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# Economics of production of gaillardia in Akola district 

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#### Abstract

The present study was carried out to study cost structure and returns during the year 2018-2019 based on primary data. The study was conducted in Akola, Patur and Barshitakali tahsils based on purposive sampling. A sample of 90 gaillardia growers was selected based on random sampling. It was observed that, Per hectare cost of cultivation of gaillardia at cost "Сз" was highest in the large farmers i.e. Rs. 1,68,385.61 followed by medium farmer Rs. 1,56,641.69 and small farmer Rs. 1,48,042.51 and at overall level Rs. 1,57,794.66. The average yield and gross returns per hectare increased with the increase in size of farms. The average yield of gaillardia crop was $300.33 \mathrm{q} / \mathrm{ha}$. The benefit cost ratio of gaillardia at cost ' $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ ' was 2.02 in small farmer, 2.12 in medium farmer, 2, 31 in large farmer and 2.16 in overall farmer which indicating economical profitability of gaillardia cultivation in the concerned areas.


Keywords: Gaillardia, cost, returns, profit, benefit cost ratio

## Introduction

Flower is a loveliest objet of the earth. A single flower is a reason of a million smiles and happiness. Government of India has identified floriculture as a sunrise industry and accorded it 100 percent export oriented status. Owing to steady increase in demand of floriculture has become one of the important commercial trades in Agriculture. Gaillardia is a seasonal flower and can be grown around the years. The generic name Gaillardia was proposed in honour of Mr. Gaillard de Marentonneau, an $18^{\text {th }}$ century French patron of Botany, who cultivated first. The Central and Western United states are considered to be its origin. Gaillardia is a member of the family Asteraceae. It is frequently known by the common names Blanket Flower or Indian Blanket. Other common names includes firewheel and sundance. The genus Gaillardia includes 30 species, among them Gaillardia aristata (perennial) and Gaillardia pulchella (annual) is used as ornamental flower and also used as medicinal plant.
Gaillardia propagated by seeds. Seed should be planted into a firm, weed-free seedbed. Gaillardia plants are bushy with spreading branches. Gaillardia flourishes in well drained soil and can withstand high light intensities, high temperature and drought better than the most of the flowering plants. They are grown in herbaceous borders and bed. It is one of the hardiest annual can be grown in a wide range of tropical to temperate climate. It is also tolerant to salinity. It is also useful in reducing erosion in costal dune areas. Punchaude (1990) reported the nematicidal property of gaillardia, when grown as catch crop and green manure. In India it is mostly used as a loose flower, for making garlands and for worship in temple. Maharashtra is also a leading state in flower production and the area under floriculture in Maharashtra during year 2017-18 is 5485 ha with production of loose flowers 29,080 MT and cut flowers 56,990 MT.

## Materials and Methods

The standard cost concept i.e. Cost $A_{1}$, Cost $A_{2}$, Cost $B_{1}$, Cost $B_{2}$, Cost $C_{1}$, Cost $C_{2}$ and Cost $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ was used in present analysis.
Cost $\mathbf{A}_{1}$ : All variable cost excluding family labour cost and including depreciation
Cost $\mathbf{A}_{2}$ : Cost $\mathrm{A}_{1}+$ Rent paid for leased-in land.
Cost $\mathbf{B}_{1}$ : Cost $A_{1}+$ interest value of owned fixed capital assets (excluding land).
Cost $\mathbf{B}_{2}$ : Cost $\mathrm{B}_{1}+$ Rental value of owned land (net of land revenue) and rent paid for leasedin land.
Cost $C_{1}$ : Cost $B_{1}+$ imputed value of family labour.
Cost $C_{2}$ : Cost $B_{2}+$ Imputed value of family labour.
Cost $C_{3}$ : Cost $\mathrm{C}_{2}+$ marketing costs and transportation report.

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## Gross and net returns

## Gross returns

Gross return of the farmers under the present study was estimated from returns obtained from sale of main produce.

