



Economics of *Bt* cotton in Haryana vis-a-vis Tamil Nadu

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ABSTRACT: The present study was conducted to study the economics of *Bt* cotton in Haryana vis-a-vis Tamil Nadu. The primary data were collected from 120 farmers i.e. 60 each from Haryana and Tamil Nadu acted as ultimate unit of the sample while the secondary data on area, production and productivity were pertained to the periods 1986-87 to 2015-16 was collected from various government publications. The area, production and productivity of cotton in Haryana and Tamil Nadu increase with average compound growth rates of 6.29 and 4.33 per cent / annum and 3.07 and 2.09 per cent / annum, 3.68 and -3.03 per cent / annum, respectively from the period 1986-1987 to 2015-2016 but area shows negative trend (-3.03 %) in case of Tamil Nadu. The comparative analysis of *Bt* cotton calculated for the crop year 2015 showed that / acre cost of cultivation varied between ₹ 35890 and ₹ 31736 in Haryana and Tamil Nadu, respectively. But due to yield variation among the two states, the significant difference in / unit cost of production was observed. It varied between ₹ 5836 and ₹ 4492 in Haryana and Tamil Nadu, respectively. Net return / acre of *Bt* cotton is ₹ -8000 and ₹ 1376 in Haryana and Tamil Nadu, respectively.

Per acre input utilization revealed that the use of bullock labour was observed more on small farmers followed by medium farmers and large farmers where as the usage of machine labour was found to be more on large farmers followed by medium and small farmers. The yield gap analysis revealed that the economic losses were found relatively higher in case of Haryana when compared to Tamil Nadu due to wide gap existed between potential yield, highest yield attained on farm and the average actual yield. The main production constraints noticed were non availability of adequate good quality seed, non availability of labour, poor quality insecticides/pesticides, unfavourable climatic conditions and lack of technical knowledge. The main marketing constraints were low price of *Bt* cotton produce, high regulation of market intermediates and lack of extension and marketing services.

Key words : Compound growth rate, constraints, costs and returns, yield gap analysis

Cotton is the most important cultivated commercial crop of India. It has great economic importance in the agrarian and industrial activities of our country. Cotton (*Gossypium* spp) popularly known as "White Gold" is a major commercial crop unanimously designated as "King of Fibres". Cotton is being cultivated in 70 countries of the world with total area coverage of 31.24 million ha in 2015-2016. India is the largest cotton growing country in the

world with 35.29 per cent of world cotton area followed by China (15.23 %). During the year 2015-2016, the area, production and productivity of cotton were 11.88 million hectares, 33.80 million bales and 484 kg/ha, respectively (Anonymous 2016). *Bt* cotton is playing immense role in enhancing the economy of the farmers in Haryana. Since *Bt* cotton is grown in Haryana there is substantial increase in production of cotton. During the

year 2015-2016, the area, production and productivity of cotton were 0.60 million ha, 1.50 million bales and 423 kg/ha, respectively (Anonymous, 2016). Cotton, at present, is not a very important crop for Tamil Nadu in terms of production and is grown on a very small area, compared to the national cotton land acreage (TN covers around 2 to 3 % of India's cotton land). However, consumption of cotton is the highest by the cotton mills of Tamil Nadu amongst all states. During the year 2015-2016, the area, production and productivity of cotton were 0.14 million ha, 0.50 million bales and 599 kg/ha, respectively (Anonymous, 2016). Despite being one the top most cotton growing countries in the world, the cotton yields in India are one of the lowest. A major reason for this low productivity is the severe insect pest incidence which causes extensive crop damage. As a result of this situation, the farmers have been highly dissatisfied and have been looking for cotton varieties that have pest resistance. Hence, *Bt* cotton was introduced in India to reduce the pesticide consumption thereby the farmers of Haryana and Tamil Nadu were also adopted *Bt* cotton technology to reduce the pest damage and the cost of production. The present study was, therefore undertaken to study the economics of *Bt* cotton cultivation, growth rates

and to work out the index of yield gaps and economic losses in both the states of Haryana and Tamil Nadu.

