

**POTENTIALITY AND CHALLENGES OF ORGANIC
TOMATO FARMING A CASE STUDY OF
BESHISHAHAR MUNICIPALITY-10, BANJHAKHET
LAMJUNG DISTRICT, NEPAL**

**A Thesis Submitted to
The Central Department of Rural Development,
Tribhuvan University,
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the
Master Degree of Arts
In
Rural Development**

**By
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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the thesis entitle **Potentiality And Challenges of Organic Tomato Farming: A Case Study of Beshishahar Municipality-10, Lamjung Nepal** submitted to the Central Department of Rural Development, Tribhuvan University, is entirely my original work prepared under the guidance and supervision of my supervisor. I have made due acknowledgements to all ideas and information borrowed from different sources in the course of preparing this thesis. The results of this thesis have not been presented or submitted anywhere else for the award of any degree or for any other purposes. I assure that no part of the content of this thesis has been published in any form before.

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RECOMMENDATION LETTER

The thesis entitled **Potentiality and Challenges of Organic Tomato Farming: A Case Study of Beshishahar Municipality-10, Lamjung District Nepal** has been prepared by **Manita Gurung** under my guidance and supervision. I hereby forward this thesis to the evaluation committee for final evaluation and approval.

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Bishnu Bahadur KC

(Supervisor)

Date: 2018-1-21

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APPROVAL LETTER

The thesis entitled **Potentiality And Challenges of Organic Tomato Farming: A Case Study of Beshishahar Municipality-10, Lamjung, Nepal** submitted by **Manita Gurung** in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master's Degree (M.A.) in Rural Development has been approved by the evaluation committee.

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Abstract

Organic agriculture is an ecological production management system that promotes and enhances biodiversity, biological cycle and social biological activity. It is used on minimal use of off-farm inputs and enhances ecological harmony. Organic tomatoes are produced using pest management and fertilization methods that do not include synthetic compounds.

Nepal is one of the most beautiful countries in the world with lofty snowcapped mountains and scenic, peaceful settings. Nepal having three geographical variations tomato is best suited in Tarai, in low and mid hills; it is becoming increasingly attractive for cash generation in the high hills too. Organic tomato farming is highly followed by Nepalese where Lamjung District consists large numbers of farmers that are following organic tomato farming as cash crops. Lamjung district that falls under the western region lies in Gandaki zone of Nepal. The district has many places like Sundarbazar, Banjhakhet, Chandishan, Borangkholo ,Rainas, Maling etc which are practicing an organic farming culture.

The general objective of the study was to explore organic tomato farming potentiality and challenge in Banjhakhet village, Besisahar Municipality of Lamjung district. Whereas, specific objectives of the study were to access the level of awareness among the farmers about organic tomato farming, to explore the potentiality of organic tomato farming and identify the challenges faced by tomato producers in study area.

This study has been carried out mostly on the basis of descriptive research design; also exploratory method of research design is used in order to describe the findings during the study. Qualitative and quantitative data have been collected for the study using both primary and secondary sources. Of the total 25 households farmers were selected from those who have adopted organic tomato farming, 25 households were consumers of organic tomato farming and 10 households were from different sectors, all together 60 respondents were selected. To collect data, household survey, key informant interview, observation, method have been used and different computer program, simple statistics tools like table, graphs, have been used for data analysis and descriptive methods has been used for qualitative data.

After the research different findings were obtained, after research it was found that among respondents 74 percent were married and 26 percent were found unmarried. 30 percent respondents were found following Hinduism and 70 percent respondents were found following Buddhism, 16.67 percent respondents were found illiterate, 56.66 percent were literate and remaining 26.67 percent respondents had education level above SLC. It was found that Gurung community had dominated the study area. It was found that 73.33 percent respondents were from Gurung community, 18.33 percent respondents were from Chhetri, 8.34 percent respondents were from Dalit caste. It was also found that 21.66 percent respondents were below the age of 30, 35 percent were of between age group of 31 to 45, 26.67 percent respondents were between age group of 46 to 60 and 16.67 percent respondents were above the age of 61. It was also found that 56.67 percent respondents were female and 43.33 percent were male. It was also found that 16 percent respondents' purpose of tomato production was self-consumption, 60 percent respondents' motive were commercial production and 24 percent respondents were having both purposes. The people of Beshishahar Municipality-10, were not aware about Organic tomato farming. Tomato farming is new for them. Majority of the farmer still using the traditional way of farming.

But the study area has huge potentiality to be one of the finest places for organic farming as the very district has a fertile soil which is key factor for crop production. Different attractions like, facility of irrigation, employment opportunities, cool climate, availability of market and accessibility of labors, high demand of tomato, good price has added more value for organic tomato farming.

A major challenge to develop this area as agriculture hub is lack of road transportation, lack of technical knowledge, have no any strategy of insurance, and assistance, problems of diseases and insects and lack of training for farmers that has hindered to product the finest organic tomatoes.

