17 members followed by 27.50 per cent (upto 5 members) and 17.50 (More than 17 members) fells under low and medium category respectively. As a commercial flower, it generated more hired labours than family labours, because of requirement of more labours during harvesting time than any other practices.

CONCLUSION

The chrysanthemum flowers an important place in Indian culture and religious functions. There is lot of scope for exporting chrysanthemum flowers. In this context farmers can bring more land under chrysanthemum cultivation which helps in overcoming unemployment problem as it requires continuous labour supply and growers can realize more economic returns.

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