The present study was undertaken in Haryana and Tamil Nadu states. Sirsa and Hisar district of Haryana and Salem and Dharmapuri district of Tamil Nadu were randomly selected to represent a case study. Then, one block was randomly selected from each selected districts of Haryana and Tamil Nadu for the present study *i.e.* Uklana block from Hisar district, Mandi Dabwali block from Sirsa district, Dharmapuri block from Dharmapuri district and Aattur block from Salem district. From each selected blocks, two villages were also randomly selected. Thus in total following eight villages were selected for present study. These villages were Mugalpur and Sahu from Uklana block in Hisar district and Kharian and Risalia Khera from Mandi Dabwali block from Sirsa district in Haryana. Similarly in Tamil Nadu, Onniyampatti and Andipatti from Dharmapuri block in Dharmapuri district and Thalavalpatti and Puthiragoundampalayam from Aattur block in Salem district were selected. From the selected villages, random samples of 15 respondents from each village were selected. Farmers were divided into three categories *i.e.* small, medium and large based on their size of operational holdings by cumulative total method

Table 1. Categorization of sample farmers

States	Districts	Group size			Total selected farmers
		Marginal and small (<5 ac)	Medium (5.01-10 ac)	Large(>10 ac)	
Haryana	Hisar	7	9	14	30
	Sirsa	9	8	13	30
Tamil Nadu	Dharmapuri	14	11	5	30
	Salem	12	12	6	30
Total		42	40	38	120

(Table 1). In all, 120 farmers distributed into three categories were selected for the present study.

To fulfil the objectives of the study, the data collected was subjected to statistical analysis. Tabular analysis was adopted to analyze the cost and returns of farmers in two states.

Growth rate analysis : For studying the compound growth rates (C. G. R.) in area, production, and productivity of cotton for the Haryana, Tamil Nadu and overall India were calculated for the period of 30 years *i.e.* 1986-1987 to 2015-2016. The compound growth rates were computed using the exponential function of the form:

$$X_t = ab^t u_t$$

$$\text{Log } X_t = \text{Log } a + t \text{Log } b + \text{Log } u_t$$

Where,

$$X_t = \text{Area/production/productivity/of cotton in year 't'}$$

$$t = \text{Time elements which take the value 1, 2, 3, 4,.....in}$$

$$a = \text{Intercept}$$

$$b = \text{Regression coefficient}$$

$$u_t = \text{Standard error term}$$

Compound growth rates were worked out as follow:

$$\text{Compound growth rate (r)} = (b-1) \times 100$$

Yield gap analysis : Yield gap and index of yield gap were assessed by employing the following formulas:

$$\text{Yield gap I} = \frac{\text{Potential yield} - \text{Average actual yield}}{\text{Potential yield}}$$

$$\text{Yield gap II} = \frac{\text{Highest yield attained on farm} - \text{Average actual yield}}{\text{Highest yield attained on farm}}$$

actual yield

$$\text{Index of yield gap I} = \frac{\text{Yield gap I}}{\text{Potential yield}}$$

$$\text{Index of yield gap II} = \frac{\text{Yield gap II}}{\text{Highest yield attained on farm}}$$

Information regarding various production and marketing constraints were collected from the respondents by survey method through personal interview with the help of pre-tested schedule designed for the study. With respect to the various production and marketing constraints faced by the *Bt* cotton growers, the multiple responses of the farmers to a particular problem was presented in a tabular form.

