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A geographical study of change in fruit cultivation area in Latur District

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Abstract

The document is focusing on the change in fruit cultivation area in Latur District, Maharashtra, from 2010-11 to 2021-22. It highlights Maharashtra's role in India's horticulture, with a significant portion of fruit exports originating from the state. Latur, despite its irrigation challenges, has seen changes in orchard areas over the decade. The study employs secondary data, including government reports and statistical analysis, to examine the hectare-wise and percentage-wise changes in fruit cultivation across Latur's talukas, revealing shifts in major fruit crops like mango, grape, and banana.

Keywords: Fruit cultivation, irrigation, orchard area, geographical study

Introduction

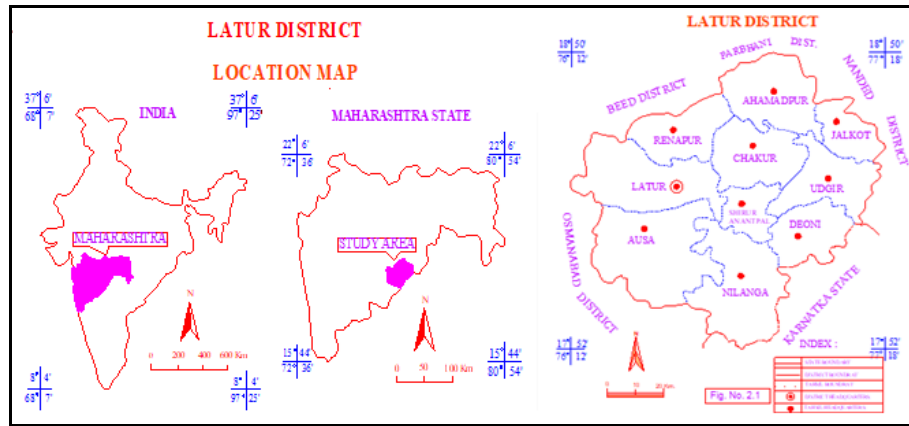
India is an agricultural country. Maharashtra is a leading state in the country in the field of agriculture. Due to the diverse climate of the state, the production of various types of fruits is taken in the state of Maharashtra. Compared to other states in the country, farmers in Maharashtra are progressing in adopting improved technology. So state of Maharashtra is the leading state in horticulture production and export. The state of Maharashtra mainly has a large area of grape, pomegranate, banana, orange, cashew and mango. Out of the total exports of the country, 60 percent of fruits are exported through Maharashtra, out of which 98% of grapes, 80% of pomegranates, 60% of mangoes and 56% of bananas are exported from Maharashtra. In Latur district too, orchards are seen as a cash crop by farmers.

In the present research paper, the change in orchard sector in Latur district from year 2010-11 to the 2021-22 has been studied. Despite the lack of irrigation facilities, lack of large dams, lack of large rivers in Latur district, an attempt has been made to study the changes in the orchard sector over the decade.

Study Area

Latur district was formed on 16 August 1982. Latur district has a latitudinal extent of 18° 5' to 18° 7' north latitude and a longitudinal extent of 73° 25' to 77° 25' east longitude. The area of this district is 7,157 sq km. The population of this district as per 2011 census was 24, 54, 196. The literacy rate of this district was 79.03%. There are total 10 talukas in Latur district; Latur, Ahmedpur, Udgir, Nilanga, Ausa, Renapur, Chachur, Devani, Jalkot and ShirurAnantpal etc. Manjra is the major river in Latur district. Rena, Manyar, Terna, Tawarja, Gharni and Lendi tributaries are found to be effective for irrigation in Latur. Dams and barrages have been constructed on Manjara River and its tributaries for irrigation and water supply. Major dams include Devargan, Gharni, Masalga, Sakol, Tawarja and Tiru. The irrigation area in Latur district is based on the above dam's areas and dams built on the rivers.

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Map 1: Latur district location map

Objectives

1. To study Tahashil wise Fruit Cultivation area in the year 2010-11 and 21-22 of Latur district.
2. To study the hectare wise change in Fruit Cultivation area in each taluka during the decade 2010-11 to 2021-22 of Latur district.
3. To study the percentage wise change in each taluka in Fruit Cultivation area during the decade 2010-11 to 2021-22 of Latur district.

Research Methodology

This research paper is based on secondary data. Published literature has been used in this paper. Latur district Gazetteer as well as Latur District Social and Economic Review Report 2010-11 and 2020-21 and appropriate

statistical methods and websites have been used to analyze the data obtained.

