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TRAINING NEEDS OF TRIBAL FARM WOMEN IN MAIZE PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY

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ABSTRACT

The study was undertaken to know the training need of tribal women in maize production technology. The study was conducted in two talukas of Dahod district. Ten respondents were randomly selected from each villages of each taluka. The study covers main areas of maize production technology. The study was revealed that training need score was obtained highest for the chemical control regarding integrated pest management (Rank-1), followed by weed management area (Rank-II), land management (Rank-1II), identification of disease in integrated pest management (Rank-1V).

Keywords: *training need, tribal women and maize production practices*

INTRODUCTION

Women constitute half of the population and 48 per cent of the rural population. The tribal farmwoman shares with her husband the arduous burden of farm work in addition to her major responsibility as home maker by helping in all other agricultural operations. However the nature and extent of their involvement differs with variations in agro-production system. In recent times women are playing pivotal role in agricultural occupation as a manager, decision maker and skilled worker (Chaudhary et al., 2003). Training is a critical input and also an integral part for quick transfer of technology and way to improve their agriculture and uplift their socio economic condition. Training programme for the tribal people should be designed based on their felt needs. According to the Rokonuzzaman (2013), training needs of the tribal people refers to one's need for gaining knowledge and skills on different agricultural and non-agricultural aspects and successful adoption of these activities. Patel et al (2015) identified the area of training needs expressed by the tribal farmwomen in the field of agriculture were identification of common pest and diseases and its control, method and time of fertilizer application, treatment of seeds, method of treatment, storage of food grains, preparation of farmyard manure, selection of seed, uprooting of the seedlings and distance of sowing in sequential order. Looking to this the present study entitled "training needs of tribal farm women in maize production technology" was undertaken.

OBJECTIVE

To know the training needs of tribal farm women in maize production technology

METHODOLOGY

The present study was conducted in Dahod district of Gujarat state. From Dahod district, two talukas Devgadh Baria and Limkheda were selected randomly. Five villages were selected randomly from each Taluka and 10 tribal farm women were randomly selected from each village, thus making the total sample of 100 tribal farm women who were interested in training in maize production practices. A well structured pre tested Gujarati version interview schedule was prepared in light of the objectives. The data were collected, tabulated, classified, presented and interpreted in systematic manner with the help of statistical tools like percentage, mean and ranking.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Training need of tribal farm women in maize production technology

The areas of training needs in the present study

refers to the various areas of agriculture in which the tribal farmwomen find themselves deficient in knowledge and would like to be trained in for enhancing their competence while agricultural activities.

Table 1: Training need of tribal farm women in maize production technology

n=100

Sr. No.	Item	Most needed	Needed	Not needed	Total Score	Mean Score	Rank
1	Selection of variety	08	28	64	144	1.44	XII
2	Land management	38	26	36	202	2.02	III
3	Seed Treatment	15	43	42	173	1.73	X
4	Sowing	16	53	31	185	1.85	VIII
5	Weed management	42	35	23	219	2.19	II
6	Fertilizer management	16	44	40	176	1.76	XI
7	Irrigation Management	21	54	25	196	1.96	V
8	Use of Biofertlizer and chemical fertilizer	23	35	42	181	1.81	IX
9	Integrated Diseases management						
	Identification of Disease	07	30	63	144	1.44	XII
	Bio-control	12	67	21	191	1.91	VII
	Chemical control	16	60	24	192	1.92	VI
10	Integrated Pest management						
	Identification of Disease	11	29	60	199	1.99	IV
	Bio-control	25	49	26	196	1.96	V
	Chemical control	21	54	25	244	2.44	I
11	Harvesting, Threshing and storage	49	46	05	196	1.96	V

The data pertaining to training needs for selection of variety reveal in Table 1, that more than two-third (64.00 per cent) of the tribal farm women fell under 'Not needed' training group and 28.00 per cent fell under 'needed' training group.

It is also observed that more or less equal percentage of Tribal farm women were grouped in "most needed" and 'not needed' regarding land management training.

In case of seed treatment, majority of tribal farm women observed in needed and not needed training group, while more than half of tribal farm women felt in needed training group.

Data in Table 1, regarding training needs of tribal farm women, reveal that more than two fifth(42.00 per cent) of tribal farm women felt under most needed in weed management training and 44.00 per cent of respondents were felt under needed group in fertilizer management training.

The data with respect to training needs of the tribal farm women regarding irrigation management revealed that half (54.00 per cent) of tribal farm women were grouped in 'needed' category.

The finding put forth that more than two-fifth (42.00 per cent) of the tribal farm women were grouped in "not needed" category with respect to use of biofertlizer and chemical fertilizer followed by 35.00 per cent with 'needed' category and 23.00 per cent with 'most needed'.

As far as integrated disease management of maize crop of tribal farm women is concerned, more than three fifth of the tribal farm women fell under 'not needed' category in respect identification of diseases and 'needed' category in respect with bio-control and chemical control training. Same results as observed integrated pest management training need by Patel et al. (2015) who finding that majority of castor growers prefer to receive training on control measures of diseases and pests and diagnosis of diseases and pests.

It is evident from Table 1, that slightly less than half (49.00 per cent) of the tribal farm women fell under 'most needed' training group for harvesting, threshing an storage of crop, whereas remaining fell under 'needed' training group.

The data depicted in Table-1 reveal that according to the need hierarchy, the highest mean score for training as desired by maize farmers growers was training on chemical control measures of pests (2.44 mean score) and ranked first

followed by weed management (mean score-2.19) and land management (mean score 2.02) with rank second and third respectively.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of above study it may be concluded that the areas of training needs expressed by tribal farm women in maize production technology were chemical control regarding integrated pest management, weed management, land management and identification of disease. Among the entire crop production practices insects and diseases control practices are very complex in nature because they are highly technical in nature which require precision in use. Effective training program designed for the tribal farm women for identification of disease and their control measure in both chemical as well as organic in maize production technique. Hence, it is necessary to have a complete understanding of the needs of the tribal people before launching aforementioned training programme.

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