I believe that this thesis will contribute in some level for the promotion of the study area as organic tomato farming area, and helps to determine this area as a place having high potentiality of it. This study might be useful for the exposure of Beshishahar Municipality ward no-10, area and hope that this thesis will contribute to increase the number of farmers towards organic farming system in study area.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DECLARATION	ii
LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION	iii
APPROVAL SHEET	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	v
ABSTRACT	vi
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vii
LIST OF TABLES	viii
LIST OF FIGURES	ix
ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS	x
CHAPTER I	
INTRODUCTION	1-5
1.1 Background of the Study	1-3
1.2 Statement of the Problem	4
1.3 Objectives of the Study	4
1.4 Importance of the Study	5
1.5 Limitation of the Study	5
1.6 Organization of the Study	5
CHAPTER II	
LITERATURE REVIEW	6-18
CHAPTER III	
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	19-21
3.1 Research Design	19
3.2 Rational of the Selection of the Study Area	19
3.3 Nature and Source of Data	20
3.4 Sampling Procedure	20
3.5 Data Collection Tools and Techniques	20
3.5.1 Household Survey	20
3.5.2 Key Informant Interview	21

3.5.3	Observation	21
3.6	Method of Data Analysis	21
CHAPTER IV		
OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY AREA		22-27
4.1	General Background of the Lamjung District	22
4.2	About Study Area	25
DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS		28-45
5.1	Socio-Demographic Characteristics	28
5.1.1	Population Structure	28
5.1.2	Gender of Respondent	29
5.1.3	Marital Status of the Respondents	29
5.1.4	Religion of the Respondents	30
5.1.5	Education Status of the Respondents	31
5.1.6	Age wise Distribution of the Respondents	32
5.1.7	Caste wise Distribution of Respondents	32
5.2	Level of Awareness Among Farmers about Organic Tomato Faming	33
5.2.1	Main Purpose of the Organic Tomato Cultivation	34
5.2.2	Consumer Knowledge about Organic Tomato	34
5.3	Potentiality of Organic Tomato Farming	35
5.3.1	Land Holding Size	35
5.3.2	Cultivated Land for Organic Tomato Farming	35
5.3.3	Average Production of Per Year	36
5.3.4	Income from Organic Tomato	37
5.3.5	Benefit from Organic Tomato Farming	37
5.3.6	Selling Price of Organic Tomato	38
5.3.7	Employment Opportunity	38

5.3.8 Family Members Engaged in Organic Tomato Farming	38
5.3.9 Main Source of Income	39
5.3.10 Irrigation System	39
5.3.11 Demand of Organic Tomato	39
5.4 Challenges of Farmers in Tomato Farming	40
5.4.1 General Problems	41
5.4.1.1 Access of Road Transportation	41
5.4.1.2 Training about Organic Tomato Farming	41
5.4.1.3 Application of Modern Technology	42
5.4.1.4 Insurance Facility	43
5.4.2 Problems of Diseases and Insect Pests	43
5.4.2.1 Main Insects and Diseases in Organic Tomato Farming	43
5.4.2.2 Problems of Seasonal Diseases	44
5.4.2.3 Methods of Prevention of Diseases	45
CHAPTER VI	
SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTION	46-49
6.1 Conclusions	46
6.2 Findings	46
6.3 Recommendations	48
REFERENCE	
ANNEXES:I: Questionnaires for Producers	
ANNEXES:II: Questionnaires for Consumers	
ANNEXES:III: Key Informant Guidelines	
ANNEXES:IV: Observation Checklist	
ANNEXES:V: Photos	

LIST OF TABLE

Table No: 4.1: Geography and climate of study area	24
Table No: 4.2: Population Distribution by Caste	25
Table No.4.3: Ward-Wise Population Distribution	26
Table No.5.1: Sample Population Structure of the Study Area	28
Table No.5.2: Gender of the Respondents	29
Table No. 5.3: Religion of the Respondents	31
Table No 5.4 Education Status of the Respondents	31
Table No.5.5: Age wise Distribution of the Respondents	32
Table No. 5.6: Caste wise Distribution of the Respondents	33
TableNo.5.7: Level of Awareness about Organic Tomato Farming	33
Table No. 5.8: Main Purpose of the Organic Tomato Cultivation	34
Table No. 5.9: Consumer Knowledge about Organic Tomato	34
Table No.5.10: Land Holding Size	35
Table No.5.11: Cultivated Land for Organic Tomato	36
Table No.5.12: Average Production of per Year	36
Table No 5.13: Income from Organic Tomato	37
Table No 5.14: Benefit from Organic Tomato	37
Table No.5.15: Members Engaged in Farming	39
Table No.5.16: Training about Organic Tomato Farming	42

Table No.5.17: Application of Modern Technology	42
Table No.5.18: Main Insects and Diseases in Tomato	43
Table No.5.19: Problems of Seasonal Disease	43
Table No.5.20: Methods of Prevention of Disease	44

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure No. 4.1: Major Occupation of Beshishahar Municipality-10, Banjhakhet Community	27
Figure No. 5.1: Marital Status of the Respondents	30

ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS

ADB	=	Asian Development Bank
ADSL	=	Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line
CBS	=	Central Bureau of Statistics
FAO	=	Food and Agriculture Organization
GDP	=	Gross Domestic Production
GOI	=	Government of India
HHS	=	House Holds
Km	=	Kilo Meter
MHz	=	Mega Hertz
MMHEP	=	Mid Marsyangdi Hydro Electricity Project
NARC	=	National Agricultural Research Council
NGO	=	Non-Governmental Organization
NPC	=	National Planning Commission
NRB	=	Nepal Rastra Bank
SLC	=	School Leaving Certificate
VDC	=	Village Development Committee