

Spatio-Temporal Changes in Cropping Pattern of Satara District (1991-92 to 2011-12)

Dr.Sunita M. Chavan . Prof. Sambhaji.D.Shinde.

Venutai Chavan College, Karad.

Email : sunitashankarpalekar@gmail.com

Head, Department of Geography Shivaji University,Kolhapur.

Abstract: Cropping pattern means the proportion of an area under various crops at a point of time in a unit area or the pattern of crops for given piece of land. It indicates the yearly sequence and spatial arrangements of crops and follows in an area. The present paper analyzes the changing cropping pattern of Satara district. It shows the changing cropping pattern due the physical condition of study area. In the cropping pattern area under sugarcane crop is concentrated in karad tehsil of Satara district.

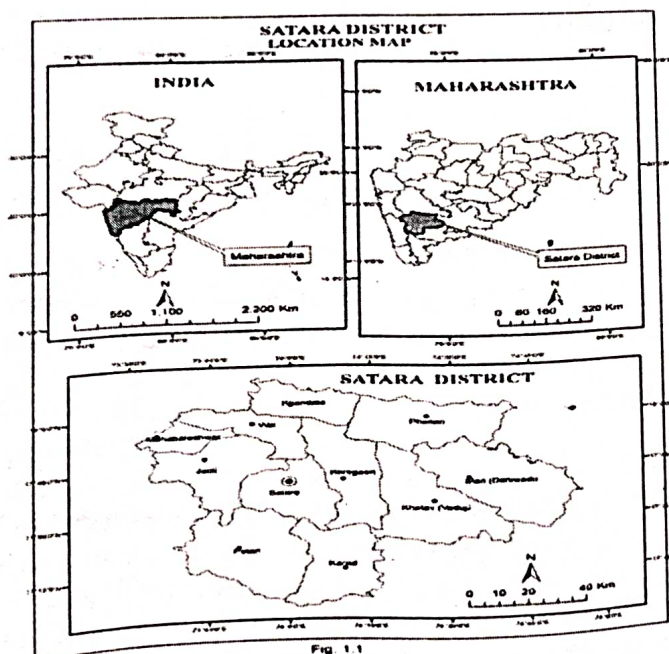
Keywords: Cropping pattern, Concentrated, Positive & Negative, sugarcane.

Introduction:

The purpose of the present paper is to describe and analyse the general land use pattern in Satara district. Cropping pattern is 'the proportion of the area under various crops at a point of time' (Kanwar, 1972). It indicates how intensively the net sown area is being utilized for various crops. The cropping pattern depends on a number of inputs of which irrigation is an important one change in cropping pattern refers to change in proportion of area under different crops at two different times. Such changes are governed by ecological situation. However, socio-economic and technological factors also determine the choice the feasible crops by the farmers. In case of irrigated crops, the choices are directly governed by the specific purpose for which the irrigated crops are to be grown and these are also conditioned by the geographical factors and modified by the emergent, social and economic circumstances (Memoria, 1979). The ensuing section therefore, deals with the cropping pattern and changes there in for individual crops in particular and irrigated crops in general in the region. The area under study grows a variety of crops but they are generally classified as food and non-food crops.

Study Area:

Satara district is renown in the Maharashtra in many aspects. But the agriculture development in Satara district is not same. Rainfall distribution in Satara district is uneven west part of the district is heavy rainfall and eastern part scarcity in the rainfall. The district lies at the western limit of the Deccan table and in southern



Maharashtra. It is situated in the river basin of the Bhima and Krishna rivers but from the point of view of Maharashtra. The entire land of the district belongs to the larger drainage system of the Krishna river. The district extends between $17^{\circ} 5'$ to $18^{\circ} 11'$ north latitudes and $73^{\circ} 33'$ and $74^{\circ} 54'$ east longitude (Fig. 1.). It is surrounded by Pune district to the north, Solapur district to the east. Sangli district to the south and Ratnagiri district to the west. It also has a small boundary of about 24 Kms. with Raigrah district in the south-west. Having 1058243