Cost of cultivation of *Bt* cotton in Haryana and Tamil Nadu :

The cost and returns on overall farms in Haryana and Tamil Nadu have been compared in Table 2 per ac cost of production was found to be more in Haryana (₹ 35890) as compared to that of Tamil Nadu (₹ 31736). The average yield of *Bt* cotton was 6.15 and 7.8 q/ac in Haryana and Tamil Nadu, respectively. The slight variation in yield is due to whitefly attack and lack of adequate irrigation in former case. The average cost of cultivation was ₹ 5836 and ₹ 4492 in Haryana and Tamil Nadu, respectively. Hence, there was significant difference in cost of cultivation among the states, Haryana incurred higher costs. The rental value of land was contributed highest to the total cost in both the states which accounted for ₹ 10295 (28.68 %) and ₹ 5280 (16.64 %) followed by expenses incurred on picking was ₹ 5700 (15.88 %) and ₹ 5121 (16.14 %) in Haryana and Tamil Nadu, respectively. The gross return/ac in Haryana was ₹ 27890 and ₹ 33112 in Tamil Nadu. It is mainly due to lower yield in Haryana due to

Table 2. Comparative economics of *Bt* cotton in Haryana and Tamil Nadu (2015-2016) (₹/ac)

Sr.No	Item	Haryana	Tamil Nadu
1	Preparatory tillage	1272 (3.54)	1817 (5.72)
2	Pre-sowing irrigation	600 (1.67)	445 (1.40)
3	Sowing	400 (1.11)	481 (1.52)
4	Ridging	110 (0.31)	402 (1.27)
5	Seed	1800 (5.01)	2037 (6.42)
6	Seed treatment	0 (0.00)	0 (0.00)
7	FYM	442 (1.23)	328 (1.03)
8	Fertilizer nutrients		
	A. Nitrogen	720 (2.01)	710 (2.24)
	B. Phosphatic	874 (2.43)	785 (2.47)
	C. Potassic	172 (0.48)	395 (1.24)
	D. Zinc sulphate	198 (0.55)	466 (1.47)
	Total fertilizer invested	1964 (5.47)	2361 (7.44)
9	Fertilizers application	133 (0.37)	140 (0.44)
10	Irrigation	1812 (5.05)	1717 (5.41)
11	Hoeing/weeding	2507 (6.98)	2669 (8.41)
12	Plant protection	1927 (5.37)	1246 (3.93)
13	Harvesting/picking	5700 (15.88)	5121 (16.14)
14	Miscellaneous	157 (0.44)	147 (0.46)
	Total (1 - 14)	18827 (52.46)	18911 (59.59)
15	Interest on working capital	2260 (6.29)	2269 (7.15)
16	Variable cost (A)	21087 (58.75)	21180 (66.74)
17	Transportation charges	292 (0.81)	380 (1.20)
18	Management charges	2108 (5.87)	2448 (7.71)
19	Risk factor	2108 (5.87)	2448 (7.71)
20	Rental value of land	10295 (28.68)	5280 (16.64)
21	Fixed cost (B)	14803 (41.24)	10556 (33.26)
22	Total cost (A+B)	35890(100.00)	31736(100.00)
23	Production (O)	6.15	7.8
	A. Main product	26445	31980
	B. By product	1445	1132
24	Gross return	27890	33112
25	Return over variable cost	6803	11931.9
26	Net return over total cost	-8000	1376
27	Cost of production/q	5836	4492
28	Return/rupee of investment*	1.32	1.56

Note: Figures in the parentheses indicate percentage to the total cost

*Over variable cost

whitefly attack and lack of adequate rainfall. Whereas Tamil Nadu (₹ 1376) recorded significant difference in net return over Haryana (₹ -8000), because of lower cost of cultivation.

Return / rupee of investment was 1.32 and 1.56 in Haryana and Tamil Nadu respectively, where Tamil Nadu recorded significant cost benefit ratio.