## Net returns

Net returns was computed at different costs i.e. Cost $\mathrm{A}_{1}$, Cost $\mathrm{A}_{2}$, Cost $\mathrm{B}_{1}$, Cost $\mathrm{B}_{2}$, Cost $\mathrm{C}_{1}$, Cost $\mathrm{C}_{2}$ and Cost $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ by deducting respective costs from the gross returns.

## Benefit-cost ratio

It was calculated at cost $A_{1}$, cost $A_{2}$, cost $B_{1}$, cost $B_{2}$, $\operatorname{cost} C_{1}$, cost $C_{2}$ and cost $C_{3}$ by dividing gross income by respective cost.

## Result and Discussion

Table 1: Distribution of gaillardia growers according to size of land holding

| Sr. No. | Land holding group | Area in hectare | No. of cultivators |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. | Small | Up to 2.00 ha | 48 |
| 2. | Medium | 2.01 to 4.00 ha | 29 |
| 3. | Large | 4.01 ha and above | 13 |
|  | Total |  | 90 |

Table 2: Average size of holding of selected farmers (ha)

| Sr. No. | Size of holding | No. of farmer <br> selected | Average size <br> of holdings |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Small (less than 2 ha.) | $48(53.33)$ | 1.27 |
| 2 | Medium (2.01 to 4.00 ha.) | $29(32.22)$ | 3.02 |
| 3 | Large (4.01 \& above) | $13(14.44)$ | 6.00 |
|  | Overall | $90(100.00)$ | 3.43 |

(Figures in parentheses indicate percentage to the total farmers)
From the Table 2. it is revealed that, number of the selected farmer was 90 out of which 48 farmers belongs to small holding, 29 farmers belong to medium and 13 farmers to large size holding with average size of holding $1.27,3.02$ and 6.00 hectare respectively.

## Cost of cultivation of selected Gaillardia growers

The cost of cultivation is helpful for crop planning therefore in order to know the cost and profitability, the cost of cultivation of gaillardia for small, medium, large and overall farmer was workout.

## Per hectare cost of cultivation of gaillardia for Small farmer

The per hectare cost of cultivation of gaillardia for small farmers was workout and presented in Table 3.

