

This study entitled as “**IMPACT OF NATIONAL HORTICULTURE MISSION SCHEME IN BIHAR**” was undertaken at the instance of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Department of Agriculture & Co-operation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India, New Delhi and Co-ordinated by ADRT Centre, Institute of Social & Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore.

In fact, the country’s main policy focus until recently was only on grains and cereals, but it has changed in recent times with the launch of the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) in April 2005, with a view to promote holistic growth of horticultural sector through an area based regionally differentiated strategies. As the programme has entered into its fifth year, it would be necessary to analyze the impact of the programme vis-à-vis objectives of the NHM scheme for horticultural crops like Mango & Litchi in terms of area expansion, increase in production and yield rate.

The study is based on both primary and secondary data. Secondary data relating to the state were mainly obtained from the Directorate of Horticulture, Government of Bihar and on the other hand from various published databases at the state as well as the national levels like National Horticulture Board (NHB), Census of India etc. In case of primary data, two districts from Bihar namely Vaishali and Muzaffarpur have been selected for two crops vis., Mango and Litchi. A total number of 50 sample beneficiary households have been selected for obtaining detailed information through primary survey.

The report has been drafted into six chapters covering logical development of facts and findings and to fulfill the specific objectives of the study. Suitable policy recommendations are also made at proper place. It is hoped that the findings of study will be useful to policy makers, managers and other stakeholders.

The undersigned takes the opportunity to thank Prof. Parmod Kumar, Head, ADRT Centre, ISEC, Bangalore for his co-ordination and guidance at every stage of study. I also offer my deepest thank to all the members of the project team of this study.

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This is immensely important study organized and co-ordinated by ADRT Centre, ISEC, Bangalore. The draft report of the study has been evaluated by Prof. Parmod Kumar, Head, ADRT Centre, Bangalore. I am grateful to him for his valuable comments, which have been attended appropriately while bringing out this report in final shape.

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Table No.	Description of the Tables	Page No.
1.1	Farm wise Distribution of Sample Farms	6
2.1	District wise Geographical, Cultivable and Horticultural Crop Area in Bihar	10
2.2	Area and Production of Horticultural Crops in Bihar	12
2.2 (A)	Growth in Area and Yield of Horticultural Crops (%)	12
2.3	Area and Production of Horticultural Crops at District Level in Bihar 2004-05	14
2.4	Area and Production of Horticultural Crops at Districts Level in Bihar 2008-09	15
2.5	Average Annual Growth Rate in Area and Yield of Horticultural Crops at Districts Level in Bihar from TE 2004-05 to 2008-09	16
2.6	Area and Production of Selected Horticultural Crops in Bihar	18
2.7	Growth rate in Area and Yield rate of Selected Horticultural Crops in Bihar (In %)	18
2.8	Area and Production of Selected Horticultural Crops at Districts Level in Bihar (2004-05)	20
2.9	Area and Production of Selected Horticultural Crops at Districts Level in Bihar (2008-09)	21
2.10	Average Annual Growth Rate in Area and Yield of Selected Horticultural Crops at Districts Level in Bihar from 2004-05 to 2008-09	22
3.1	Demographic Profile of the Selected Farmers (% of Households)	25
3.2	Characteristics of Operational Holdings (acres/Hh)	26
3.3	Sources of Irrigation of Net Cropped Area (%)	26
3.4	Details of Source of Credit by the Selected Household	28
3.5	Details of Purpose of Credit by the Selected Households	28
3.6	Ownership of Productive Assets	29
3.7	Nature of Tenancy in Leasing-in Land (%)	30
3.8	Percentage of Area under HYV Seeds	31
3.9	Cropping Pattern of Selected Farmers (% of GCA for the whole year)	32
3.10	Value of Output, Cost and Net Returns for the Survey Year- Aggregate of all crops (Rs.)	33
4.1	Net Returns Per Acre from Horticultural Crops --- Mango	38
4.2	Net Returns per Acre from Horticultural Crops --- Litchi	39
4.3	Net Returns (Gross Value of Output-total Cost) from Horticultural and Non-Horticultural Crops	40
4.4	Use of Human Labour in Crop Production	41
4.4.1	Use of Human Labour in Mango Crop by Activities	42
4.4.2	Use of Human Labour in Litchi Crop by Activities	43
4.5	Marketing Channels through which Horticultural Products were sold by the Selected households	44
5.1	Impact of NHM on Area and Yield of Mango and Litchi	48
5.2	Sources of NHM Resource Procurement for All Crops during 2004-05 to 2009-10 (% of Hhs)	49
5.3	Promotional Activities of NHM to Increase Area under Horticultural Crops	50
5.4	Details of Subsidy Provided by NHM	51
5.5	Sources of Training/Demonstration Activity Provided to the Farmers	53
5.6	Perception of Households about the NHM	55

Contents

<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Page Nos</i>
	<i>Preface</i>	<i>i</i>
	<i>Acknowledge</i>	<i>ii</i>
	<i>List of Tables</i>	<i>iii</i>
I.	INTRODUCTION	1-8
II.	AREA, PRODUCTION AND PRODUCTIVITY OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS IN THE STATE	9-23
III.	HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS, CROPPING PATTERN AND PRODUCTION STRUCTURE	24-34
IV.	PRODUCTION STRUCTURE AND RESOURCE USE UNDER HORTICULTURAL CROPS	35-46
V.	IMPACT OF <u>NHM</u> ON THE EXPANSION OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS	47-58
VI.	CONCLUDING REMARKS AND POLICY SUGGESTIONS	59-68
	<i>References</i>	<i>69</i>
	Appendix - I: Co-ordinator's Comments on the Draft Report	70
	Annexure - I: Action Taken Report	71

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