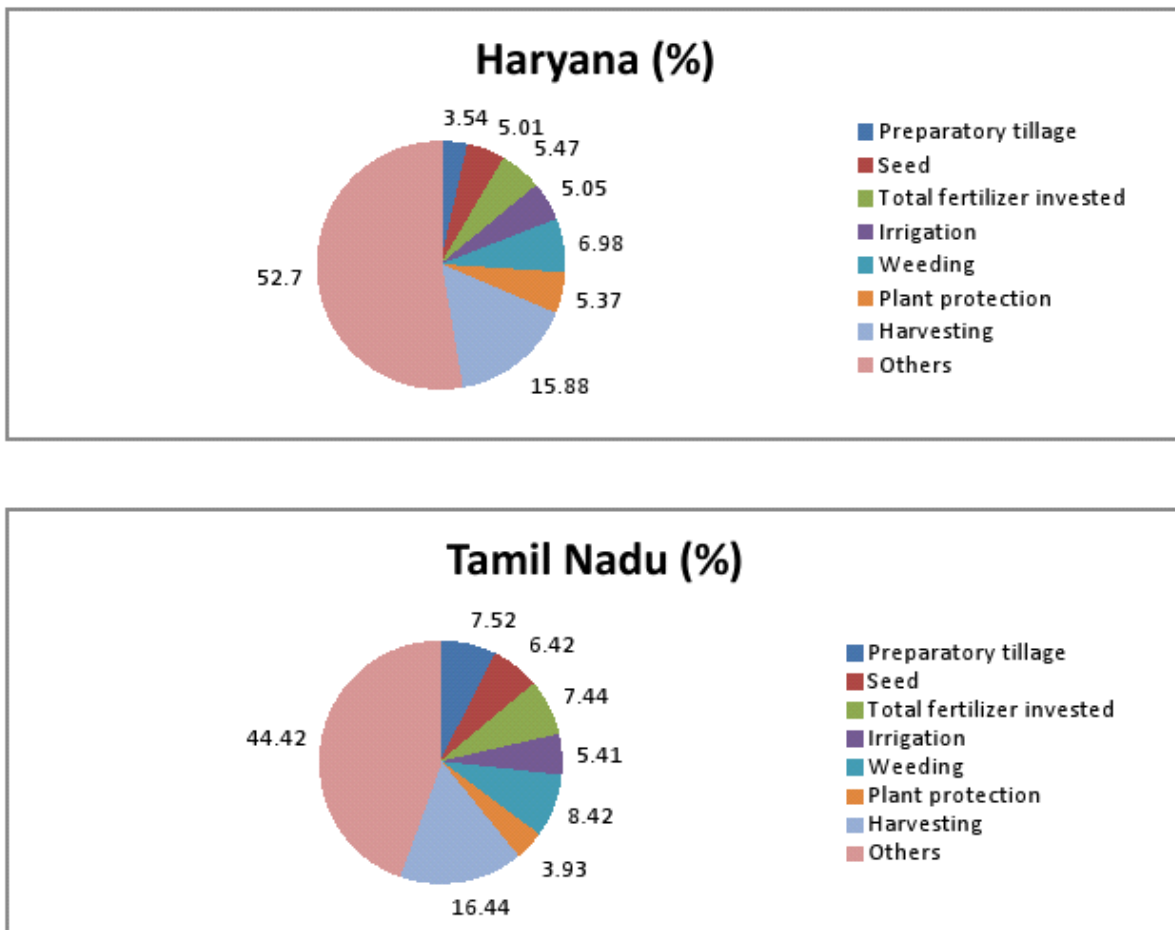


Fig. 1. Costs and returns of *Bt* cotton in Haryana and Tamil Nadu

To conclude among the two states Tamil Nadu fared well in yield levels, net returns, gross returns and return / rupee of investment due to better management practices and adequate irrigation facilities. But farmers of Haryana got poor yield and net returns due to sudden and severe pest outbreak mainly whitefly which worsen the economic condition of Haryana farmers which made most of the cotton farmers miserable and in distress situation. So, in nutshell Tamil Nadu shared better results than Haryana.