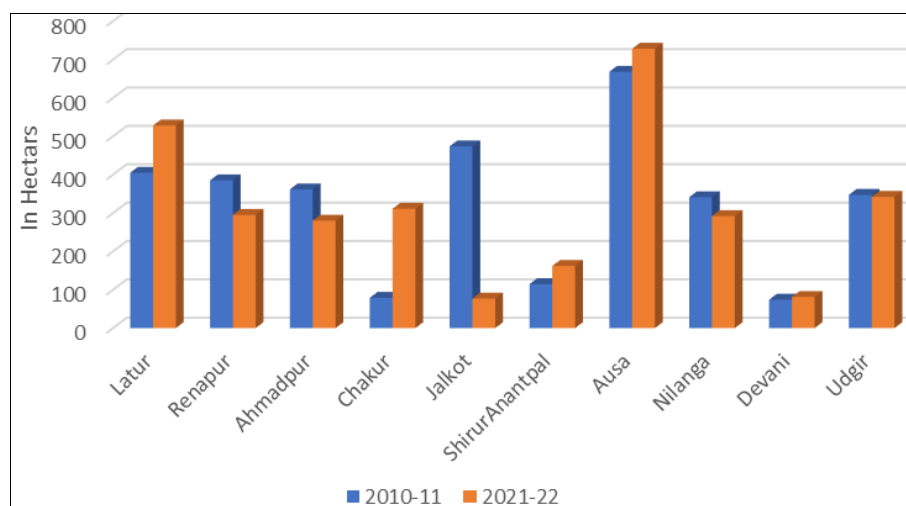
Fruit Cultivation area

Mango, grape and banana are the major crops in Latur district. As per to Table No. 01, it is seen that in the year 2010-11, 3248.56 hectares area was under Fruit Cultivation. The area under Fruit Cultivation in the year 2021-22 was 3096 hectares. Latur district has seen 152 hectardecrease in Fruit Cultivation area during this decade. Taluka wise Fruit Cultivation area, in 2010-11 is as, Ausataluka had the highest Fruit Cultivation area at 668 hectares. Next to that, Jalkot 473.62 hectares, Latur 404.90 hectares, Renapur 384.91 hectares, Ahmedpur 361.50 hectares, Renapur 2100 hectares and Nilanga 341 hectares are seen.

Table 1: Tahsil wise Fruit Cultivation Area of Latur District (2010-11 to 2021-22)

Sr. No.	Tahsil	Fruit Cultivation in Hectars		Changed Fruit Cultivation area Hectars	Changed Fruit Cultivation area in percentage
		2010-11	2021-22		
1.	Latur	404.90	528	123.1	30.40
2.	Renapur	384.91	295	-89.91	-23.4
3.	Ahmadpur	361.50	280	-81.5	-22.54
4.	Chakur	78.90	311	232.1	294.2
5.	Jalkot	473.62	77	-396.6	-83.73
6.	Shirur Anantpal	114.60	162	47.4	41.4
7.	Ausa	668	728	60	9
8.	Nilanga	341	292	-49	-14.4
9.	Devani	73.90	81	7.1	9.6
10.	Udgir	347.23	342	-5.23	-1.5
Total District		3248.56	3096	-152.56	-4.7

Source: Director of Economic and Statistics Report in Latur District

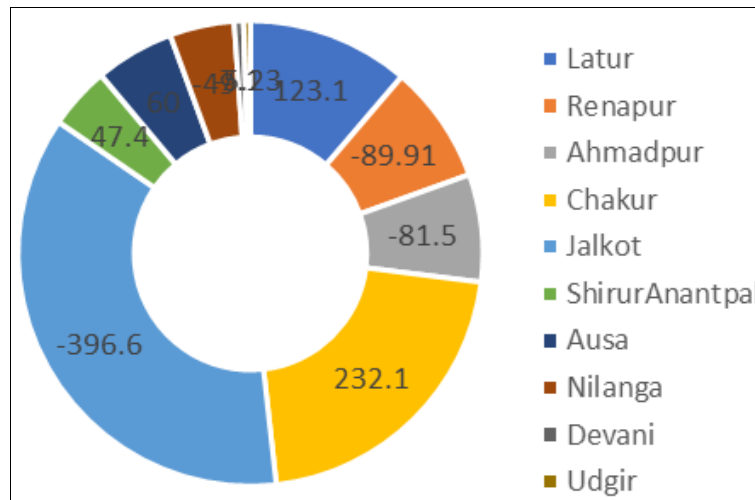


Graph 1: Changed Fruit Cultivation area Hectars

Taluka wise Devani and Chakur have the lowest fruit cultivation area with 73.90 and 78.90 hectares. As per table number 01, in the year 2020- 21, maximum Fruit Cultivation area is seen in Ausataluka that is 728 hectares, Latur 528 hectares, Udgir342,Chakur 311, Renapur 295 hectares, Nilanga 292, Ahmedpur 280 hectares and Shirur

Anantapaltaluka 162 hectares. Taluka wise the lowest fruit cultivation area of Latur district is noticed in Jalkotaluka is 77 hectare, &Devani 81 hectare.

