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A STUDY ON THE SMALL CARDAMOM PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS FROM INDIA**Dr. S.VARADHARAJ****HEAD****DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
GOVERNMENT ARTS & SCIENCE COLLEGE
PERUMBAKKAM, CHENNAI****A.RAM PRAKASH****RESEARCH SCHOLAR****BHARATHIAR UNIVERSITY
COIMBATORE****ABSTRACT**

Cardamom is popularly known as "Queen of spices". Earlier, India was a single largest producer and supplier of Cardamom but, from 2002 onwards, Guatemala replaced India as the premier producer of the spice. Still India plays a significant role in the international trade because of the aroma and flavor of its cardamom. Two varieties of cardamom are produced in India. 1) Cardamom Small cultivated in southern states like Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu 2) Cardamom large or Nepal cardamom cultivated in sub Himalayan hills of Sikkim and Darjeeling. The two major commercial varieties of small cardamom in the world are the Malabar and the Guatemalan. Indian cardamom is slightly smaller, but more aromatic. Countries in the west/south Asian regions such as Saudi Arabia, UAE, and India account for around 60-65% of the world's consumption. At present India is the largest consumer of small cardamom after Saudi Arabia.

KEYWORDS

cardamom, correlation, export, production, regression.

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INTRODUCTION

The Tamil laureate and poet-prince Ilango Adigal mention about Cardamom in his poetic rendition of "Silappatikaram". "Thevaram of Thirunaikar (700 AD) praised the rampant vegetation of Cardamom hills. There is a Tamil book namely 'Elathe'. Raghuvamsa of Kalidasa finds the prosperity of Pandya rules in the abundance of Cardamom plantations.

Small cardamom, popularly known as 'Queen of Spices' is a tall perennial herbaceous plant in the family Zingiberaceae. Cardamom of commerce is the dried capsule of this shade loving plant indigenous to the evergreen forests of Western Ghats of South India. It is grown extensively in hilly regions of South India at elevations of 800-1300 m as an understory crop in forest lands. The cultivation of cardamom is confined to southern states of Kerala, Karnataka and Tamilnadu. It is also cultivated in Sikkim, Assam and West Bengal in limited areas.

Cardamom is also grown in Sri Lanka, Papua New Guinea, Tanzania and Guatemala.

Cardamom is one of the few crops, the production of which leaves large surplus for exports in all the producing countries. India used to hold a near monopoly in the International trade in this commodity till 1970s. In recent times, Guatemala emerged as a large competitor to India's international cardamom trade due to steep rise in production. Even though India was now in second position, Indian cardamom is widely used and demanded by the world community due its aroma and flavor which is absent in Guatemala cardamom. Consumption of cardamom in India is about 90 per cent. Remaining ten per cent is embarked for exports.

Global consumption is 15000-24000 mt. and the domestic consumption is around 11000 mt. cardamom is mainly used for industrial use especially in pharmaceutical, ayurvedic and cosmetics industry.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Shahul Hameedu, M (2014) pointed out that Udumbanchola Taluk is the major area of cardamom production in the state of Kerala affected by viral diseases such as Katte and Azhukal diseases. It was found that Spice Park in Puttadi places an important role in marketing of cardamom. Marginal farmers sell their produce without sorting or drying to the local traders for a reasonable price. Absence of grading system at producers' level was the major issue of cardamom industry in Kerala.

Selvamani (2012) explained that the export market of cardamom provides higher contribution towards the national growth and economy. Therefore, the Government should provide the requisite marketing facilities through the appropriate channel to boost the growth of exports of cardamom for the cultivators and growers in Theni and Idukki districts.

Jayesh, T (2010) pointed out that Russia and USA were the stable markets for Indian pepper. As revealed by the values of Indian pepper, Japan was the most reliable market for cardamom. The study further revealed that India's cardamom export share to Japan would increase due to their loyalty for Indian spices.

Chako Jose (1994) indicated that India was the largest producer of Cardamom until (1979-80) and its position came down drastically in the succeeding years. The fluctuation in production of cardamom was mainly due to vagaries of nature. Due to low production export performance of cardamom have decreased.

Gopalakrishnan Nair N, (1987) stated that excessive reliance on Middle East countries were not desirable. Diversification of cardamom trade to affluent nations like USA, South Korea, and Australia etc. will pay more beneficial in the long run.