Per acre input utilization of *Bt* cotton

in Haryana and Tamil Nadu : Data in the Table 3 and 4 depict information on the use of inputs in *Bt* cotton labour for *Bt* cotton sample as a whole was 46.35 (*i.e.* 46 man days) in case of Haryana where as in Tamil Nadu it was 55.27 (*i.e.* 55 man days), while, total bullock labour in Haryana and Tamil Nadu was 0.20 and 0.30, respectively. Inter-group comparison revealed that with increase in size of holding, there was decrease in / ac use of human labour. Results presented in table revealed that the level of fertilizer use increase with increase in size of holding. The level of fertilizer use by small farmers was near

Table 3. Per acre input utilization of *Bt* cotton in Haryana (2015-2016)

Sr. No	Input	Unit	Physical quantity			Overall
			Small	Medium	Large	
1	Hired human labour					
	Male	Days	10.62	10.28	10.06	10.32
	Female	Days	15.92	15.42	25.15	18.83
	Total		26.54	25.70	35.21	29.15
2	Family labour					
	Male	Days	7.08	6.85	6.71	6.88
	Female	Days	10.62	10.28	10.06	10.32
	Total		17.70	17.13	16.77	17.20
3	Total human labour					
	Male	Days	17.69	17.14	16.77	17.20
	Female	Days	26.54	25.70	35.21	29.15
	Total		44.23	42.84	51.98	46.35
4	Bullock labour	Days	0.40	0.20	0	0.20
5	Machine labour	h	4.50	5.40	6.90	5.60
6	Seeds	g	750	800	850	800
7	Manure	Cl	4.73	4.42	4.11	4.42
8	Fertilizer					
	N	kg	101.86	102.28	104.28	102.81
	P	kg	50.00	48.55	47.05	48.53
	K	kg	10.00	9.50	9.50	9.67
	Total		161.86	160.33	160.83	161.01
9	Yield					
	Main produce	Ws.	5.86	6.05	6.54	6.15

about same to that of medium and large farmers. However, the use of bullock power was observed more on large farmers followed by small farmers and medium farmers. Comparison of input use between different size groups indicated that / ac use of human labour and fertilizer was highest (about 44 man days and 162 kgs) in small size group of Haryana and in case of Tamil Nadu, the bullock labour was highest (4.50 man days) in small size group. In Haryana, the yield of *Bt* cotton was highest (*i.e.* 6.54 q / ac) in large size group of holding and lowest (*i.e.* 5.86 q / ac) in small size group of holding. Similarly, in Tamil Nadu also, the yield of *Bt* cotton was highest (*i.e.* 8.30 q / ac) in large size group of holding and

lowest (*i.e.* 7.43 q / ac) in small size group of holding.

Growth rate analysis : In Haryana the area, production and productivity of cotton was increased with average compound growth rates of 0.76, 3.07 and 2.09 % / annum, respectively from the period 1986-87 to 2015-16 due to favorable crop growing suitability factors and

Table 5. CGR of area, production and productivity of cotton in Haryana

Year	Area	Production	Productivity
1986-1987 to 1995-1996	0.74	0.36	-3.45
1996-1997 to 2005-2006	-0.03	0.70	0.63
2006-2007 to 2015-2016	2.99	3.91	0.89
1986-1987 to 2015-2016	0.76	3.07	2.09

Table 4. Per acre input utilization of *Bt* cotton in Tamil Nadu (2015-16)

Sr. No	Input	Unit	Physical quantity			
			Small	Medium	Large	Overall
1	Hired human labour					
	Male	Days	12.22	12.28	12.34	12.28
	Female	Days	18.33	18.42	30.84	22.53
	Total		30.55	30.70	43.18	34.81
2	Family labour					
	Male	Days	8.15	8.19	8.22	8.19
	Female	Days	12.22	12.28	12.34	12.28
	Total		20.37	20.47	20.56	20.47
3	Total human labour					
	Male	Days	20.36	20.46	20.56	20.46
	Female	Days	30.55	30.70	43.18	34.81
	Total		50.91	51.16	63.74	55.27
4	Bullock labour	Days	4.50	3.10	1.80	3.13
5	Machine labour	h	3.00	5.30	6.10	4.80
6	Seeds	g	790	850	870	837
7	Manure	Cl	3.51	3.27	3.05	3.28
8	Fertilizer					
	N	kg	100.14	101.00	103.28	101.47
	P	kg	44.94	43.61	42.27	43.61
	K	kg	22.22	22.00	21.66	21.96
	Total		167.3	166.61	167.21	167.04
9	Yield					
	Main produce	Qtls.	7.43	7.68	8.30	7.80

