

## TREND ANALYSIS OF SESAME PRODUCTION IN ARID RAJASTHAN

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### ABSTRACT

Sesame production trends, problems and prospects in Rajasthan (India) were examined by analysing the secondary data. The problem of decreasing sesame production is traced to decreasing area allocation to the crop. The low yields of local varieties in the absence of viable new technology have tended to take away the area normally used to be allocated to this crop, in the favour of pulses.

### INTRODUCTION

Sesame is the important rainfed oilseed crop with a substantial area in the arid tracts of Rajasthan. In this paper, an attempt has been made to analyse the growth of sesame crop, spatially and temporally, and the prospects of increasing production in the light of the research results obtained on experimental farms of Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur.

### MATERIAL AND METHODS

The data on sesame area and production for the years 1966-67 to 1984-85 for the arid districts, namely, Barmer, Bikaner, Churu, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jhunjhunu, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Pali and Sikar and the State, were taken from the Statistical Abstracts of Rajasthan. The triennium averages, corresponding to terminal years of plan periods, were worked out so as to capture the changes over time, which also represent early green revolution and post green revolution period. Ratio and measures of variation are used as analytical tools to study the variation in trends.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

During the triennium ending 1983-84, area under sesame in arid Rajasthan was 2.09 lakh hectares, constituting 50 per cent of total area under the crop in the state. However, the production of 0.16 lakh tonnes was only 31 per cent of the total production in the state. The average yield was about 78 kg per hectare, compared to an average yield of 168 kg per hectare in the rest of the state of Rajasthan. The average yield for the state as a whole was 126 kg per hectare. The yields at both regional and state level were too low and remained so since the 1960 as could be seen from the Table 1.

endowments and low adoption of modern technology in the area. The subsistence orientation of farming in the area precludes large scale withdrawal of land that is normally allocated to bajra and moong, to other crops, including sesame. The way out from low and stagnating output of sesame crop in the region is therefore, output increases through adoption of modern yield enhancing inputs. This is not taking place owing to absence of a significant breakthrough in evolving high yielding seeds of the crop. A few varieties which have been evolved have not reached the farmers on a large scale to make any dent in overall production.

#### REFERENCES

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