Mohammed, A and Sajjad (1987) pointed out that there has been a considerable change in the export level of India's cardamom trade to Arabian countries. High price of Indian cardamom was the reason for the declining of export volume. Competitive pricing method is the best solution to sort out the problem.

NEED OF THE STUDY

India was the world's largest producer of cardamom till 1970s. However, steep rise in production from Guatemala has pushed India to second place. But Indian cardamom is preferred by many countries for its flavor. Earlier India was the single larger producer and supplier of cardamom. But from 2000 onwards, Guatemala surpasses India by taking frontline position in production. Even though India is now in second place, Indian cardamom is widely demanded and used by the world community due its aroma and flavor, which is absent in Guatemala cardamom. Consumption of cardamom in India is about 90 per cent. Remaining ten per cent is embarked for exports.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The spice is cultivated principally in three southern states in India, namely, Kerala, Karnataka, and Tamilnadu, which contribute approximately 60%, 31%, and 9%, respectively, of the nation's cardamom output. Cardamom is cultivated mostly under natural forest canopy, except in certain areas in Karnataka (North Karnataka, Chickmagalur, and Hassan districts) and Wayanad district in Kerala state, where it is often grown as a subsidiary crop in areca nut and coffee gardens and in the northern and southern foot hills of Nilgiri district in Tamilnadu, and parts of Madurai Theni, Salem, Tirunelveli, Annamalai and Coimbatore districts.

As in the case of other agricultural commodities, climate exerts great influence on cardamom production, and productivity. In India, cardamom is generally grown under rain-fed conditions, and is affected by ecological changes of the forest habitants and moisture stress. Hence, along with the year to year fluctuations in rainfall, both its quantum and distribution – the output and productivity of cardamom have shown considerable fluctuations. The severe drought that prevailed in certain years not only affected the yield during those years but also in the subsequent years.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objective of the study is to examine the cardamom (Small) production and its performance of exports in India. The following are the specific objectives.

1. To analyze the State wise area, production of cardamom in India
2. To analyze the financial performance of cardamom exports from India
3. To examine the instability and trends in the growth rate of cardamom exports

ANALYSIS

TABLE 1: STATE WISE AREA AND PRODUCTION OF CARDAMOM IN INDIA DURING 2001-02 TO 2015-2016 (Area in hectares and production in million tonnes)

Year/States	Kerala		Karnataka		Tamilnadu		Total	
	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production
2001-02	41347	7256	26002	2145	5007	795	72356	10196
2002-03	41412	8680	26644	2310	5069	930	73125	11920
2003-04	41332	8875	26838	1740	5067	965	73237	11580
2004-05	41378	8616	27094	1879	5253	920	73725	11415
2005-06	41367	9765	27173	1775	5255	1000	73795	12540
2006-07	41362	8545	27611	1725	5255	965	73228	11235
2007-08	39763	7030	24976	1585	4561	835	69300	9450
2008-09	41588	8550	25021	1700	4561	750	71170	11000
2009-10	41593	7800	24956	1550	4651	725	71200	10075
2010-11	41242	7945	25209	1710	4560	735	67186	10390
2011-12	41425	10222	25125	1911	4560	842	71110	12975
2012-13	39660	11350	25050	1800	5160	850	69870	14000
2013-14	39730	14000	25080	1050	5160	950	69970	16000
2014-15	30660	16000	25080	1050	5160	950	60900	18000
2015-16 *	39730	19500	25080	1550	5160	950	69970	22000

Source: Spice Board Annual Reports

* Provisional

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this study, analytical research design has been used to examine the state wise area and production of Cardamom and the export performance of cardamom for the past years for the period from 2001-2002 to 2015-2016 with the help of statistical tools. The study is primarily based on data and information needed was collected from secondary data. Relevant data were also collected from Spices Board Annual Reports and also through web sites. The researcher used the statistical tools like Correlation and Regression analysis to find out State wise, Production and Export performance of cardamom from India.

Regression Analysis: Regression analysis helps in predicting and estimating the value of dependent variable. It is possible to predict the value of one unknown variable (dependent variable) using the value of known variable (independent variable).