Table 3: Per hectare cost of cultivation of Gaillardia for Small farmer

| Sr. No. | Item | Unit |  | Input/ha. | Cost / Unit of input | Total Cost Per Ha. | Per cent to Cost " $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ " |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 2 |  | 3 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 3.44 |
|  |  | Female | Days | 72.18 | 151.02 | 10900.62 | 7.36 |
|  | Subtotal |  |  |  |  | 15993.54 | 10.80 |
| 2 | Bullock Labour |  | (Pair days) | 6.29 | 499.23 | 3140.16 | 2.12 |
| 3 | Machine charges |  | Hours | 0.88 | 600.10 | 528.09 | 0.36 |
| 4 | Seedling |  | No. | 10125.35 | 1.00 | 10125.35 | 6.84 |
| 5 | Manures |  | QTLS. | 17.23 | 200.23 | 3449.96 | 2.33 |
| 6 | Fertilizer | N | Kg. | 102.73 | 20.76 | 2132.67 | 1.44 |
|  |  | P | Kg. | 62.65 | 32.08 | 2009.81 | 1.36 |
|  |  | K | Kg. | 50.72 | 23.25 | 1179.24 | 0.80 |
|  | Subtotal |  |  |  |  | 5321.73 | 3.59 |
| 7 | Irrigation charges | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 10463.92 | 7.07 |
| 8 | Insecticide (Plant Protection) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 7273.20 | 4.91 |
| 9 | Incidental charges | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 57.37 | 0.04 |
| 10 | Repairing Charges | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 250.26 | 0.17 |
| 11 | Working Capital (1 to 10) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 56603.58 | 38.23 |
| 12 | Interest on working Capital |  |  |  |  | 3396.21 | 2.29 |
| 13 | Depreciation | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 275.77 | 0.19 |
| 14 | Land Revenue | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 176.80 | 0.12 |
| 15 | COST "A1" (11 to 14) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 60452.36 | 40.83 |
| 16 | Rental Value Leased in land |  |  |  |  | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 17 | COST "A2" (15 to 16) |  |  |  |  | 60452.36 | 40.83 |
| 18 | Int. on Fix. Cap. @ 10\% |  |  |  |  | 1626.29 | 1.10 |
| 19 | COST "B1" (15+18) |  |  |  |  | 62078.65 | 41.93 |
| 20 | Rental Value of Land | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 49650.67 | 33.54 |
| 21 | COST "B2" (19 to 20) |  |  |  |  | 111729.32 | 75.47 |
| 22 | Family Human Labour | Male | Days | 38.04 | 205.11 | 7802.38 | 5.27 |
|  |  | Female | Days | 100.49 | 149.79 | 15052.40 | 10.17 |
|  | Subtotal |  |  |  |  | 22854.78 | 15.44 |
| 23 | Cost " C1 " (19+22) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 84933.43 | 57.37 |
| 24 | Cost " C2 " (21+22) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 134584.10 | 90.91 |
| 25 | Cost " C2* " (24) |  |  |  |  | 134584.10 | 90.91 |
| 26 | 10\% Cost C2* |  |  |  |  | 13458.41 | 9.09 |
| 27 | Cost " C3 " (25+26) |  |  |  |  | 148042.51 | 100.00 |
| 28 | Main Produce | (Rs.) |  | 295.00 | 1013.44 | 298964.80 |  |
| 29 | Per quintal cost of production | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 456.22 |  |

Table 3 revealed that in small famer, the per hectare cost of cultivation of gaillardia was Rs.1,48,042.51/-. Among the different items of expenditure, the rental value of land accounted highest share of the total cost i.e. 33.54 percent followed by family labour, hired labour, irrigation and seedlings which contributes $15.44,10.80,7.07$ and 6.84 per
cent of the total cost, respectively. The per hectare yield was 295.00 quintals.

Per hectare cost of cultivation of gaillardia for Medium farmers: The per hectare cost of cultivation of gaillardia for Medium farmers was workout and presented in Table 4.