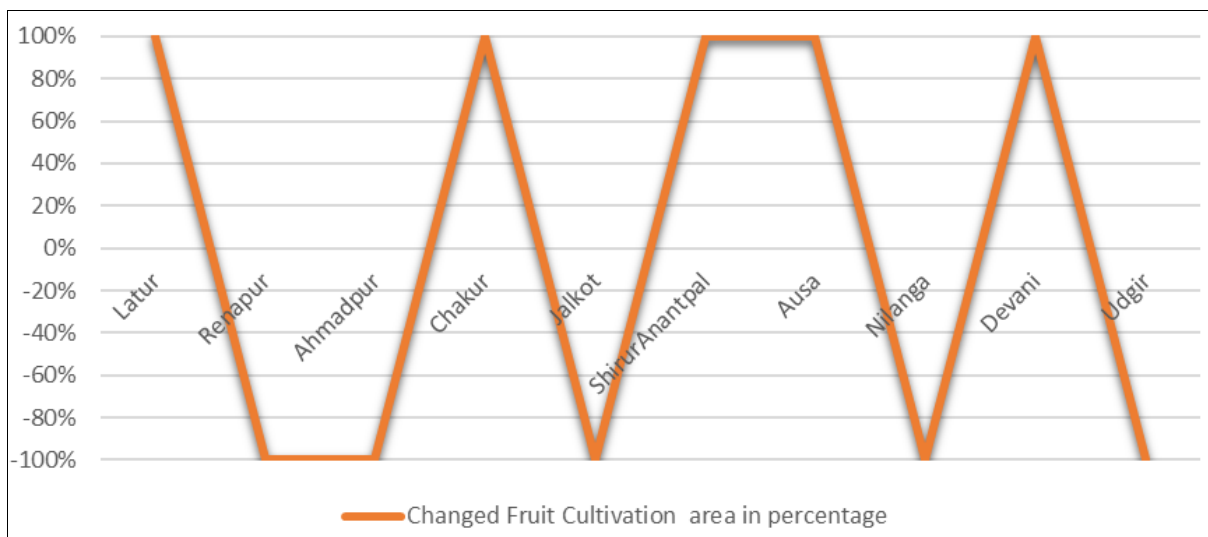
Changes in fruit cultivation Area



Graph 2: Changed Fruit Cultivation area Hectars

As per Table No. 01 considering the change in the decade from 2010-11 to 21-22, the highest increase in fruit cultivation area is seen in Chakurtaluka at 232.1 hectares. In Latur taluka 123 hectare, ShirurAnantpal 47.4 hectare, Devani 7.1 hectare. Looking at the taluka-wise decrease in

fruit cultivation area in Latur district, it is seen that Jalkotaluka has the highest decrease of 396.6 hectares, Renapur 89.91 hectares, Ahmedpur 81.5 hectares and Udgirtaluka 5.23 hectares.



Graph 3: Changed Fruit Cultivation area in percentage

Looking at the percentagewise change in fruit cultivation area in Latur district, the highest increase in this decade is seen as follows Chakurtaluka 294.2%, Shirur Anantpal 41.4%, Latur, 30.40%, Devani 9%. Looking at the negative changes in the fruit cultivation sector in Latur district, Jalkotaluka has seen the highest decrease by 83.7% and Renapurtaluka by 23.4%. Next to Ahmedpur 22.54, Nilanga 14.4% and Udgir 1.5%

Conclusion

1. It is seen that fruit cultivation area in Latur district has a decrease of 152.56 hectares during the decade 2010- 11 to 2021-22. A 4.7 percent decrease in fruit cultivation

- area in Latur district has been observed during the decade.
- 2. It appears that taluka wise increase is seen in fruit cultivation area in Latur district, Chakur is the highest and Latur, Shirul Anantpaltalukas come next to it.
- 3. It appears that taluka-wise decrease is observed in fruit cultivation area in Latur district, the highest decrease has been observed in Jalkot, and then Renapur, Ahmedpur and Nilanga.
- 4. Percentage wise growth of fruit cultivation area in each taluka of Latur district is seen in the order of Chakur, Latur and ShirulAnantpal respectively.
- 5. Percentage wise decrease in fruit cultivation area is

seen in Jalkot, Renapur, Ahmedpur and Nilanga have seen a decline respectively.

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