

ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDED PACKAGE OF PRACTICES BY THE SUMMER BAJARA GROWERS

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ABSTRACT

The study was purposively conducted in Banaskantha District of Gujarat. Twenty four villages were selected for this study on the basis of maximum area under summer Bajara cultivation. Five summer bajara growers from each village were selected by using proportionate random sampling method that comprising sample size of 120 respondents. This study concluded that majority of the summer bajara growers were reported medium level of adoption of recommended cultivation practices followed by low and high level of adoption recommended cultivation practices. The maximum adoption gap was reported in sowing method and sowing distance whereas minimum gap was reported in pesticide/insecticide/weedcide and soil treatment. The independent variables namely occupation, social participation of the farmers was found highly significant relationship with adoption of recommended technologies of summer bajara. Most-important constraints faced by bajara growers were non availability of sufficient labour, high cost of fertilizers and irregular supply of irrigation.

INTRODUCTION

Appropriate production technologies suitable for different agro-ecological situation have been generated by the Agricultural scientists to counter new challenges faced by the farmers. Despite of efforts made by the various development and extension agencies, it is realized that either the technologies have not reached to the farmer's field or farmers are reluctant to use these technologies. Still there is a large gap between technological development and its full application in the field of common farmers.

Bajara, a major cereals crop of Banaskantha District of Gujarat State, contributes for about 60.00 per cent of cereals production of the State. Under the circumstances, with a view to know the actual level of adoption of Bajara production technologies at farmer's level, it was planned to conduct a study on adoption of recommended package of practices of summer bajara by the farmers.

METHODOLOGY

The Banaskantha District was purposively selected for the present study because bajara crop production is highest in this District in Gujarat state. Two stage simple random sampling technique was used for the study for the selection of the respondents. The Deesa, Amirgadha, Dantiwada, Palanpur, Vadgam and Tharad Talukas were purposively selected as areas under bajara crop were more compared to other talukas. From the list of bajara growing villages, four villages from each taluka was randomly selected. The list of bajara growers was obtained from each village panchayat and using proportionate random sampling method 5 farmers from each village were selected by simple random sampling technique. Thus, the sample consisted of 120 farmers. The data were collected by personal interview with the help of structured interview schedule.

The interview schedule was developed with the help of experts keeping in view the objectives of

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the study. The data were transferred into master table and analyzed in terms of frequency and percentages in order to make findings meaningful.

FINDINGS

Table - 1 : To study the level of adoption of package of practice of Summer Bajara crops by farmers

n=120

Sr. No.	Level of adoption	No of Farmers	Per cent
1	Low(below 10.69 score)	15	12.50
2	Medium (Bet. 10.69 & 15.13 score)	93	77.50
3	High (Above 15.13 score)	12	10.00

The data pertaining to levels of adoption of recommended Packages of practice of Bajara crops are furnished in table 9 The data clearly indicate that majority of the farmers were found to have medium level of adoption of Package of practice of

Bajara crops followed with low and with high level adoption of package of practice of Bajara crops. It can be concluded that majority of the farmers were found to have medium level of adoption of Package of practice of Bajara crops.

Table-2 : Distribution of the farmer according to their adoption of different packages of Summer Bajara crops

n=120

Sr. No.	Practices	Extent of Adoption		Rank
		No of Farmers	Per cent	
1	Use of Hybrid /improved seed	108	90.00	IV
2	Method of sowing	120	100.00	I
3	Seed treatment	47	39.17	VII
4	Seed rate	110	91.66	III
5	soil treatment	37	30.83	X
6	sowing distance	115	95.83	II
7	Fertilizers and manure	82	68.33	V
8	thinning / interculturing	55	45.83	VI
9	Irrigation method	39	32.50	IX
10	Use of Pesticide / insecticide / weedcide	37	30.83	XI
11	Storage	43	35.83	VIII

Practice wise extent of adoption was also studied and data in this regards are presented in table 2. The data revealed that all the farmers had adopted the important practices like method of sowing (100.00 per cent). An overwhelming majority had also adopted practices like sowing distance (95.83 per cent), seed rate (91.66 per cent), use of improved / hybrid seed (90.00 per cent), fertilizers

and manures (68.33 per cent). The practices having poor adoption were thinning/ inter culturing (45.83 per cent), seed treatment (39.17 per cent), storage (35.83 per cent), irrigation method and soil treatment (32.50 per cent) and use of pesticide / insecticide / weedicide (30.83 per cent).

It can be concluded from the result that farmers

were having high adoption of no cost and low cost technologies instead of practices which are complex and more technical in nature

Table -3: Correlation between profile of farmers and the Adoption of recommended package of practice Summer Bajara crop

Sr. No.	Personal Characteristics	Correlation Coefficient
1	Age	0.0177 NS
2	Education	0.3517 **
3	Family size	0.0202 NS
4	Family type	0.0234 NS
5	Social participation	0.4701 **
6	Land holding	0.3559 **
7	Annual income	0.4215 **
8	Occupation	0.4940 **

NS - Non significant

** - significant at 0.01 level of probability

It can be seen from table 3 that only five variables namely, education (0.3517**), social participation (0.4701**), land holding (0.3559**), annual income (0.4215**) and occupation (0.4940**) of the farmers were found having significant relationship

with adoption of recommended technologies of bajara crop. Remaining three variables namely, age, family size and family type have failed to establish significant relationship with adoption of recommended technologies of bajara crop.

Table-4: Constraints in Adoption of recommended package of practices of summer bajara

Sr. No.	Constrains	No.	Per cent	Rank
1	Lack of knowledge about improved Varieties	40	33.32	XII
2	Fragmented and undulated land	58	48.33	VI
3	High cost of equipment for plant protection	55	45.83	VII
4	High rate of electricity Supply	49	40.83	VIII
5	Irregular Supply of irrigation	70	58.33	III
6	Non availability of inputs in the village	65	54.16	IV
7	Non availability of sufficient labour	76	63.33	II
8	Poor marketing facilities	42	35.00	XI
9	Non remunerative price	45	37.50	X
10	High cost of fertilizer	72	60.00	III
11	Non availability of credit in time	47	39.16	IX
12	Lack of timely technical advise	60	50.00	V

The data collected in regard to the constraints in adoption of recommended package of practices of summer bajara crop are presented in Table-12. It is clear from Table-4 that most-important constraints faced by bajara growers were non availability of sufficient labour (63.33 per cent), high cost of fertilizers (60.00 per cent), irregular supply of irrigation (58.33 per cent), non availability of inputs in the village (54.16 per cent), lack of timely technical advice (50.00 per cent) were the important constraints followed by the Bajara growers. While less-important constraints faced by bajara growers were fragmented and undulated land (48.33 per cent), high cost of equipment for plant protection (45.83 per cent), high rate of electricity supply (40.83 per cent), non availability of credit in time (39.16 per cent), non remunerative price (37.50 per cent), poor marketing facilities (35.00 per cent) and lack of knowledge about improved varieties (33.32 per cent).

CONCLUSIONS

Summer bajara growers were reported in medium level of adoption followed by low and high level of adoption of recommended cultivation practices. The education, social participation, land holding, annual income, and occupation were having highly significant relationship with adoption of recommended technologies of bajara crops. Most-important constraints faced by bajara growers were non availability of sufficient labour, high

cost of fertilizers, and irregular supply of irrigation, non availability of inputs in the village and lack of timely technical advice.

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Good or bad health makes our philosophy.

- Chaulieu