Table 4: Per hectare cost of cultivation of Gaillardia for Medium farmers

| Sr. No. | Item | Unit |  | Input/ha. | Cost / Unit of input | Total Cost Per Ha. | Per cent to Cost " $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ " |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 2 |  | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1 | Hired Human Labour | Male | Days | 26.22 | 215.23 | 5643.33 | 3.60 |
|  |  | Female | Days | 83.11 | 150.02 | 12468.16 | 7.96 |
|  | Subtotal |  |  |  |  | 18111.49 | 11.56 |
| 2 | Bullock Labour |  | (Pair days) | 5.61 | 500.87 | 2809.88 | 1.79 |
| 3 | Machine charges |  | Hours | 0.92 | 600.07 | 552.06 | 0.35 |
| 4 | Seedling |  | No. | 10355.22 | 1.00 | 10355.22 | 6.61 |
| 5 | Manures |  | QTLS. | 19.34 | 200.40 | 3875.74 | 2.47 |
| 6 | Fertilizer | N | Kg. | 105.80 | 20.45 | 2163.61 | 1.38 |
|  |  | P | Kg. | 62.97 | 32.15 | 2024.49 | 1.29 |
|  |  | K | Kg. | 54.28 | 23.78 | 1290.78 | 0.82 |
|  | Subtotal |  |  |  |  | 5478.87 | 3.50 |
| 7 | Irrigation charges | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 11570.90 | 7.39 |
| 8 | Insecticide (Plant Protection) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 7527.78 | 4.81 |
| 9 | Incidental charges | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 67.28 | 0.04 |
| 10 | Repairing Charges | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 270.78 | 0.17 |
| 11 | Working Capital (1 to 10) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 60620.01 | 38.70 |
| 12 | Interest on working Capital |  |  |  |  | 3637.20 | 2.32 |
| 13 | Depreciation | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 382.88 | 0.24 |
| 14 | Land Revenue | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 178.89 | 0.11 |
| 15 | COST "A1" (11 to 14) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 64818.98 | 41.38 |
| 16 | Rental Value Leased in land |  |  |  |  | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 17 | COST "A2" (15 to 16) |  |  |  |  | 64818.98 | 41.38 |
| 18 | Int. on Fix.Cap. @ 10\% |  |  |  |  | 1904.89 | 1.22 |
| 19 | COST "B1" (15 + 18) |  |  |  |  | 66723.87 | 42.60 |
| 20 | Rental Value of Land | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 55217.48 | 35.25 |
| 21 | COST "B2" (19 to 20) |  |  |  |  | 121941.35 | 77.85 |
| 22 | Family Human Labour | Male | Days | 33.12 | 211.03 | 6989.31 | 4.46 |
|  |  | Female | Days | 89.74 | 150.11 | 13470.87 | 8.60 |
|  | Subtotal |  |  |  |  | 20460.19 | 13.06 |
| 23 | Cost " C1 " (19+22) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 87184.05 | 55.66 |
| 24 | Cost " C2 " (21+22) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 142401.54 | 90.91 |
| 25 | Cost " C2* " (24) |  |  |  |  | 142401.54 | 90.91 |
| 26 | 10\% Cost C2* |  |  |  |  | 14240.15 | 9.09 |
| 27 | Cost " C3 " (25+26) |  |  |  |  | 156641.69 | 100.00 |
| 28 | Main Produce | (Rs.) |  | 300.55 | 1105.90 | 332378.25 |  |
| 29 | Per quintal cost of production | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 473.80 |  |

It is seen from the Table 4 that, per hectare expenditure of Rs. $1,56,641.69$ /-was incurred in the cultivation of Gaillardia as a cost $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ by the cultivators. The major share of cost among different cost item where found in rental value of own land which is 35.25 per cent to the total cost of cultivation followed family human labour of 13.06 , hired human labour 11.56 , irrigation 7.39 , seedlings 6.61 per cent, plant protection
4.81 per cent, fertilizer 3.50 per cent and manures 2.47 per cent. The per hectare yield was 300.55 quintals.

## Per hectare cost of cultivation of gaillardia for Large farmers

The per hectare cost of cultivation of gaillardia for Large farmers was workout and presented in Table 5.

Table 5: Per hectare cost of cultivation of Gaillardia for Large farmers (Rs)

| Sr. No. | Item | Unit |  | Input/ha. | Cost / Unit of input | Total Cost Per Ha. | Per cent to Cost " $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ " |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 2 |  | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1 | Hired Human Labour | Male | Days | 30.06 | 216.41 | 6505.28 | 3.86 |
|  |  | Female | Days | 110.71 | 152.98 | 16936.42 | 10.06 |
|  | Subtotal |  |  |  |  | 23441.70 | 13.92 |
| 2 | Bullock Labour |  | (Pair days) | 2.76 | 501.09 | 1383.01 | 0.82 |
| 3 | Machine charges |  | Hours | 1.63 | 600.31 | 978.51 | 0.58 |
| 4 | Seedlings |  | No. | 10523.90 | 1.00 | 10523.90 | 6.25 |
| 5 | Manures |  | QTLS. | 21.45 | 200.57 | 4302.23 | 2.55 |
| 6 | Fertilizer | N | Kg. | 107.13 | 20.27 | 2171.53 | 1.29 |
|  |  | P | Kg. | 63.01 | 32.90 | 2073.03 | 1.23 |


