

**ANALYSIS OF CLOVE VALUE CHAIN IN SRILANKA:
A CASE STUDY IN KANDY DISTRICT**

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Clove is a highly demanded spice in the export market. The performance of Sri Lankan clove production has been sluggish recently. Since available literature is inadequate on the clove value chain, this study was conducted to analyse the clove value chain in *Kandy* district. Accordingly, the value chain was mapped, the constraints faced by value chain actors were identified, and the determinants of the clove marketed surplus were analysed by a mix of quantitative and qualitative approaches. Primary data was collected from 60 growers selected using multi-stage purposive and random sampling techniques. Value chain analysis framework, Garrett's constraint analysis, and multiple linear regression were used to analyse the data. The results revealed that seven alternative chains for clove marketing. The channel comparison was based on product volume. The chain from the farmer, collector, wholesaler, retailer, processor, and consumer was the prominent marketing channel. The principal value additions throughout the chain were sorting, cleaning, processing, grading, and creating space, and time utilities. Producers received only 13.93% of the profit margin. The constraints analysis revealed high cost and low availability of labour cost (72%), low product price (63%), and lack of knowledge in product quality and processing (43%) as the major constraints at the producer level. The results of the multiple regression model indicated that marketed surplus is significantly ($p < 0.05$) and positively affected by cultivated extent, household size, use of credits, and being a certified organic farmer. Inadequacy of supply, lack of processing facilities, high cost of transportation, and high competition amongst collectors were the major issues at the intermediary stage of the chain. The study concludes that the benefits are shared disproportionately among the chain actors, and therefore, the sector requires an integrated approach involving both private and public sectors to link the producers with the processors and exporters in the shortest possible way.

Keywords: Clove, Constraints analysis, Marketed surplus, Profit margin, Value chain