price support along with state government support (Table 5).

The perusal of Table 6 showed that the production and productivity of cotton in Tamil Nadu increase with average compound growth rates of 0.53 and 3.68 per cent/ annum, respectively from the period 1986-87 to 2015-16 in Tamil Nadu but it shows negative trend (-3.03 %) in terms of area. The increase in production and productivity were higher as compared to area due to development of *Bt* hybrids and improvement of management.

Yield gap analysis : There have been always yield gaps on the farmer's field. There exist some factors responsible for low yields

Table 6. CGR of area, production and productivity of cotton in Tamil Nadu

Year	Area	Production	Productivity
1986-1987 to 1995-1996	0.20	0.25	0.03
1996-1997 to 2005-2006	-0.57	0.15	0.90
2006-2007 to 2015-2016	5.09	1.22	-3.67
1986-1987 to 2015-2016	-3.03	0.53	3.68

compared to potential yield and highest yield attained on particular farms. The yield gap I is denoted by gap between potential yield and average actual yield of respondent farmers and yield gap II is denoted by gap between highest yield attained on farm of respondent farmers and actual average yield on the farms. A wide gap existed in the *Bt* cotton productivity in both the states (*i.e.* Haryana and Tamil Nadu) are given in Table

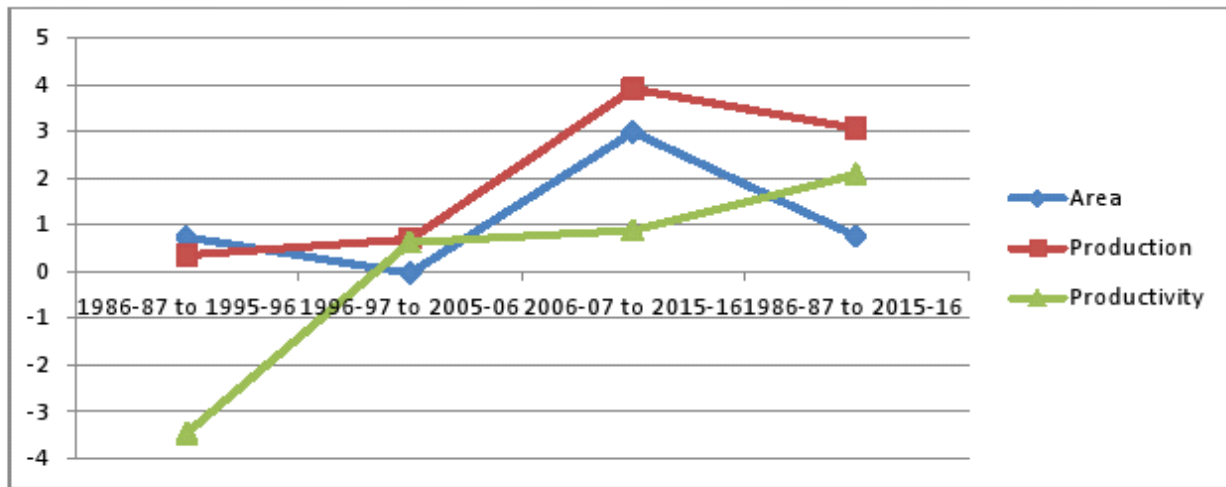


Fig. 2. CGR of area, production and productivity of cotton in Haryana

7. The / ac magnitude of yield gap I was found 8.50 q in Haryana where as it was 5.70 q / ac in Tamil Nadu. Similarly yield gap II for *Bt* cotton in Haryana and Tamil Nadu was noticed as 2.50 and 4.20 q / ac . The index of yield gap I and II for *Bt* cotton were found 0.59 and 0.29 in Haryana where in Tamil Nadu it was 0.42 and 0.35. The economic losses due to the yield gap were found very high as presented earlier through yield gaps 8.50 q / ac overall in case of *Bt* cotton in Haryana