|  |  | K | Kg. | 55.87 | 23.89 | 1334.73 | 0.79 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Subtotal |  |  |  |  | 5579.29 | 3.31 |
| 7 | Irrigation charges | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 12040.82 | 7.15 |
| 8 | Insecticide (Plant Protection) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 7755.10 | 4.61 |
| 9 | Incidental charges | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 72.04 | 0.04 |
| 10 | Repairing Charges | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 277.08 | 0.16 |
| 11 | Working Capital (1 to 10) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 66353.67 | 39.41 |
| 12 | Interest on working Capital |  |  |  |  | 3981.22 | 2.36 |
| 13 | Depreciation | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 370.04 | 0.22 |
| 14 | Land Revenue | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 182.14 | 0.11 |
| 15 | COST "A1" (11 to 14) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 70887.07 | 42.10 |
| 16 | Rental Value Leased in land |  |  |  |  | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 17 | COST "A2" (15 to 16) |  |  |  |  | 70887.07 | 42.10 |
| 18 | Int. on Fix.Cap. @ 10\% |  |  |  |  | 2027.55 | 1.20 |
| 19 | COST "B1" (15 + 18) |  |  |  |  | 72914.62 | 43.30 |
| 20 | Rental Value of Land | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 64675.08 | 38.41 |
| 21 | COST "B2" (19 to 20) |  |  |  |  | 137589.70 | 81.71 |
| 22 | Family Human Labour | Male | Days | 22.80 | 212.01 | 4833.83 | 2.87 |
|  |  | Female | Days | 70.68 | 150.74 | 10654.30 | 6.33 |
|  | Subtotal |  |  |  |  | 15488.13 | 9.20 |
| 23 | Cost " C1 " (19+22) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 88402.75 | 52.50 |
| 24 | Cost " C2 " (21+22) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 153077.83 | 90.91 |
| 25 | Cost " C2* " (24) |  |  |  |  | 153077.83 | 90.91 |
| 26 | 10\% Cost C2* |  |  |  |  | 15307.78 | 9.09 |
| 27 | Cost " C3 " (25+ 26) |  |  |  |  | 168385.61 | 100.00 |
| 28 | Main Produce | (Rs.) |  | 305.45 | 1274.00 | 389143.30 |  |
| 29 | Per quintal cost of production | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 501.16 |  |

The Table 5 revealed that per hectare Cost of cultivation at Cost ' $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ ' for gaillardia was Rs. 1,68,385.61/-. In the cultivation of gaillardia the major item of cost were rental value of land, hired human labour, family labour, irrigation, seedlings, plant protection and fertilizer which accounted $38.41,13.92,9.20,7.15,6.25,4.61$ and 3.31 per cent share to
total cost respectively. The per hectare yield was 305.45 quintals.

Per hectare cost of cultivation of Gaillardia for Overall farmers: The per hectare cost of cultivation of Gaillardia for Overall level was workout and presented in Table 6.

