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Constraints in export faced by grape growers

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Abstract

In India, agriculture is the most important economic sector (Sucheta, 2019). It ensures food and income stability. Different types of soil and climate in India, which spans numerous agro-ecological areas, allow for the cultivation of a wide range of horticultural crops. According to a United Nations research on global population trends, India would surpass China as the world's most populous country by 2020. The grape (*Vitis vinifera*) is thought to have originated in Armenia from the regions south of the Black and Caspian seas in Russia, and then moved west and east to temperate and tropical locations. The research was carried out in the Nashik district. Twenty-four villages were chosen at random. A total of 240 farmers were chosen from each community, with ten grape growers chosen from each village. The information was gathered through personal interviews. Pesticide overuse and indiscriminate application have resulted in residue problems in fruits, which is a major concern in most nations, including India. Pesticides' effects on human life, wild life, aquatic life, and environmental change have recently received a lot of attention. Some grape growers reported that the main impediments to grape export were the difficulty in meeting export criteria, as well as lengthy procedures and formalities for export. Other minor issues were a lack of understanding of the export procedure, the absence of updated export market information, the shortage of refrigerated vans, and the lack of exportable varieties.

Keywords: constraints, exports, grape, growers

Introduction

The grape (*Vitis vinifera*) is thought to have originated in Armenia, between the Black and Caspian seas in Russia, and has since expanded to temperate and tropical countries to the west and east. Grape is one of the most delicious fruits and a powerful food. It contains a variety of essential nutrients for a healthy lifestyle. It also has significant medicinal properties and has been utilised in natural medicine for ages. The Moghul invaders introduced the grape to India about 1300 AD. India's agrochemical industries are booming, and the country is now the world's fourth largest producer of agrochemicals, trailing only the United States, Japan, and China. Pesticide usage per hectare in India is currently among the lowest in the world, at 0.6kg/ha, compared to 5-7kg/ha in the United Kingdom and 13kg/ha in China (Mooventhan et al., 2020) [6].

Maharashtra is the most productive state in the country, accounting for more than 82.56 per cent of total production and the greatest productivity. It is followed by Karnataka (11.70 per cent). Fresh grapes are one of India's most important exports. In 2015-16, the country exported 155246 tonnes of grapes worth Rs 1541.95 crore around the world, according to the report. When it comes to growth, fresh grape exports have remained stable, but raisins (dry grape) have grown at a rate of 53.42 per cent each year during the last decade. Fresh and raisins both experienced 18.70 and 61.82 per cent growth in terms of export value, for a total of 20.07 percent growth per year. During the 2015-16 fiscal year, fresh grapes alone accounted for 86.76 percent of India's total grape exports.

Pesticides' effects on human life, wild life, aquatic life, and environmental change have recently gotten a lot of attention. Pesticide use is regulated by government bodies in each country, ensuring that the environment suffers the least amount of harm. The extent of the dangers could be greatly reduced if pesticide residues are kept below their recommended levels (maximum residue limits). Some grape growers reported that the main difficulties to grape export were the difficulty in meeting export criteria, as well as lengthy procedures and formalities for export. Other minor issues such as a lack of awareness about the export process, the absence of updated export market information, the lack of refrigerated trucks, and the lack of exportable kinds were significant.

Export of Grapes (Fresh) from India

Country	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18	
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value	Qty	Value
Netherland	50390.44	58588.51	55010.43	61224.15	58456.97	64753.35
Russia	12445.66	12705.38	22340.94	23466.83	27434.39	27734.44
United Kingdom	17598.08	20654.35	13580.14	15544.22	18594.24	22193.56
Germany	4222.37	4994.07	10467.38	11913.54	16449.51	18091.76
United Arab Emirates	11692.60	9794.17	14597.00	11694.64	13574.90	10971.59
Saudi Arabia	5486.93	4681.37	7308.91	6306.15	9482.96	7116.90
Thailand	3146.12	4011.81	4509.70	5922.65	5043.03	6554.06
Finland	1574.50	2013.04	2079.88	2532.52	2131.87	2854.18
Hong Kong	1056.33	1424.45	2094.50	3060.31	1969.32	2832.70
Belgium	41.60	43.25	4651.57	4900.95	2331.45	2534.07
Sri Lanka	1732.15	2284.91	1776.37	2313.58	2196.06	2441.11
Others	23260.82	15030.27	60054.49	29291.84	30556.46	21917.14
Total	132647.60	136225.58	198471.31	178171.38	188221.16	189994.86

Source: APEDA website accessed on 11.9.2018

Methodology

The present study was conducted in Nashik district of Maharashtra state, as it is one of the most important grape producing regions in Maharashtra state. The district's soil and climatic conditions are highly suitable for grape cultivation. Two tahsils namely Niphad and Dindori selected purposively for this study on the basis of maximum area under cultivation of grape crop. From each selected tehsil, 12 villages were

selected on the basis of higher production of grape crop. Total twenty four villages were selected randomly. From each selected village 10 grape growers were selected from each village making a total sample of 240 farmers. The data were collected through personal interview method. The *ex-post-facto* research design was used for the present study.

Result and Discussion

Table 1: Distribution of the respondents according to constraints of export

Sr. No.	Constraints	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
1.	Lack of access to more exportable varieties	169	70.41	I
2.	Fluctuation in rule and regulations for grape export from importer country	162	67.50	II
3.	Lack of knowledge about packaging and grading	67	27.91	VI
4.	Unavailability of labour during peak period of intercultural operation	87	36.25	V
5.	Non availability of updated export market information	145	60.42	IV
6.	Lack of knowledge about maximum permissible residue level.	155	64.58	III

The constraints in table 1. Observed in export were namely that Lack of access to more exportable varieties (70.41%), fluctuation in rules and regulations for grape export from the importer nation (67.50%), and lack of awareness about the maximum allowable residue level were among the export obstacles identified (64.58 per cent). Up-to-date export market data isn't readily available (60.42 per cent), Lack of labour during peak periods of intercultural operations (36.25%) and lack of understanding regarding packaging and grading (27.91%).

Conclusion

The present indicated that Grape is an important commercial fruit crop of India, which contributes to the maximum share of export of fresh fruits from India to Europe and other parts of the world. Grapes have a significant role in providing considerable employment opportunities for millions of people living in rural areas. As a result, it deserves planned and ongoing attention from exporters, governments, and others. This would go a long way toward increasing the share of Indian grape in both domestic and international markets. Despite the fact that grape growing receives a lot of assistance from Research and Extension, it has a lot of challenges and practical constraints. Appropriate management strategies and actions on a broad front are necessary and success largely depends on extension strategies / approaches and resource mobilization. Because grapes have greater export potential and a well-established market, yet there is no guarantee of receiving payment on time due to the involvement of pre-

harvest contractors in the export sector, the government should make provisions to provide bank guarantees for late payments. One another solution to this can be authorizing buyers and exporters, lack of access to more exportable varieties, most of the time fluctuation in rule and regulations for grape export from importer country at the time to farmers provide the information, lack of knowledge about maximum permissible residue level, unavailability of labour to during peak period of intercultural operation this is most important constraint, lack of knowledge about packaging and grading as the major constraints in export of grapes.

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