

Constraints faced by Farmers in Adoption of Recommended Paddy Production Technology

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ABSTRACT

Present study was conducted in Anand district of Gujarat state to identify the constraints by the farmers in adoption of paddy production technology. 120 respondents were selected from 10 randomly selected villages of khambhat and Tarapur Talukas and data were collected through interview schedule. Results indicates that, lack of knowledge in the practices namely recommended dose of fertilizers, control measures of pests and diseases, identification of pests and diseases, recommendation of chemical weed control measures in paddy, high cost of fertilizers and pesticides, high labour charges at the time of transplanting and harvesting, labour shortage at the time of transplanting and harvesting and short supply of fertilizers at required time, low market price of paddy and poor contacts of extension workers with farmers were major constraints faced by paddy grower. Remunerative market prices of paddy, facility of crop insurance scheme in case of failure of season, minimum support price of paddy should be declared well in advance were important suggestion to overcome/minimize the constraints in adoption of new technology in paddy cultivation

Keywords: constraints, Paddy production technology, Suggestions

INTRODUCTION

Rice is one of the most important cereal crops of the country. In Gujarat most of the area under rice crop is confined to middle and south Gujarat comprising the districts of Kheda, Anand, Vadodara, Dahod, Godhra, Ahmadabad, Surat, Valsad, Dang and Navsari. Paddy is one of the important commercial crops of Anand district having with total area of 87700 hectares with total production of 1.85 million tones (Anon 2011). Khambhat and Tarapur are major rice growing taluka of the district. Majority of the farmers in the area has undertaken the cultivation of paddy since a very long time. However it is observed that recommended paddy production technology is not adopted by the farmers up to the extent for higher production due to some technological, economical and marketing constraints. Therefore, study was conducted to identify the constraints faced by the farmers in adoption of recommended paddy production technology and to seek their suggestions to overcome these constraints.

METHODOLOGY

Anand district was purposively selected for the

study. Khambhat and Tarapur taluka of Anand district were purposively selected as it coverage maximum area under paddy cultivation in the district. A sample of 120 respondents were selected from 10 randomly selected villages of khambhat and Tarapur Talukas. An interview schedule based on objective of the study was developed and respondents were personally interviewed for collection of information. The respondents were asked to mention the constraints faced by them in adoption of paddy production technology. The constraints expressed by them were noted and it was categorized in five groups namely; technological constraints, economical constraints, service and supply constraints, marketing constraints and communication constraints. Based on the frequencies and intensity each particular constraint was converted in percentage. At the same time suggestions of the farmers were also collected to minimize the constraints. Frequency and percentage were used to analyze the data draw the meaningful conclusion.

OBJECTIVES

- (i) To know the constraints faced by the farmers in adoption of recommended paddy production technology
- (ii) To seek their suggestions to overcome the constraints.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Constraint in technology utilization

Table: 1. Constraints of respondents in technology utilization of paddy cultivation

n=120

No.	Constraints	No.	Per cent
I	Technological constraint		
1	Lack of knowledge about recommended dose of fertilizers	85	70.83
2	Lack of knowledge about control measures of pests and diseases	75	62.50
3	Lack of knowledge about identification of pests and diseases	70	58.33
4	Lack of knowledge about recommendation of chemical weed control measures in paddy	68	56.66
II	Economical constraints		
1	High cost of fertilizers and pesticides	85	70.83
2	High cost of labour charges at the time of transplanting and harvesting	80	66.66
3	Lack of finance for purchasing farm inputs	75	62.50
III	Service and supply related constraints		
1	Labour shortage at the time of transplanting and harvesting.	90	75.00
2	Shortage of fertilizers at required time	80	66.66
3	Irregular supply of canal irrigation water	65	54.16
IV	Marketing constraints		
1	Low market price of paddy at harvesting time	75	62.50
2	Lack of marketing facilities in rural area	65	54.16
V	Communication constraints		
1	Poor contacts of extension workers with farmers	70	58.33
2	Non availability of farm information in time	65	54.16
3	Irregularity of extension workers in rural area	60	50.00

It is observed from Table.1 that, lack of knowledge about recommended dose of fertilizers (70.83 per cent), lack of knowledge about control measures of pests and diseases (62.50 per cent), lack of knowledge about identification of pest and diseases (58.33 per cent), lack of knowledge about recommendation of chemical weed control measures (56.66 per cent), were their major technological constraints. High cost of fertilizers and pesticides (70.83 per cent), high labour charges at the time of transplanting and harvesting (66.66 per cent), lack of finance for purchasing farm inputs (62.50 per cent), were major economic problems.

Labour shortage at the time of transplanting and harvesting(75.00 per cent), Sort supply of fertilizers at required time (66.66 per cent) and irregular supply of canal water for irrigation (54.16 per cent) were major constraints related to service and supply. low market price of paddy (62.50 per cent) followed by, lack of marketing facility in rural area (54.16 per cent) major marketing problems for paddy growers in study area. Poor contacts of extension workers with farmers (58.33 per cent), non-availability of farm information in time (54.16 per cent) and irregularity of

extension workers in rural area (50.00 per cent) were major information transfer constraints for paddy growers.

Suggestions to overcome the constraints

Table 2 indicated that great majority of the farmers suggested that remunerative market prices of paddy should be provided to the (91.67 per cent), farmers should be protected by crop insurance scheme in case of failure of season (87.50 per cent), minimum support price of paddy should be declared well in advance by the Government (83.33 per cent), extension system should be streamlined to disseminate farm technology (73.33 per cent), proper technical guidance should be given to the farmers as and when they needs (68.33 per cent), training on new cultivation technology should be imparted to the farmer(65.00 per cent), farm information centers should be established at village level (62.50 per cent), Farm consultancy services should be made available to the farmers at village level (58.33 per cent), required farm inputs should be made available at village level(56.66 per cent),timely supply of canal water (54.16 per cent) and electricity should be supplied regularly(50.00 per cent).

Table: 2 Suggestions offered by paddy growers to overcome the constraints in technology utilization of paddy production technology.

n=120

No.	Suggestions	No.	Per cent	Rank
1	Remunerative market prices of paddy should be provided to the farmers	110	91.67	I
2	Farmers should be protected by crop insurance scheme in case of failure of season	105	87.50	II
3	Minimum support price of paddy should be declared well in advance by Government	100	83.33	III
4	Extension system should be streamlined to disseminate farm technology.	88	73.33	IV
5	Proper technical guidance should be given to the farmers as and when they needs.	82	68.33	V
6	Training on new cultivation technology should be imparted to the farmer.	78	65.00	VI
7	Farm information centers should be established at village level.	75	62.50	VII
8	Farm consultancy services should be made available to the farmers at village level.	70	58.33	VIII
9	Required farm inputs should be made available at village level.	68	56.66	IX
10	Timely supply of canal water for irrigation	65	54.16	X
11	Electricity should be supplied regularly	60	50.00	XI

CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that major constraints experienced by the farmers in paddy cultivation were Lack of knowledge about recommended dose of fertilizers, High cost of fertilizers and pesticides, Labour shortage at the time of transplanting and harvesting, Low market price of paddy at harvesting time, Poor contacts of extension workers with farmers. Remunerative market prices of paddy, facility of crop insurance scheme in case of failure of season, minimum support price of paddy should be declared well in advance, extension system should be streamlined, proper technical guidance and, organization of training to the farmers were important suggestions to overcome/minimize the constraints in adoption of paddy production technology.

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