Table 6: Per hectare cost of cultivation of Gaillardia for overall farmer

| Sr. No. | Item | Unit |  | Input/ha. | Cost / Unit of input | Total Cost Per Ha. | Per cent to Cost " $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ " |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 2 |  | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1 | Hired Human Labour | Male | Days | 26.71 | 215.03 | 5743.45 | 3.64 |
|  |  | Female | Days | 88.67 | 151.34 | 13418.81 | 8.50 |
|  | Subtotal |  |  |  |  | 19162.26 | 12.14 |
| 2 | Bullock Labour |  | (Pair days) | 4.89 | 500.40 | 2446.96 | 1.55 |
| 3 | Machine charges |  | Hours | 1.14 | 600.16 | 684.18 | 0.43 |
| 4 | Seedlings |  | No. | 10334.82 | 1.00 | 10334.82 | 6.55 |
| 5 | Manures |  | QTLS. | 19.34 | 200.40 | 3875.74 | 2.46 |
| 6 | Fertilizer | N | Kg. | 105.22 | 20.50 | 2157.01 | 1.37 |
|  |  | P | Kg. | 62.88 | 32.38 | 2036.05 | 1.29 |
|  |  | K | Kg. | 53.62 | 23.64 | 1267.58 | 0.80 |
|  | Subtotal |  |  |  |  | 5460.64 | 3.46 |
| 7 | Irrigation charges | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 11447.88 | 7.25 |
| 8 | Insecticide (Plant Protection) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 7518.69 | 4.76 |
| 9 | Incidental charges | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 65.56 | 0.04 |
| 10 | Repairing Charges | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 266.04 | 0.17 |
| 11 | Working Capital (1 to 10) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 61262.77 | 38.82 |
| 12 | Interest on working Capital |  |  |  |  | 3675.77 | 2.33 |
| 13 | Depreciation | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 342.90 | 0.22 |
| 14 | Land Revenue | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 179.28 | 0.11 |
| 15 | COST "A1" (11 to 14) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 65460.72 | 41.48 |
| 16 | Rental Value Leased in land |  |  |  |  | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 17 | COST "A2" (15 to 16) |  |  |  |  | 65460.72 | 41.48 |
| 18 | Int. on Fix.Cap. @ 10\% |  |  |  |  | 1852.91 | 1.17 |
| 19 | COST "B1" (15 + 18) |  |  |  |  | 67313.63 | 42.66 |
| 20 | Rental Value of Land | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 56514.51 | 35.82 |
| 21 | COST "B2" (19 to 20) |  |  |  |  | 123828.14 | 78.47 |
| 22 | Family Human Labour | Male | Days | 31.32 | 209.38 | 6557.78 | 4.16 |
|  |  | Female | Days | 86.97 | 150.21 | 13063.76 | 8.28 |
|  | Subtotal |  |  |  |  | 19621.55 | 12.43 |
| 23 | Cost " C1 " (19+22) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 86935.17 | 55.09 |


| 24 | Cost " C2 " (21+22) | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 143449.69 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 25 | Cost " C2* " (24) |  |  |  |  | 143449.69 |
| 26 | $10 \%$ Cost C2* |  |  |  |  | 14344.97 |
| 27 | Cost " C3 " (25+ 26) |  |  |  |  | 90.91 |
| 28 | Main Produce | (Rs.) |  | 300.33 | 1137794.66 | 9.69 |
| 29 | Per quintal cost of production | (Rs.) |  |  |  | 340162.77 |

It is revealed from the Table 6 that per hectare cost of cultivation (Cost $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ ) of gaillardia at overall level was Rs. 1, 57, 794.66/- It is also observed from the table that cost $\mathrm{A}_{1}$ and cost $\mathrm{A}_{2}$ are same among all the farm categories because none of the respondents was found cultivating lease in land. On an average Cost $\mathrm{A}_{1}, \mathrm{~A}_{2}$ and Cost $\mathrm{B}_{1}$, Cost $\mathrm{B}_{2}$, Cost $\mathrm{C}_{1}$, and cost $\mathrm{C}_{2}$ was found Rs. 65,460.72/-, 65,460.72/-, 67,313.63/-,

1,23,828.14/-, 86,935.17/- and 1,43,449.69/- respectively. The average yield of gaillardia crop was $300.33 \mathrm{q} / \mathrm{ha}$.

## Per hectare cost and returns from Gaillardia

The per hectare cost and return of the gaillardia was workout for small, medium and large farmers were presented in Table 7.

Table 7: Per hectare cost and returns from Gaillardia (Rs/ha)

