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Khamkar S.P.



ONION PRODUCTION AND ITS STORAGE PROBLEM



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ABSTRACT

Onions are cultivated and used by poor and rich around the in Egypt , Canada, Japan ,European countries , Greece, India , China and America . Onion was used the balance of the blood in Greece. It were even used in Egyptian burial and doctors facilities it for headaches cough and snake bite.

There are ten top onion producing countries in the world. After China India is second most important country to producing and exporting country. The major onion producing states are Maharashtra, Karnataka , Gujarat, Bihar and Madhypradesh. In kharif season prices of onions are unlikely to tall significantly because farmers are not able to store it. Maharashtra government gives subsidy to storage onions MSAMB with help of NABARD promote onion producer for scientific onion storage (Kanda Chals)

KEYWORDS :nabard,onion production ,european countries ,greece, india .

INTRODUCTION

The onion known as the bulb onion or common onion, onions are cultivated and used around the world. The onion also contains a number of other species various by referred to as onions and cultivated for food, such as the Japanese bunching onion, Egyptian onion and Canada onion 'Cepa' is commonly accepted as Latin for onion and has an affinity with ancient Greek.

The onion plant was unknown in the wild but her been grown selectively bred in cultivation for at last

7000 years.

The onions were probably being cultivated two thousand years later in ancient Egypt. Onion were taken by the first sellers to North America where the Native Americans were already using wild onion in a number of ways, eating them raw and cooked in a variety of foods. European countries are using onions for every day's use. It is also used in grilling, white onions are the traditional onions that are used in classic Mexican cuisine.

IMPORTANCE OF ONION :

- 1) In ancient Greece, athletes ate large quantities of onion because it was believed to lighten the balance of the blood.
- 2) Onions were even used in Egyptian burials, as evidenced by onion traces being found in the eye sockets of Ramesses.
- 3) Doctors were known to prescribe onions to facilitate lower movements and erections, and to relieve headaches, coughs, snakebite and hair loss. Onions were also prescribed by doctors in early 16th century to help with infertility in women.
- 4) Onion can be rubbed on the skin to prevent insect bites.

NUTRIENTS AND PHYTOCHEMICALS.

Most onion cultivars are about 89% water, 4% sugar, 1% protein, 2% fibre and 0.1% fat and have an energy value of 166 KJ (40 kcal) per 100g (3.5 oz) serving. They contribute their flavor to savory dishes without raising caloric content appreciably. Onion contains vitamins i.e. Thiamine B1, Nicotin B3, Magnesium, phosphorus, zinc, potassium etc

METHODOLOGY :

Primary and secondary data have been taken. For primary data 200 onion farmers are selected. They are producing 2 tonne to 8 tonne onion per year. Farmers belong to Nagar and Pune district. They are doing commercial farming of onion. They produce onions in three seasons i.e. Kharif, Rabi and Late Rabi. Information has been taken from various agriculture officers at Tahasil level.

OBJECTIVE OF STUDY :

- 1) To study the trend of onion production in Maharashtra.
- 2) To study the storage problems of onion.
- 3) To suggest measures to onion producers.

ONION PRODUCTION IN INDIA :

Onion is the largest vegetable produced and consumed not only in India but also in the world. There are ten top onion producing countries. After China, India is the second most important country to produce onions. In India, the states that have been producing onion. The major onion producing states are Maharashtra, Karnataka, Gujarat, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh. We can see the state wise production in the following tables.

TABLE : 1 STAGE WISE ONION PRODUCTION (IN 000MT)

State	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Maharashtra	4905.00	5638.00	4760.00	5870.00	5125.00
Karnataka	2592.20	2451.20	2395.90	2466.40	2448.00
M.P.	1021.50	1957.00	2691.00	2836.00	2800.00
Gujarat	1514.10	1562.20	1704.38	1858.10	1849.20
Bihar	1082.00	1236.74	1107.84	1304.15	1209.19
Andrapradesh	812.60	824.77	1560.06	1525.18	1530.20
Others					
All India	15118.00	17511.20	16813.80	18778.50	17025.60

SOURCE :

- 1) National Horticultural Board (NHB) 2015.
- 2) National Horticultural Research and Development Foundation (NHRDF) 2014-15

Maharashtra is a leading state in India in onion production in Maharashtra, though Nashik , Ahmednagar , Pune and Satara Are the major onion producing districts the production is taken in three seactors.i.e. kharif , Rabi and Late Kharif and Rabi. Though onion is produced in three seasons. the onions produced in Rabi season are only suitable for storage.