Null Hypothesis: There is no impact of Area and Production of cardamom in Kerala

Alternate Hypothesis: There is an impact of Area and Production of cardamom in Kerala

TABLE 2: MODEL SUMMARY

R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	F Value	Sig. Value	Result
0.580	.336	.285	6.581	0.024	Significant

*significant at 5% level

From the above table, the R value explains the relationship between Area and production of cardamom in Kerala. R value 0.580 says there is a good relationship between Area and production. The coefficient of determination (R Square) value 0.336 explains the variations in the model. The Area on production makes an impact 33.6 % on the cardamom production. The significance value of F test 0.024 is less than 0.05, which is significant at 5 % level. It is inferred that the overall relationship between Area and production of cardamom in Kerala is significant.

TABLE 3: COEFFICIENT

Variables		Unstandardized Coefficients		t	Sig. value	Result
		B	Std. Error			
1	(Constant)	40395.371	11766.785	3.433	.004	Significant
	AREA In '000 ha	-.749	.292	-2.565	0.024	Significant

* significant at 5 % level

The significant value of constant 0.004 is less than 0.05, which is significant at 5 % level. The significant value of Area of production 0.024 is less than 0.05, which is significant at 5 % level. It is concluded that the null hypothesis is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted that there is impact of Area on production of cardamom in Kerala. It explains that one hectare increases in Area, which negatively influences the production of cardamom by 0.749 tonnes.

Null Hypothesis: There is no impact of Area and Production of cardamom in Karnataka

Alternate Hypothesis: There is an impact of Area and Production of cardamom in Karnataka

TABLE 4: MODEL SUMMARY

R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	F Value	Sig. Value	Result
0.448	.201	.139	3.265	0.94	Not significant

*significant at 5% level

From the above table, the R value explains the relationship between Area and production of cardamom in Karnataka. R value 0.448 says that there is a good relationship between Area and production. The coefficient of determination (R Square) value 0.201 explains the variations in the model. The Area on production makes an impact 20.1 % on the cardamom production. The significance value of F test 0.94 is more than 0.05 which not significant at 5 % level. It is inferred that the overall relationship between Area and production of cardamom in Karnataka is not significant.

TABLE 5: COEFFICIENT

Variables	Unstandardized Coefficients		t	Sig. value	Result
	B	Std. Error			
1 (Constant)	-2226.741	2173.992	-1.024	0.324	Not significant
AREA In '000 ha	.152	.084	1.807	0.094	Not Significant

* significant at 5 % level

The significant value of constant 0.324 is not less than 0.05, which is not significant at 5 % level. The significant value of Area of production 0.094 is not less than 0.05, which is not significant at 5 % level. It is concluded that the null hypothesis is accepted and alternative hypothesis is rejected, as there is no impact of Area on production of cardamom in Karnataka.

Null Hypothesis: There is no impact of Area and Production of cardamom in Tamilnadu.

Alternate Hypothesis: There is an impact of Area and Production of Cardamom in Tamilnadu.

TABLE 6: MODEL SUMMARY

R	Adjusted R Square	RF Value	Significant Value	Result
0.820	.672	.647	.000	Significant

From the above table, the R value explains the relationship between Area and production of cardamom in Tamil Nadu. R value 0.820 says that there is a good relationship between Area and production. The coefficient of determination (R Square) value 0.672 explains the variations in the model. The Area on production makes an impact 67.2 % on the cardamom production. The significance value of F test 0.000 is less than 0.01 which significant at 1 % level. It is inferred that the overall relationship between Area and production of cardamom in Tamil Nadu is significant.

TABLE 7: COEFFICIENT

Variables	Un standardized Coefficients		t	Sig.value	Result
	B	Std. Error			
1 (Constant)	-426.136	253.033	-1.684	.116	Not significant
Area	.263	.051	5.160	0.000	Significant

* significant at 5 % level

The significant value of constant 0.116 is not less than 0.05, which is not significant at 5 % level. The significant value of Area of production 0.000 is less than 0.01, which is significant at 1 % level. It is concluded that the null hypothesis is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted thus, there is an impact of Area on production of cardamom in Tamil Nadu. It explains that one hectare increases in Area, which influences the production of cardamom by 0.263 tonnes.

EXPORT OF CARDAMOM (SMALL) FROM INDIA

The export quantity of Cardamom and its value in India from 2001-2002 to 2015-2016 is given in the table 3 The export of cardamom was maximum in terms of value in the year 2015-2016 is Rs. 44982.75 lakhs and while it was minimum in 500 tonnes in quantity during 2007-2008. Export value was fluctuating trend throughout the study period.

