

ACADEMICS OF AGRICULTURE AND RESERACH IN NORTH GUJARAT

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Gujarat State came into existence as a separate State on 1st May 1960. The State is situated on the west coast of India between 20.6° N to 24.42° N North latitude and 68.10° E to 74.28° E east longitude.

It is bounded by the Arabian Sea in the West, by the State of Rajasthan in the North and North – East, by Madhya Pradesh in the East and by Maharashtra in the South and South East.

The State has an international boundary and has a common border with the Pakistan at the north-western fringe.

The two deserts, one north of Kachchh and the other between Kachchh and the mainland Gujarat are saline wastes. The State has a long coast-line of about 1600 kms. and is the longest among all States of country.

As per 2001 population census, Gujarat State comprised 26 districts, sub-divided into 226 talukas, having 18539 inhabited villages and 242 towns and 27 cities Gujarat has geographical area of 1.96 lakh sq. kms, and accounts for 6.19 percent of the total area of the country. A new district Tapi has been

carved out from Surat district with effect from 27th September, 2007.

Gujarat: Archives of Agrarian Dynamism

The Gujarat State Agricultural University came into existence with its Head Quarter at Sardarkrushinagar under Government Resolution No. GAU/1527E dated 01.06.1972.

The University adopted the zonal research concept with four zonal head quarters at Sardarkrushinagar, Anand, Navsari and Junagadh, respectively.

All the four zones have distinct agro climatic conditions, as a result the Gujarat Agricultural University Act was repealed on May 1, 2004 and replaced by New Act, No. 5 of 2004 with jurisdiction of each zone elevated as individual university for precise consideration of need based and location specific agricultural research.

Gujarat is divided into the four regions based upon the jurisdiction of the four agricultural universities for comparison of the agricultural production and its value.

Table 1 : Agriculture Universities of Gujarat.

Sr.No.	Region	University	Districts included
1	Saurashtra region	Junagadh Agricultural University	Bhavnagar, Jamnagar, Junagadh, Amrili, Porbandar, Rajkot, Surendranagar
2	North Gujarat	Sardarkrushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University	Gandhinagar, Banaskantha, Patan, Sabarkantha, Mehsana, Kutchh.
3	Central Gujarat	Anand Agricultural University	Ahmedabad, Anand, Kheda, Panchmahal, Dahod, Vadodara
4	South Gujarat	Navsair Agricultural University	Bharuch, Narmada, navsari, Surat, Tapi, Valsad, Dang

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The food production is highest in central Gujarat region (AAU Jurisdiction), whereas the cash crops production is more in the Saurashtra region (JAU Jurisdiction). The fruit production is highest in the South Gujarat (NAU Jurisdiction) and the central Gujarat (AAU Jurisdiction) regions, whereas vegetable production is more in the north Gujarat (SDAU Jurisdiction) and the saurashtra (JAU Jurisdiction) regions. The Saurashtra and North Gujarat regions are also leading in the spice

production. The data revealed that, out of the total crop value of Rs. 51196 crore, 38.81 % is from the Saurashtra region 24.32 % is from the north Gujarat, 18.92 % is from the South Gujarat and 17.96 % is from the Central Gujarat Though, the share of the total value of agriculture of the Saurashtra region is highest followed by Rs. 53914 per ha of the Saurashtra region, Rs. 48154 per ha of the central Gujarat and Rs. 46704 per ha of the north Gujarat region.