

FACTORS INFLUENCING CROPPING- PATTERNS ON INDIVIDUAL HOLDINGS

(JALGAON DISTRICT, MAHARASHTRA STATE)

PART I

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PREFACE

The subject of crop-pattern can be studied both at individual and aggregate level. In fact, it should be studied on both the levels by a two pronged approach. In India, however, the subject has been studied more on the macro-level, neglecting the micro side of it. Many of the studies of crop-pattern, therefore, are lop-sided and have yielded conflicting results--some putting forth that the Indian farmer is highly responsive to price, while the others revealing just the opposite. The role of price as a factor, can be better examined at the micro-level by studying how it affects the individual cultivator's cropping decisions. In the present study, therefore, I have made a modest attempt to analyse in detail the problem of cropping pattern at the micro-level to bring out the basic factors which influence the cropping decisions of individual cultivators.

The entire study was carried out under the guidance of Professor D. R. Gadgil, Ex-Director, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Poona, and at present Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Government of India, New Delhi. To work under him was, indeed, a privilege. The present study has benefited much from his exacting standard and critical comments. I have no words to express adequately my debt to him for his valuable and inspiring guidance.

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ABBREVIATIONS USED FOR CROPS AND CROP-ROTATIONS

<u>Crops</u>	<u>Abbreviations</u>	<u>Crops</u>	<u>Abbreviations</u>
Bajara	B	Groundnut	G
Banana ('Junar')	JB	Jowar	J
Banana ('Nawati')	NB	Maize	M
Chillies	Ch	Paddy	P
Cotton	C	Wheat	W

Crop-rotations

Two-year rotations

Cotton-Jowar	C-J
Cotton-Wheat	C-W
Groundnut-Cotton	G-C
Groundnut-Jowar	G-J
Jowar-Bajara	J-B
Jowar-Wheat	J-W

Three-year rotations

Cotton-Cotton-Jowar	C-C-J
Cotton-Cotton-Wheat	C-C-W
Groundnut-Cotton-Bajara	G-C-B
Groundnut-Cotton-Jowar	G-C-J
Groundnut-Jowar-Cotton	G-J-C
'Nawati' banana-'Junar' banana-Cotton	NB-JB-C
'Nawati' banana-'Junar' banana-Groundnut	NB-JB-G
'Nawati' banana-'Junar' banana-Jowar	NB-JB-J
'Nawati' banana-'Junar' banana-Maize	NB-JB-M
'Nawati' banana-'Junar' banana-Wheat	NB-JB-W
Wheat-Cotton-Jowar	W-C-J

AbbreviationsFour-year rotations

Cotton-Cotton-Cotton-Jowar	C-C-C-J
Cotton-Cotton-Jowar-Wheat	C-C-J-W
'Nawati' banana-'Junar' banana-Cotton-Cotton	NB-JB-C-C
'Nawati' banana-'Junar' banana-Cotton-Groundnut	NB-JB-C-G
'Nawati' banana-'Junar' banana-Cotton-Jowar	NB-JB-C-J
'Nawati' banana-'Junar' banana-Cotton-Wheat	NB-JB-C-W
'Nawati' banana-'Junar' banana-Jowar-Cotton	NB-JB-J-C
'Nawati' banana-'Junar' banana-Maize-Bajara	NB-JB-M-B
'Nawati' banana-'Junar' banana-Maize-Cotton	NB-JB-M-C
'Nawati' banana-'Junar' banana-Wheat-Jowar	NB-JB-W-J