

**BENEFITS OF COMMERCIAL VEGETABLE FARMING: A
CASE STUDY OF DHARMA DEVI MUNICIPALITY AT
SANKHUWA SABHA DISTRICT**

**A Thesis Submitted to:
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Letter of Recommendation

This is to certify that the thesis entitled **Benefits of Commercial Vegetable Farming: A Case Study of Dharma Devi Municipality at Sankhuwa Sabha District** is prepared by **Birendra Karki** under my guidance and supervision. I hereby forward this thesis to the evaluation committee for final evaluation and approval.

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26-03-2018

Letter of Approval

This thesis entitled **Benefits of Commercial Vegetable Farming: A Case Study of Dharma Devi Municipality at Sankhuwa Sabha District** submitted by **Birendra Karki** in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the master's degree (M.A.) in Rural Development has been found satisfactory and approved by the evaluation committee.

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Declaration

I hereby declare that the thesis entitled **Benefits of Commercial Vegetable Farming: A Case Study of Dharma Devi Municipality at Sankhuwa Sabha District** submitted to the University Campus, Department of Rural Development, T.U., is entirely my original work prepared under the guidance and supervision of my supervisor. I acknowledged to all ideas and information borrowed from different sources in the course of writing this thesis. The result of this thesis has not been presented or submitted anywhere else for the award of any degree or for any other purposes. I assured that no part of the content of this thesis has been published in any form before.

.....

Birendra Karki

Date: 2074-12-12

26-03-2018

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Abstract

The study **Benefits of Commercial Vegetable Farming: A Case Study of Dharma Devi Municipality at Sankhuwa Sabha District** was carried out with the objectives of examine the socio economic conditions of vegetable farmers, analyzing the impact of vegetable farming on livelihood and identifying the problems and ways to solution of commercial vegetable farming. The data were collected from both primary and secondary sources. The field survey was carried out employing various techniques like observation, questionnaire survey, FGD, KIS, informal interview and in-depth interview.

Dharma Devi Municipality is well known as a commercial vegetable farming area in Sankhuwasabha district. It is situated at mid east part of the district and it is look like as rectangular shape. This occupation is regarded as a major source of livelihood since 2051/052 B.S. Before starting commercial vegetable farming people of Dharma Devi Municipality produced potato and the used to exchange their production with cereal crop to the neighbor Municipality. They used to give two times potato for single unit of paddy. They used to grow maize in their land but it took about nine months (from Magh to Kartik) to prepare. On the other the productivity was very low. SEPRED (a project) inspired to do commercial vegetable farming in 2051 B.S. and then they started it.

Most of household head were in the age group 31- 40 and 18 households head were male and 27 households head were female. Among the household majorities have family size of 7, which is 24.4 percent and average family size of the study area was 6.3 and most of the respondents are from the aged so 93.3 percent are married. Most of the households were Kshatri. Within them 18 households were Thapa, and 12 were Bishta. Likewise 3 were Limbu. The literate and illiterate percent of them was found 77.8 percent and 22.2 percent respectively. Among educated groups majorities were found to have secondary level (29 percent). Majority of the family members are between 21 - 30 years and below 10 years, which both contributed 27.5 percent. Majority of the families use toilet or mostly feel it is necessary for the health. 41 out of 45 households head already prepared toilet or it contribute 91.1 percent. Most of them have land holding 16-20 ropani which accounted for 35.5 percent. Majorities of

the farmers use to grow high value vegetables as cauliflower, cabbage, tomato, pea, radish, carrot and green vegetables.

Yearly average income from vegetable farming is NRs. 250000. Utilization of income shows that the area of the expenditure. Farmers are utilizing income primarily in food, cloths, children education and daily required goods. Most of the farmers are using local, improve, FYM, Urea, DAP, Potash, Pesticide in their farming system. Vegetable farmers were practiced to use traditional wooden plow and spade for land preparation. They were not mechanized and small sector based technologies are in operation. There is both positive and negative impact on livelihood of commercial vegetable farming. Accessibility to health and education facility is increased. Other important outcome is their feeling, farmer give their introduction as a farmer without any hesitation or with proud. Educational status is low because people start vegetable farming before complete education. There are some problems to the agriculture in the perspective of livelihood. Lack of sufficient labor, problem of seed, fertilizer market etc are some problems facing by the farmer. On the basis of theoretical ground, we conclude that the households utilized their capabilities fully by using the skill, knowledge and labours.

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Acronyms/Abbreviations

| | |
|--------|---|
| APP | Agricultural Perspective Plan |
| CBS | Central Bureau of Statistics |
| CDG | Central Department of Geography |
| DFID | Department for International Development |
| e.g. | For example |
| Eds. | Editors |
| et.al. | Alli, aliae (Latin Word), and other |
| etc. | Et Cetrea |
| FYM | Farm Yard Manure |
| GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| GIS | Geographical Information System |
| GON | Government of Nepal |
| i.e. | That is |
| INGOs | International Non-Governmental Organizations |
| msl | Mean Sea Level |
| NGOs | Non-Governmental Organizations |
| NPC | National Planning Commission |
| NRB | Nepal Rastra Bank |
| NRs | Nepalese Rupees |
| Rs | Rupees |
| SLA | Sustainable Livelihood Approach |
| SLF | Sustainable Livelihood Framework |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Programme |
| UNFPA | United Nations Population Fund |
| VDC | Village Development Committee |
| WCED | World Commission on Environment and Development |