IMPORTANCE OF STORAGES

Indian Farmer are producing onion for market and export. Hence it has export. Hence it has export market and export value. Use the crop technology and irrigation for improved onion yields, However, the rich yield is unlikely to translate in to lower prices. In kharif season the wholesale prices of onions are unlikely to tall significantly because farmers are not able to store the crop in big way. Also higher cost of production may not allow them to store onion product. In Rabi season farmer can store product to supply steadily in market prices of onion started inform June and reached pik in Step ,because farmer do not store it properly.

TABLE NO: 2 ONION VARIETIES AND THEIR STORAGE CAPACITY GIVEN

Sr.No.	Variety	Season	Colour	Storage Remark
1.	N 53	Kharif	Red	Poor Storage (1 Month)
2.	Baswant 780	Kharif	Red	Poor Storage (40 Days)
3.	N2-4-1	Rabi	Brick Red	Good Storage (4 Month)
4.	N-257-9-1	Rabi	White	Good Storage (5 Month)
5.	Phule Sofed	All year	White	Good for Dehydration (month)
6.	Phule Suvarna	Late Kharif/Rabi	Yellow Rd	Good For Export to Europe (5 months)
7.	AFDR	Late Kharif/Rabi	Dark Red	Fairly good for storage (6 months)
8.	AFLR	Rabi	Light Red	Good storages (5 to 6 month)

Source : Maharashtra State Agriculture Marketing Board , Pune .

Farmer do not store N.53, Baswant 780, Phule safed in season. So there is no benefit to store onion. In Late Rabi season they can store product and get good price in June to September. Farmer produce N-257-9-1, Phule Suvarna AFDR and AFLR because these variety has a good storage.

Generally onion produced in Rabi and Late Rabi season is suitable for storage up to 5 to 6 month and it can be brought in market during rainy season i.e. from June to October. There are certain problems which arises during conventional storage of onion viz. loss is weights , spurting and roofing of Blub. To overcome these losses onion must be stored in scientific manner and its prices.

TRADITIONAL STORAGE METHOD :

Mostly farmers use this method to store the onions . They make two or three fit compound of stone around the onion and settler with grass. Onion gets ventilation from these stones and safe from rainy water. But it is not scientific method. Among 200 farmers 185 farmer are using this method . Some farmer store these onion in under the tree and shelter with plastic paper farmer use Kandachal. Farmer get more loss in weight and rotting of onion. Only two farmers use scientific method which is provided by government.

SCIENTIFIC STORAGE METHOD :

MSAMB with the help of NABARD and National Research Centre for onion and Garlic , Rajgurunagar has developed revised plan for scientific onion storages. The onion storage will minimize the storage losses and quality deterioration of the onion which will help the farmers to fetch better prices for their product. MSAMB has formulated the subsidy scheme for scientific onion storage. The construction cost of the onion storage structure is assumed at Rs.6000/- per M.T. for this scheme. As per the scheme , subsidy 25% of the construction cost or to the extent of Rs.1500/- per M.T. storage capacity. The onion storage structure 1,5,10,20,25 and 50 MT capacity are eligible for subsidy.

SUGGESTIONS :

- 1)Farmer should get scientific knowledge of onion production. i.e. varieties of crop. Their prices and storage capacity.
- 2)Every Agrowon Festival free passes should be given to farmers.
- 3)Government agencies should provide various government schemes to farmers.

4)Government should give subsidy to storage and training to farmers.

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