| Sr. No. | Particulars | Small | Medium | Large | Overall |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Value of Main Produce | 298964.80 | 332378.25 | 389143.30 | 340162.77 |
| 2 | Gross Return | 298964.80 | 332378.25 | 389143.30 | 340162.77 |
| 3 | Cost of Cultivation at |  |  |  |  |
|  | Cost "A1" | 60452.36 | 64818.98 | 70887.07 | 65460.72 |
|  | Cost "A2" | 60452.36 | 64818.98 | 70887.07 | 65460.72 |
|  | Cost "B1" | 62078.65 | 66723.87 | 72914.62 | 67313.63 |
|  | Cost "B2" | 111729.32 | 121941.35 | 137589.70 | 123828.14 |
|  | Cost "C1" | 84933.43 | 87184.05 | 88402.75 | 86935.17 |
|  | Cost "C2" | 134584.10 | 142401.54 | 153077.83 | 143449.69 |
|  | Cost "C2*" | 134584.10 | 142401.54 | 153077.83 | 143449.69 |
|  | Cost "C3*" | 148042.51 | 156641.69 | 168385.61 | 157794.66 |
| 4 | Net Return at |  |  |  |  |
|  | Cost "A1" | 238512.44 | 267559.27 | 318256.23 | 274702.05 |
|  | Cost "A2" | 238512.44 | 267559.27 | 318256.23 | 274702.05 |
|  | Cost "B1" | 236886.15 | 265654.38 | 316228.68 | 272849.14 |
|  | Cost "B2" | 187235.48 | 210436.89 | 251553.60 | 216334.63 |
|  | Cost "C1" | 214031.37 | 245194.19 | 300740.55 | 253227.60 |
|  | Cost "C2" | 164380.70 | 189976.71 | 236065.47 | 196713.08 |
|  | Cost "C2*" | 164380.70 | 189976.71 | 236065.47 | 196713.08 |
|  | Cost "C3*" | 150922.29 | 175736.55 | 220757.69 | 182368.11 |
| 5 | Benefit-Cost ratio at |  |  |  |  |
|  | Cost "A1" | 4.95 | 5.13 | 5.49 | 5.20 |
|  | Cost "A2" | 4.95 | 5.13 | 5.49 | 5.20 |
|  | Cost "B1" | 4.82 | 4.98 | 5.34 | 5.05 |
|  | Cost "B2" | 2.68 | 2.73 | 2.83 | 2.75 |
|  | Cost "C1" | 3.52 | 3.81 | 4.40 | 3.91 |
|  | Cost "C2" | 2.22 | 2.33 | 2.54 | 2.37 |
|  | Cost "C2*" | 2.22 | 2.33 | 2.54 | 2.37 |
|  | Cost "C3*" | 2.02 | 2.12 | 2.31 | 2.16 |

It is seen from the Table 7 that per hectare production of gaillardia for small, medium and large farmer was 295.00, 300.55 and $305.45 \mathrm{q} / \mathrm{ha}$, respectively. The gross returns from gaillardia was Rs. 2,98,964.80/-, Rs. 3,32,378.25/- and Rs. 3,89,143.30/- for small, medium and large group. The overall level gross returns was Rs. 3,40,162.77/-. Whereas the cost of cultivation of these groups have been estimated to be Rs. $1,48042.51 /$-, Rs. $1,56641.69 /-\quad$ and Rs. 1,68,385.61/respectively, The overall cost required for cultivation of gaillardia was Rs. 1,57,794.66/-. The per hectare net returns at cost $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ obtained by the grower was Rs. 1,50,922.29/-, $1,75,736.55 /-$ and $2,20,757.69 /-$ for small, medium and large group of grower and $1,82,368.11 /-$ for overall level. The benefit-cost ratio at Cost $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ for small, medium and large group of grower was $2.02,2.12$ and 2.31 respectively. The overall ratio was 2.16.

## Conclusions

Per hectare cost of cultivation of gaillardia at cost " $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ " was highest in the large farmers i.e. Rs. 1,68,385.61 followed by
medium farmer Rs. 1,56,641.69 and small farmer Rs. $1,48,042.51$ and at overall level Rs. $1,57,794.66$. The average yield and gross returns per hectare increased with the increase in size of farms. The benefit cost ratio of gaillardia at cost ' $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ ' was 2.02 in small farmer, 2.12 in medium farmer and 2,31 in large farmer. This indicates that, Cultivation of gaillardia crop was economically profitable.

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