but in case of Tamil Nadu it was about 5.70 q / ac . Hence, the economic losses were found relatively higher in case of Haryana when compared to Tamil Nadu. The yield gap was observed due to inadequate crop stand, seedling burning due to high temperature at emergence, late rainfall coinciding with flowering and boll formation, sucking pests especially the whitefly, mealy bug, cotton leaf curl virus (CLCuV) disease and wilting at maturing.

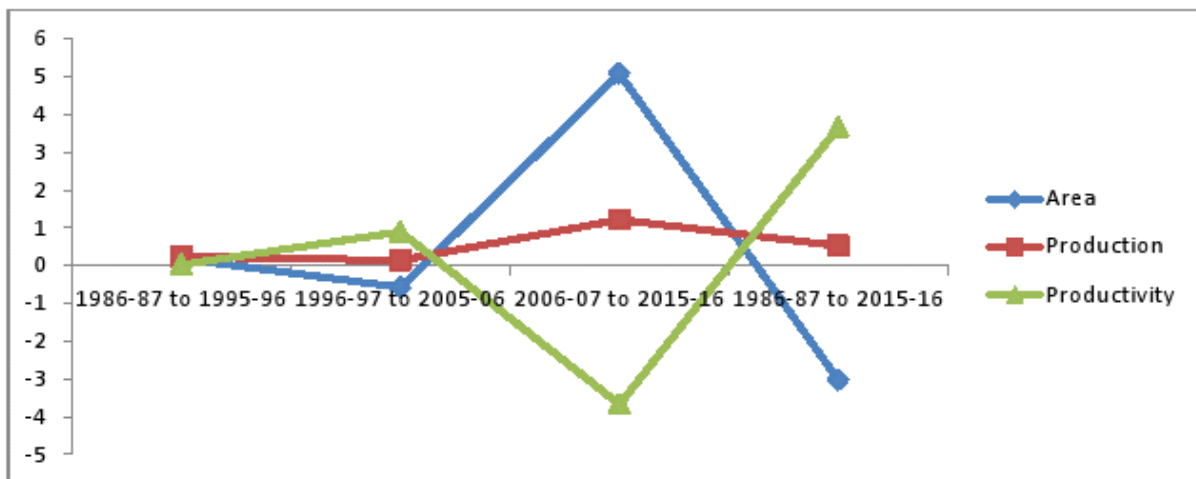


Fig. 3. CGR of area, production and productivity of cotton in Tamil Nadu

Constraints faced by *Bt* cotton growers

: On the basis of the info information collected from the *Bt* cotton growers (Table 8), the main problems fac ed by them during the production were non-availability of adequate good quality seed (81.67 and 88.33 %), non-availability of labour (86.66 and 80 %), lack of technical knowledge (80 and 91.66 %), unfavourable climatic conditions (65.00 and 70 %), low oil content (25 and 30 %), poor quality insecticides/ pesticides (96.66 and 81.66 %), sub-optimal input

use (45 and 58.33 %), poor quality land (23.33 and 21.66 %), poor quality weedicides (41.66 and 45 %) and maintenance of refuge plants (13.33 and 10 %) in Haryana and Tamil Nadu, respectively.

