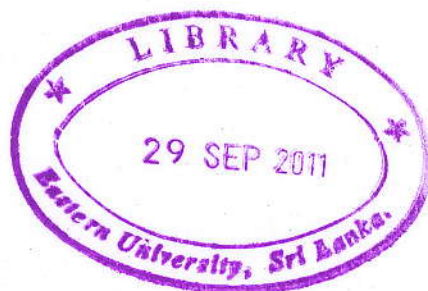
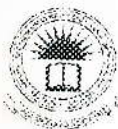


**VEGETABLE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING IN
MANMUNAI SOUTH AND ERUVIL PATTU D.S. DIVISION
OF THE BATTICALOA DISTRICT**



SIVAPALAN THANUSHA



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ABSTRACT

Vegetable Farming plays a significant role in rural areas. The survey covered 100 farmers from six G.N divisions in Manmunai South and Eruvil Pattu Division of the Batticaloa district. Pre-tested questionnaires were used to collect data and simple random sampling technique was used to draw the sample and the data were analyzed using SPSS statistical soft ware.

Aspects of socio-economic features of the farmers, productivity parameters, marketing, cost of production and constraints in vegetable production were studied. Most of the farmers (87%) had own land (high land and low land) and cultivated extent was 0.8 ac of land. About 74% of farmers had used hired labour for the vegetable cultivation. Some farmers (45%) had used credit as a source of investment. Severe pest and disease attacks and high input cost were the major problems faced by farmers. Wholesalers, village traders and middlemen were involved in marketing activities. The main marketing channel was producer to wholesalers (40%) to consumers in the area. Availability of inputs was not a problem in the areas.

The total cost of production was high and chemical cost and fertilizer costs were high for all the selected vegetables. The cost of production per kg was Rs.27.98 for chilli, Rs.16.83 for brinjal, Rs. 13.59 for okra, Rs. 15.79 for bushitao and Rs. 41.27 for red onion and it was higher cost than other areas of Sri Lanka. Ploughing cost, material cost, labour cost, fertilizer cost, chemical cost, irrigation cost and transport cost had impact on net profit of vegetable crops. Lack of extension services, lack of awareness on crop insurance scheme and unable to access credit facilities were problems noted in this study.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page No
ABSTRACT	I
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	II
TABLE OF CONTENTS	III
LIST OF TABLES	VII
LIST OF FIGURES	IX
ABBREVIATIONS	X
CHAPTER 1	1
1. INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Vegetable production in Batticaloa district	3
1.3 Research problems	4
1.4 Objectives of study	4
1.5 Limitations of the study	5
CHAPTER 2	6
2.0 REVIEW OF LITERATURE	6
2.1 Vegetable Production in Sri Lanka.....	6
2.2 Vegetable sector	9
2.3 Vegetable Production and Wastage in Sri Lanka	10

2.4 Importance of vegetable	10
2.5 Export of Vegetables	11
2.6 Imports of Vegetables.....	12
2.7 Research and Development on vegetables	12
2.8 Seed and Planting Material.....	12
2.8.1 Government policy on seed.....	13
2.8.2 Multiple seed production	13
2.9 Utilization of Advanced Technology	14
2.10 Vegetable Industries	14
2.11 Input Suppliers	15
2.12 Women in agriculture.....	16
2.13 Marketing of vegetables	16
2.14 Marketing Systems for Vegetables.....	18
2.14.1 Organization of the Marketing Systems of Vegetables	19
2.15 Credits for vegetables.....	20
2.16 Technology Transfer and Extension.....	21
2.17 Constraints and challenges for vegetable production.....	22
2.18 Government Policy on Vegetable Production	23
2.19 Integrated management of vegetable pests in the Batticaloa district	24
2.20: Environmental safe guards	24
CHAPTER 3	25
3.0 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	25

3.1 Introduction	25
3.2 Study Area	25
3.3 Selection of sample	26
3.4 Location of the Study Area.....	27
3.5 Data collection.....	28
3.6 Data Analysis	29
 CHAPTER 4	 31
4.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION.....	31
4.1 Socio economic Characteristics of the Vegetable Farmers	31
4.1.1 Social aspects of the vegetable farmers	31
4.2 Land Ownership and Extent of Vegetable Cultivation	32
4.2.1 Land Tenure	32
4.2.2 Land ownership	32
4.3 Vegetable Cultivation.....	33
4.3.1 Number of vegetables grown	33
4.3.2 Types of vegetable grown	33
4.3.3 Extent of vegetable grown	34
4.4 Input Use	35
4.4.1 Seed sources.....	35
4.4.2 Source of fertilizer and pesticide	36
4.5 Labour use	36
4.6 Irrigation method used.....	37
4.7 Credit use.....	38

4.7.1. credit source.....	38
4.7.2 Amount of loan taken.....	38
4.8 Pest and Disease problems	39
4.9 Average Yield.....	39
4.10 Marketing of Vegetables	41
4.10.1 Marketing Outlets	41
4.10.2 Quantity of Vegetables sold.....	44
4.10.3 Farm Gate Price	45
4.11 Other Services	46
4.13 Cost of Production.....	47
4.14 Cost of Production in G.N divisions	49
4.15 Gross income in G.N divisions.....	50
4.16 Net income in G.N divisions	51
4.17 Cost Components Affecting Net Profit	52
 CHAPTER 5	 57
5.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS	57
5.1 Summary	57
5.2 Conclusion.....	60
5.3 Recommendations.....	60
 REFERENCES	 61
 ANNEXTURES	