International Journal of Business and General Management (IJBGM)
ISSN(P): 2319-2267; ISSN(E): 2319-2275
Vol. 5, Issue 3, Apr - May 2016; 63-78

International Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology
Connecting Researchers; Nurturing Innovations

INCREASED POTATO PRODUCTIVITY, ITS CONSEQUENCES AND SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION

BALJEET SINGH[1] & YOGESH C. JOSHI[2]

[1]Ph.D. Scholar, GH Patel PG Institute of Management, Sardar Patel University, VV Nagar, Gujarat, India

[2]Professor, GH Patel PG Institute of Management, Sardar Patel University, VV Nagar, Gujarat, India

ABSTRACT

Potato is the fourth largest food crop grown in the World after rice, wheat and maize. India is the second largest producer after China with a total annual production of around 40 million tonnes. It is a very rich source of carbohydrate and a leading source of food energy in many countries. Potato can be converted into many processed products including chips (wafers), French fries, starch, baby foods and dehydrated. Potato is attacked by a number of pests and diseases including the devastating late blight disease which was once responsible for worst known famine of Ireland in 1845. As a result approximately one million people died and a million more emigrated from Ireland causing the island's population to fall by between 20% and 25%. To control these pests and diseases, a number of agro chemicals are used in most developing countries. Potato production has no doubt increased over the years however, at an alarmingly high cost to human health, soil health and environment. This article aims at highlighting the harmful effects of agro-chemicals used in potato production, potential damages and ways and means for healthy potato production. The article implies that clean potato production is possible in the developing nations as well through farmer awareness and a number of policy interventions.

KEYWORDS: Potato, Horticultural, Agrochemicals, Pesticides, Fungicides