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## An analysis of value addition in horticulture crops in Sirsi Taluk of Uttarakannada district

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**Abstract**

Since time immemorial, women have played an important role in Indian agriculture. Women contribute significantly to agricultural development and allied fields, which include crop production, livestock production, horticulture, post-harvest operations, fisheries, etc. Uttarakannada district is native of many rare and endangered horticultural species which are well known for medicinal and aromatic properties. Albeit, it is hub of many plantation and spice crops like arecanut, cocoa, cashew, coconut, black pepper, cardamom, nutmeg, clove, ginger, turmeric etc.,. Three villages were taken and in each village ten respondents were selected randomly with a condition that each respondents are actively involved in the value addition practices. Which accounts 30 sample size. majority of the respondents fully involved in the fruits based value addition (64.28%) and equal percentage (14.28%) of the respondents engaged in Spices and Medicinal plants and plantation only one respondent used vegetable based value addition. about 30% of the respondent expressed that, main purpose of taking up the value addition activity is to buy assets followed by no other source of income (26.68%), poor economic condition (23.33%).

**Keywords:** Horticulture crops, women contribute, demonstration etc.

**Introduction**

In India, farm women constitute an important work force in agriculture and allied sectors and are vital to the well being of farm households. The success of farming depends upon the decisions taken by the farmers. Women, as close partners to their husbands have greater role in decision- making process. Women as wives and mothers have got considerable part in decision making in farm, household and animal husbandry activities. Historically, it is believed that it was the women who first domesticated crop plants, and there by initiated the art and science of farming (Swaminathan, 1990) <sup>[1, 2]</sup>. While, men were out hunting in search of food, women started gathering seeds from the native flora and began cultivating plants for the sake of food, feed, fiber and fuel. Even today, this tradition has continued in many parts of the developing world. Women are regarded as “the creators of all green things in the world”. Since time immemorial, women have played an important role in Indian agriculture. Women contribute significantly to agricultural development and allied fields, which include crop production, livestock production, horticulture, post-harvest operations, fisheries, etc. A large number of women from rural area are engaged in farm operations as cultivators, assistants to male cultivators or as agricultural labourers. It is a well known fact that women contribute equally, if not more, to agriculture, especially in a developing country like ours. Uttarakannada district is native of many rare and endangered horticultural species which are well known for medicinal and aromatic properties. Albeit, it is hub of many plantation and spice crops like arecanut, cocoa, cashew, coconut, black pepper, cardamom, nutmeg, clove, ginger, turmeric etc.,. Besides these, the transitional weather conditions are very well suited to grow fruit crops like pineapple, mango, banana which are already grown extensively in the district. Hence there is a huge scope for value addition in above said crops. Very limited study were undertaken to study the extent of women involvement in value addition of horticulture crops. Entrepreneurship is a dynamic activity which helps the entrepreneur to bring changes in the process of production, innovation in production, new usage of materials, creator of market etc. It is a mental attitude to foresee risk and uncertainty with a view to achieve certain strong motivation. Empowering farming community with knowledge and skill to take up vocational income generating activities is prime need of the hour. Further, building their capacities on managerial skills. In view of these, the present study was undertaken to analyze the value addition in horticulture crops.

**Materials and Methods**

Sirsi taluk of Uttarakannada district of Karnataka state has taken as a study area. Three villages were taken and in each village ten respondents were selected randomly with a condition that

each respondents are actively involved in the value addition practices. Which accounts 30 sample size. Each respondent were interviewed with a pre tested interview schedule and

collected required information. Frequency and percentage were used to analyze the data.

## Results and discussion

**Table 1:** Extent of participation in Horticulture related value addition activities n=30

S. No	Horticulture Activity	Full Participation		Partial Participation	
		Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1	Pomology(Fruits)	9	64.28	7	43.75
2	Spices and Medicinal plants	2	14.28	5	31.25
3	Plantation	2	14.28	3	18.5
4	Olericulture (Vegetable)	1	7.16	1	6.5

Table.1 depicts majority of the respondents fully involved in the fruits based value addition(64.28%) and equal percentage (14.28%) of the respondents engaged in Spices and Medicinal plants and plantation only one respondent used vegetable based value addition. As fruits are seasonal and women get sufficient time to prepare value added products that may be reason results shown maximum women involvement in fruits related value addition followed by other crops.

About 43.75% of the respondents partially participated in fruits related value addition followed by spices and Medicinal plants (31.25%), Plantation (18.5%) and olericulture (6.5%).

**Table 2:** Family income of respondents in the study area n=30

S. No	Income	Per month	Per year
1	Before starting value addition	13,500	1,62,000
2	After starting value addition	22,500	2,70,000

Table: 2 depicts before starting of the value addition, respondents were earning only Rs.13, 500 per month and 1,62,000 per year respectively. After starting of value addition business, respondent earning rs.22, 500 per month and 2, 70,000 per year.

**Table 3:** Purpose of taking up the value addition in horticulture crops n=30

S. No.	Purpose	Frequency	Percentage
1	To buy assets	9	30.00
2	Traditionally practiced	4	13.33
3	To pass time	2	6.66
4	Poor economic condition	7	23.33
5	No other source of income	8	26.68

Table:3 depicts Purpose of taking up the value addition in horticulture crops, about 30% of the respondent expressed that, main purpose of taking up the value addition activity is to buy assets followed by no other source of income(26.68%), poor economic condition(23.33%), Traditionally practiced (13.33%) and only 6.66% of the respondent expresses that they involved in value addition mainly to pass time.

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