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## Constraints perceived and suggestions offered by turmeric growers about turmeric production technology

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**Abstract**

The present study was conducted to find out the constraints faced by the turmeric growers about turmeric cultivation. The important constraints reported by turmeric growers were with respect to unavailability of processing unit, high cost of manure and fertilizers and unavailability of labour at planting and harvesting time. The important suggestions made by turmeric growers were assured selling price of turmeric, processing unit should be available and manure and fertilizers should be available at proper time.

**Keywords:** constraints, suggestions, turmeric growers and turmeric production technology

**Introduction**

India is known as the "Land of Spices". At present India is the largest producer, consumer and exporter of spices in the world. A wide variety of spices are produced in the country. Among various spices grown, turmeric is the second largest spice with a share of 21 per cent followed by chilli (32 per cent) in the total spice production.

The rhizomes of turmeric are fleshy and possess a fragrant, peppery aroma, slightly bitter and musky flavor with warm spicy taste. Turmeric is an important constituent of curry powder and is utilized for unchanging flavour of food items. It is also used as a condiment in vegetables and prepared custard, because of its colour and mild flavour. It is used in pickles and other food stuff as a preservative. It is also used for dyeing wool, silk and cotton textile. As a medicine turmeric has been used in Ayurvedic system of medicine in India. It is claimed to be a stomachic tonic, blood purifier, antiseptic, antacid and carminative.

Turmeric is one of the important cash crops in India. India is the larger producer and exporter of turmeric in the world. Turmeric occupies about 6 per cent of the total area under spices and condiment products in India. In the year 2012-13, turmeric cultivation was 194 thousand ha with the production of 971 thousand tonnes. It reached to 233 thousand ha with the production of 1190 thousand tonnes in the year 2014-15 (Anonymous, 2015) [3].

Chhattisgarh is also one of the important states of turmeric cultivation. In the Chhattisgarh state cultivated area of turmeric is about 11.021 thousands ha with production of 113.34 thousand tonnes (Anonymous, 2014) [2]. Looking to the sizeable area of turmeric in Chhattisgarh state is the present investigation was carried out during the year 2015-16 and 2016-17 with following objectives.

**Objective**

1. To determine the constraints and obtain the suggestions from turmeric growers regarding turmeric cultivation.

**Material and Methods**

The present study was conducted during the years 2015-16 and 2016-17 in Chhattisgarh plains. The state comprises 27 districts, out of which 5 districts were selected purposively on the basis of maximum area and maximum number of turmeric growers. From each selected districts, 2 blocks were selected purposively for the study on the basis of maximum area and maximum number of turmeric growers. From each selected block, 4 villages were selected purposively on the basis of maximum area and maximum number of turmeric growers. From each selected villages, 4 beneficiaries and 4 non-beneficiaries were selected randomly for the comparison between both groups.

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In this way total 320 farmers were considered as respondents for the study. Data were collected by the personal interview method using structured schedule. The *ex-post-facto* research design was used for the study. Appropriate statistical tools used for analysis and interpretation of data.

## Results and Discussion

### Constraints faced by the turmeric growers about turmeric cultivation

**Table 1:** Distribution of the respondents according to their constraints regarding turmeric cultivation

S. No.	Constraints	F*	%	Rank
1	Unavailability of processing unit	172	53.75	I
2	High cost of seed rhizomes	21	6.56	XII
3	Lack of proper market	59	18.44	IX
4	High cost of manure and fertilizers	109	34.06	II
5	Unavailability of fertilizers at proper time	72	22.50	VI
6	Distant market for selling produce	73	22.81	V
7	Unavailability of seed rhizome at proper time	54	16.88	XI
8	High wages of labour	57	17.81	X
9	Unavailability of labour at planting and harvesting time	86	26.88	III
10	Inadequate availability of FYM	61	19.06	VIII
11	High cost of plant protection chemicals	71	22.19	VII
12	Unavailability of storage facilities	76	23.75	IV

\*Data are based on multiple responses

It is observed from Table 1 that 53.75 per cent respondents faced the constraints of unavailability of processing unit, followed by high cost of manure and fertilizers (34.06%), unavailability of labour at planting and harvesting time (26.88%), unavailability of storage facilities (23.75%), distant market for selling produce (22.81%), unavailability of fertilizers at proper time (22.50%), high cost of plant protection chemicals (22.19%), inadequate availability of FYM (19.06%), lack of proper market (18.44%), high wages

of labour (17.81%), unavailability of seed rhizomes at proper time (16.88%) and high cost of seed rhizomes (6.56%).

### Suggestions given by the turmeric growers about turmeric cultivation

Considering the constraints faced by the turmeric growers in cultivation of turmeric crop, they were asked to suggest the probable solutions in order to overcome the constraints and to increase the productivity of crop.

**Table 2:** Distribution of the respondents according to their suggestions regarding turmeric cultivation

S. No	Suggestions	F*	%	Rank
1	Seed rhizomes should be available at proper time	58	18.13	VII
2	There should be provision for assured selling price of turmeric	138	43.13	I
3	Training facility about post harvest technology of the turmeric should be given by the appropriate source like horticulture Department and KVKs.	72	22.50	V
4	Manure and fertilizers should be available at standard rates	84	26.25	III
5	Processing unit should be available	86	26.88	II
6	Provision of market facilities	67	20.94	VI
7	Seed material should be available in low price	26	8.13	VIII
8	Storage facilities should be available	81	25.31	IV

\*Data are based on multiple responses

The data presented in Table 2 that respondents suggested assured selling price of turmeric (43.13%), followed by processing unit should be available (26.88%), manure and fertilizers should be available at proper time (26.25%), storage facility should be available (25.31%), training facility about post harvest technology of the turmeric should be given by the appropriate source like Horticulture department and KVK;s (22.50%), provision of market facilities (20.94%) and seed material should be available in low price (8.13%).

### Conclusion

It was observed that, the important constraints reported by the most of the respondents were, Unavailability of processing unit, high cost of manure and fertilizers, unavailability of labour at planting and harvesting time and unavailability of storage facilities. Majority of turmeric growers were suggested that assured selling price of turmeric, processing unit should be available and manure and fertilizers should be available at proper time.

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