

**ECONOMIC ANALYSIS ON SMALL SCALE FARMING OF
SELECTED VEGETABLES AND FRUITS THROUGH GOOD
AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES (GAP) IN SELECTED
DIVISIONAL SECRETARIATS, ANURADHAPURA DISTRICT.**



BY

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ABSTRACT

This study was done to analyze the small scale farming of fruits and vegetables through the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP). Farmers Practicing of Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) is not only Sri Lanka, but also all over the world. By putting standards along with GAP can be controlled the food safety as well as human health. Good Agricultural Practices are not newly introduced system to the Sri Lanka. The ancient agriculture system of Sri Lanka was related to good agricultural and managements practices. But agriculture system has to feed the growing population. For that reason farmers used to apply high amount of fertilizer to increase the yield. Excess usage of fertilizer and other agro chemicals adversely harm to consumers as well as farmers health.

As an answer Department of Agriculture was introduced the Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) in 2015, and operating on Provincial Agriculture departments, Agriculture Department under Central Government, and Mahawali Project. Over 550 farmers are engaged in SL GAP from all the districts Sri Lanka. In Anuradhapura, 112 farmers are applying for this program but only 25 famers could get the GAP Certification. For this research those 25 farmers have been interviewed by the interviewer.

According to the results of analysis average age is 50 of the farmers engaged with the GAP. Minimum age of interviewed farmers is 39 and maximum age is 69 years. Analyze showed that 2 farmers within the range of 1-5 years of schooling. 7 farmers under the range of 6-10. 11 farmers under the range of 11-13 at last 5 farmers under the range of Higher education. The average extent of crop growing land is 1.97 acres. 36% of farmers involved with Snake gourd cultivation. 4% cultivated Bitter gourd,

12% involved Capsicum farming. 8% involved in Papaw cultivation, 20% grown Mango and 20% cultivated Guava. All 25 farmers were adopted all the criteria under the GAP standards. According to the last season average yield per acre by the Capsicum – 14000kg/ac. Papaw and its yield, 6666.7kg/ac. Snake gourd yield was 2027.7kg/ac. Bitter gourd and yield was 4000kg/ac. Guava cultivation average yield per acre was 536kg/ac. Average income per acre from each crop was Rs. 219692.30 by Snake gourd, Rs.880000 by Bitter gourd, Rs.2240000 by Capsicum, Rs.933333.30 by Papaw, Rs.34600 by Guava, Rs.97321 by Mango. Production cost for Capsicum was Rs. 852800.00 due to intensive management practices. Next to Capsicum high production cost for Mango Rs. 6641250. Production cost for Guava was Rs. 124466.00. Production cost for Papaw was Rs. 141933.33. Snake gourd production cost was Rs. 38056.41. finally production cost for Bitter gourd was Rs. 29330.00.

T – test results showed that ploughing did not affecting the total yield (kg) of fruits and vegetables at 5% significance level and soil sterilization at 5% significance level affecting the total yield of fruits and vegetables (kg). But total yield (kg/ac) at 5% significance level did not affect the Planting crops with pest deterring value/ Barrier Crops.

This study was found that extension service by the Department of Agriculture is very less. Unawareness of the existing market price of fruits and vegetable mislead the GAP farmers were major problems. Small scale farming of fruits and vegetables using GAP has contributed to uplift the lives patterns of farmers and consumers health. Some GAP practices affected the total yield of production in good way.

Keywords: Good Agricultural Practices, cost, ploughing, soil sterilization,

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