TABLE 8: EXPORT OF CARDAMOM (SMALL) FROM INDIA FROM 2001-02 TO 2015-2016

Year	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs.Lakhs)
2001-02	1031	6167.80
2002-03	682	4707.42
2003-04	757	3691.70
2004-05	650	2389.50
2005-06	862.7	2682.10
2006-07	650	2236.00
2007-08	500	2475.00
2008-09	750	4726.50
2009-10	1975	16570.25
2010-11	1175	13216.25
2011-12	4650	36322.28
2012-13	2250	18505.92
2013-14	3600	28380.88
2014-15	3795	32346.75
2015-16	5500	44982.75

Source: Spice Board

Correlation analysis: Correlation analysis is a statistical tool used to study the closeness of the relationship between two or more variables the variables are said to be correlated when the movement of one variable is accompanied by the movement of another variable.

Null hypothesis: There is no linear relationship between Quantity and Value in Exports of Cardamom.

Alternative hypothesis: There is linear relationship between Quantity and Value in Exports of Cardamom.

TABLE 9: CORRELATION

Export of Cardamom	Correlation Value	Sig. Value	Result
Quantity Vs Value	0.992	0.000 *	Significant

The Significant value 0.000 is less than 0.01, which is significant at 1 % level. It is concluded that the alternative hypothesis is accepted. That is there is a high correlation between the Export Quantity and Export value of cardamom. It is observed that if the quantity in Tonnes of cardamom increases the value of exports of Cardamom also increases.

HYPOTHESIS

Null Hypothesis (H_0): There is no impact of Quantity on the Value of Cardamom in Exports

Alternate Hypothesis (H_1): There is an impact on Quantity on the Value of Cardamom in Exports.

TABLE 10: MODEL SUMMARY REGRESSION

R	RSquare	Coefficient	Significant value	Result
0.992	0.983	8.582	0.000*	Significant

*significant of 1 % level

The correlation value 0.992 shows that there is a high correlation between Quantity and Export value.

The significant value 0.000 is less than 0.01, which is significant at 1%. It is inferred that the quantity positively influencing the value of the cardamom. The 98.30% the quantity influences the value of cardamom. Hence, alternative hypothesis is accepted.

TABLE 11: COEFFICIENT

Variables		Unstandardized Coefficients		t	Sig.value	Result
		B	Std. Error			
1	(Constant)	-1866.629	779.468	-2.395	.032	Significant
	Quantity (Tonnes)	8.582	.311	27.574	.000	Significant

*significant at 5% level

The significant value of constant 0.32 is less than 0.05, which is significant at 5 % level. The significant value of Area of production 0.000 is less than 0.01, which is significant at 1 % level. It is concluded that the null hypothesis is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted thus, there is an impact of Quantity on the Value of Exports of cardamom in India. It explains that one hectare increases in Quantity, which influences the export of cardamom by 8.582 tonnes.

FINDINGS

The objective of this study is to analyze the performance of the cardamom (small) industry in terms of area, production, exports quantity and its values and their inter-relationship.

The following are the major findings:

It is evident from the fact that the cardamom production during 2015-2016 was 22000 tonnes compared to 18000 tonnes in 2014-2015 an increase of about 4 thousand tonnes registering the highest production in India. This increase in cardamom production can be seen from the production in Kerala by 19500 tonnes in 2015-2016 despite the area of cultivation remain stagnant. According to Spice Board, cardamom exports has been on the rise continuously from 13216.75 tonnes in 2010-11 to 36322.28 tonnes in 2011-2012, 28380.88 tonnes in 2013-2014 to 32345.75 tonnes in 2014-2015. Export of cardamom during 2015-2016 increased by 45% to 5500 tonnes against 3795 tonnes in 2014-2015. The export was higher than the board's target of 3500 tonnes for 2015-2016 registering the highest export performance in the history of cardamom trade. The reason for the increase was due to poor quality of Guatemalan crop and the European and West Asia are looking for good quality spice from India.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The recent initiatives like the new e-auction centre, opening of more spice parks, implementation of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), judicious use of pesticides, application of bio-inputs and better grading would go a long way in assisting the cardamom industry, which will promote the export of cardamom in India. Introduction of irrigation during the summer for the cardamom crop in large coffee/cardamom plantations has stabilized the yield to some extent in certain areas. Finally, the forecasted future indicates that if there a steady increase in supply (production and yield) the quantum of exports both in terms of tonnes and in terms of values are expected to either move up or will remain steady at the present level.

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