

Title of Paper
**ESTIMATING THE RATIO OF FEMALE FARMERS IN EXPORT QUALITY GRAPE
GROWING FARMERS**

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Abstract

Agriculture has an important place in the economy of India. Agriculture plays a major role in the economic progress of the country. Agriculture has a long way to go in the economic improvement of the country. The people of the country are directly or indirectly dependent on agriculture. India exports a large amount of fruits and vegetables and earns a large amount of foreign exchange. The state of Maharashtra in India is famous for grape production and export. Nashik and Sangli districts of Maharashtra are famous for grape production. Grape export farmers have to take more care in grape production than other grape growers. Making exportable grapes requires specific methods and care, from vineyard pruning to grape stalks. Small area grape exporting farmers do not hire managers on their farms so every member of their household has to do farm work and the share of women in the household is high. A farmer woman works alongside her husband in the field after taking care of the household responsibilities. Therefore, in this research paper, the percentage of women in grape exporting families in agriculture has been studied. A study has been done regarding the number of women in Grape Export Farming.

Key words: Female Farmers, Agriculture, Grapes, Export

INTRODUCTION:

Today's women are seen working alongside men in every field; Women are taking the lead in every field and by achieving success in many fields, women have attained an important position. The participation of women is very important in the agriculture sector as well as in other sectors because the women in the farming family have always worked alongside the farmers. Farmer women work 14 to 18 hours a day from the time they wake up in the morning to the time they go to bed at night. Women's participation and empowerment in other sectors is always discussed but the pre-existing participation of women in agriculture sector is not given much attention. Therefore, despite working in the agricultural sector, women do not get an important position as they should. For the progress in the agricultural business, it is necessary to pay attention to the participation and development of women farmers in agriculture.

Nashik district of Maharashtra is famous for grape production and export. Nashik district has many small landholders, medium landholders and large farmers who produce grapes and also export grapes. Farmers producing exportable grapes require more labor than other grape farmers, and the women in their families play a major role in their farming as she takes care of all the responsibilities at home and works equally in the fields. Large farmers appoint managers on their farms, but as small and medium farmers cannot afford the cost of management, every person in their household participates in farm work.

PROFILE OF NASHIK DISTRICT:

Grape is the major fruit crop grown with highest area in the Maharashtra state. Total 15 taluka in Nashik from them 13 taluka having grape cultivation. Agriculture is the major economic activity in the Nashik district as compare to the rest of the India. Nashik district is one of the major agriculturally and industrially develop district in the North Maharashtra. Nashik supplies around 80% grapes and have 55,000 hectares area under cultivation, from this area registered for export 2016-17 is 33,000 hectares.

Sr. No.	Taluka	Total No. of Registered Export Orchard	Total Registered Area (He.)
1	Nashik	3088	2090.03

(Source: superintendent of agriculture department, Nashik)

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To calculate the Percentage of women farmers involved Export Quality Grape Growing in Nashik Taluka.

LIMITATION:

1. Study is related with sample selected from Nashik Taluka only.
2. Study is related with Women involved in Export quality Grape Growing only.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

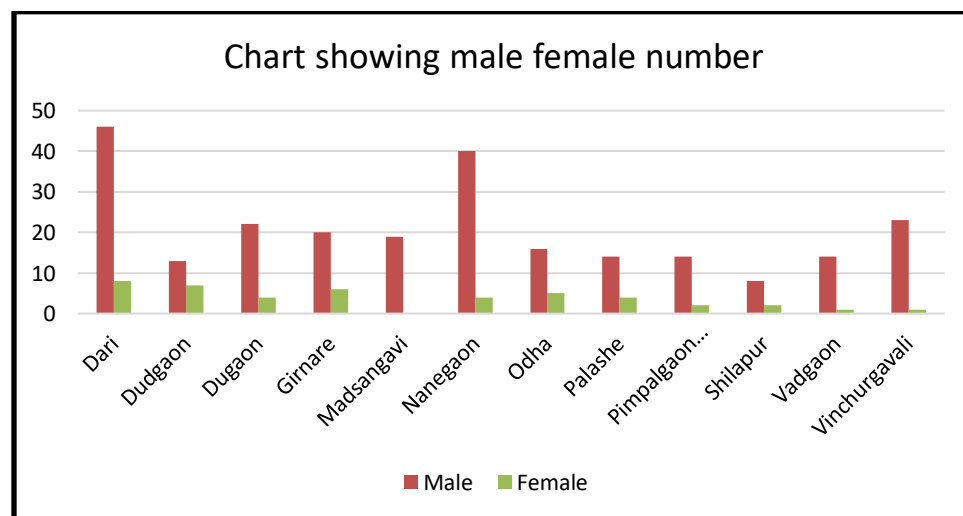
Study is based on Secondary data only. Secondary data was collected from Nashik Agriculture Superintendent office and by collection method which includes various journals, websites and books.

Sample Selection: Nashik Taluka is selected randomly as a population for the study as Nashik is famous for Grape Cultivation. From total Villages of Nashik Taluka in 43 villages total 867 Export quality Grape Growing farmers are there, from those 43 Taluka only 12 villages were selected on the basis of total number of export quality Grape Growing farmers. 12 Villages having 10 or more than 10 export quality Grape growing farmers were selected for study.

Data analysis and Interpretation tools: The collected data was analyzed with the help of Percentage.

DATA ANALYSIS:**Village wise count and Male Female number of Export Quality Grape Growing Farmers**

Sr. No.	Name of Village	No. Of Export Quality Grape Growing farmers	Male	Female	Percentage of female
1	Dari	54	46	8	14.81
2	Dudgaon	20	13	7	35
3	Dugaon	26	22	4	15.38
4	Girnare	26	20	6	23.08
5	Madsangavi	19	19	0	0
6	Nanegaon	44	40	4	9.09
7	Odha	21	16	5	23.81
8	Palashe	18	14	4	22.22
9	Pimpalgaon Garudeshwar	16	14	2	12.5
10	Shilapur	10	8	2	20
11	Vadgaon	15	14	1	6.67
12	Vinchurgavali	24	23	1	4.17
Grand Total		293	249	44	



Interpretation:

Above table and graph shows the Village wise number of male and female in Export Quality Grape Growing farmers of Nashik Taluka. It was found that in Odha village highest percentage of female farmers that is 23.81% then in Giranare that is 23.08%, then Palshe that is 22.22% and in Madsangvi it is found 0% involvement of female farmers.

Chart showing percentage of male and female in total number of export quality Grape growing farmers

Particulars	Farmers	Percentage
Male	249	84.98
Female	44	15.02
Total	293	100

Interpretation:

Above table shows the number of male and female in Export Quality Grape Growing farmers of Nashik Taluka. It is found that from total 293 export quality grape growing farmers 44 are female and 249 are male. It shows 15.02% female learners and 84.98% male farmers.

CONCLUSION:

It is concluded that the ratio of involvement of women in Export Quality Grape Farming is very low as compare to male farmers. The involvement of female farmers should be increased. It was found that in many families female farmers are involved in all process of grape farming but they don't get any credit for their efforts. It is needed to promote the male farmers of family to involve females in farming and should arrange training programs especially for female farmers.

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