The constraints fac ed by the *Bt* cotton growers (Table 9) during marketing were low price of *Bt* cotton produce at market (91.66 and 96.66 %), non-availability of adequate processing units/mills (30 and 36.66 %), lack of extension and marketing fac ilities (75 and 86.66 %), high

Table 7 Attainable yield gap in *Bt* cotton production in Haryana and Tamil Nadu (2015-2016) (q/ac)

Sr. No	Particulars	Haryana			Tamil Nadu		
		Hisar	Sirsa	Overall	Dharmapuri	Salem	Overall
1	Potential yield	14.00	15.00	14.50	13.00	14.00	13.50
2	Actual average yield	5.20	6.80	6.00	7.40	8.20	7.80
3	Highest yield	8.00	9.00	8.50	11.00	13.00	12.00
4	Yield gap I	8.80	8.20	8.50	5.60	5.80	5.70
5	Yield gap II	2.80	2.20	2.50	3.60	4.80	4.20
6	Index of yield gap I	0.63	0.55	0.59	0.43	0.41	0.42
7	Index of yield gap II	0.35	0.24	0.29	0.33	0.37	0.35

regulation by market intermediates (66.66 and 80 %), lack of infrastructure fac ilities (36.66 and 60 %) and high transportation costs (10 and 78.33 %) in Haryana and Tamil Nadu, respectively.

CONCLUSIONS

The comparative analysis of *Bt* cotton calculated for the crop year 2015 showed that / ac cost of cultivation varied between ₹ 35890 and ₹ 31736 in Haryana and Tamil Nadu, respectively. But due to yield variation among the two states, the significant difference in / unit cost of production was observed. It varied between ₹ 5836 and ₹ 4492 in Haryana and Tamil Nadu, respectively. Net return / ac of *Bt* cotton is ₹ -

8000 and ₹ 1376 in Haryana and Tamil Nadu, respectively. The yield gap analysis revealed that the economic losses were found relatively higher in case of Haryana when compared to Tamil Nadu due to wide gap existed between potential yield, highest yield attained on farm and the average ac tual yield. Hence, the efforts should be made to bridge the gap. The efforts in cotton research will be more beneficial if farmers are educated and if cotton research is tailored towards the needs of specific locations. To overcome the constraints in production of *Bt* cotton, it is necessary to develop suitable *Bt* cotton varieties which can withstand unfavourable climatic conditions, insect pest attack (particularly whitefly) and lodging at harvesting stage.

Table 8. Constraints faced by farmers in *Bt* cotton production in Haryana and Tamil Nadu

S. No.	Constraints	Haryana		Tamil Nadu	
		Number of farmers (N=60)	Respondent's response (%)	Number of farmers (N=60)	Respondent's response (%)
1	Non availability of adequate inputs	49	81.67	53	88.33
2	Non availability of labour	52	86.66	48	80.00
3	Unfavourable climatic condition	39	65.00	42	70.00
4	Lack of technical knowledge	48	80.00	55	91.66
5	Poor quality of insecticides/pesticides	58	96.66	49	81.66
6	Sub optimal input use	27	45.00	35	58.33
7	Low oil content	15	25.00	18	30.00
8	Poor quality land	14	23.33	13	21.66
9	Poor quality weedicides	25	41.66	27	45.00
10	Maintenance of refuge plants	8	13.33	6	10.00

Table 9. Constraints faced by farmers in *Bt* cotton marketing in Haryana and Tamil Nadu

S. No.	Constraints	Haryana		Tamil Nadu	
		Number of farmers (N=60)	Respondent's response (%)	Number of farmers (N=60)	Respondent's response (%)
1	Low price of <i>Bt</i> cotton produce at market	55	91.66	58	96.66
2	Lack of extension and marketing services	45	75.00	52	86.66
3	Non availability of adequate processing units/mills	18	30.00	22	36.66
4	High regulation by market intermediaries	40	66.66	48	80.00
5	Lack of infrastructure facility	22	36.66	36	60.00
6	Distance from market	30	50.00	36	60.00
7	High transportation cost	6	10.00	47	78.33

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